THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'

2020



Super Learning Hero Awards Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 16th December 2019, awarded in Celebration assembly on 6th January 2020. Curious, Questioning Positive, Persevering Co-operative, Caring Reflective, Reviewing Poppy Craig Ruby Quinn Olly (Elder) Dexter (Oak) Lexi (Maple) Headteacher award Olly (Elder) Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 6th January 2020, awarded in Celebration assembly on 13th January 2020: <u>Co-operative</u>, Caring Curious, Questioning Reflective, Reviewing Positive, Persevering Ruby Olive (Acorn) Pollie (Oak) Zane (Elder) Poppy Craig Quinn Harriet (Élder) Peter (Maple) Rowan (Elder) Hall of Fame Emma-Rose (Elder)



Congratulations this week to Leighton, George W, Marcus, Janneke, Isla & Eryn for your outstanding achievements outside of school.

Time to Shine!

Congratulations too for last week to Charlie, Dylan, Janneke, Isla, Josephine & Matthew for your outstanding achievements outside of school.



Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and Happy 2020! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas with your children.

The spring term is filled with many exciting events for the children and opportunities for families to join us in school too. Please check the calendar on the home page of our website for all dates. Highlights this term include Safer Internet Day, Maths/Science Day, World Book Day, sports tasters and tournaments, trips out for each class, our Easter Service at Trinity Church and Class Fabulous Finishes to name but a few.

Mindfulness Garden

We are beginning to make plans for our Mindfulness garden shortly and are really grateful to those that have offered support on a variety of levels from design to planting to art installations. If you can help in any way, please let the office know this week.

Reminders

The start of the new year is always a good time to set out a few reminders which we really appreciate your support on:

Uniform

It is important that children wear the correct uniform for school and for their PE lessons. Jeans or other types of materials different to the usual school uniform material are not part of our uniform. Lately we have noticed trainers being worn rather than school shoes and again ask for your support that children wear the appropriate footwear. Steyning Grammar School offer a sensible clarification on suitable school shoes which I thought I would share with you, outlining that the material should 'raise a shine' when polished. Supporting your child with following the school uniform now will help them understand that expectations when they move to secondary will be very similar indeed.

We expect children to change their footwear for PE and school shoes are not suitable for physical activity. A reminder that nail varnish should not be worn.

Jewellery

Children are able to wear a watch and stud earrings but all jewellery should be removed for PE for health and safety reasons. If you considering having your child's ears pierced, the beginning of the summer holidays is an ideal time as this will enable them to keep their earrings in and look after them without needing to tape them. Once the 6 weeks time period has lapsed we will expect children to be able to remove their earrings independently. This is not something that staff are permitted to do.

- White /royal blue polo shirt or blouse, with or without the school logo.
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan with/without the school logo
- Plain grey trousers, smart shorts or skirts (jogging pants, sports shorts and leggings are not acceptable)
- Royal blue and white small checked summer dress
- Grey socks
- Sensible black shoes, not trainers or boots

For P.E. children should have the following kit in a P.E. bag clearly marked with the child's name.

- Royal blue shorts
- White crew neck T-shirt (with or without logo)
- Plimsolls or trainers

If your child is in receipt of free school meals/pupil premium funding (not the same as Universal Infant Free School Meals), we have allocated a small budget from the government funding we receive to help with uniform costs. Please see Mrs Norton or Mrs Mullineux for further details. We do also hold a fairly good stock of 2nd hand uniform which we is very reasonably priced and of good quality. Please see the office or a FOTS representative for more details. We hope to hold a 2nd hand uniform sale shortly too.

Parking

Given the endless deluge of rain over the past few months it is understandable that many parents will drive to school. The vast majority of those using the car park do safely and sensibly and are respectful of our school grounds that we pay to maintain. In recent months however we have seen parents parking in areas that are not marked bays. This impacts other parents who are therefore blocked in. Sometimes staff need access to the side gates so we remind parents respectfully to park only in the marked bays. It was also disappointing to see parents parking on the grass which damages our grounds. We are fortunate that we have access to the car park on the Steyning Grammar School site so we ask if our own car park is full that you this area.

We have been monitoring the access road/coach bay at the beginning and end of the day and whilst generally we can see parking here isn't causing too many problems, it can prevent our Year 6 parents from dropping off in this area which is what we intend for this area. If you do park in this area please do not park on the pavement and restrict the safe passage of children, parents and pushchairs.

Everyone is always in a rush at the beginning/end of the day but we ask you to consider the safety of everyone in our school community and respect our school grounds to avoid damage to the grounds. Any re-seeding of grass or damage to pavement has to be met from our own school budget—this is not classed as highways.

I promise a bike/scooter rack will be on order soon as I can see Santa was very generous this Christmas and it is great to see so many of the children travelling to school this way!

Best Wishes, Sam Norton (Headteacher)

Stunning Starts

This term it has been the role of Thakeham Reporters (pupils) to find out about the Stunning Starts in each class and report them here in the newsletter. This term we are very grateful to Emilia for doing such a great job with this. Our Thakeham Reporters also write articles that appear in the Thakeham Parish Newsletter and Sussex Local, so do look out for these. Please find her report below:

All of the classes have started learning about new topics. When we start a new topic we do a Stunning Start, this is when we learn all about our topic through doing something fun.

Acorn class (Reception)

This term Acorn class are learning about dinosaurs. In their classroom they discovered mini dinosaur eggs. Their task was to make nests for them so that they would hatch. They used all sorts of materials such as: paper bowls, for the base of the nest; cotton wool, to keep their dinosaur eggs warm; tissue paper, to also keep the eggs warm, feathers, to keep the dinosaur comfy when they hatch. Over the weekend, the eggs started to hatch, and when the children came in on Monday the dinosaurs were sleeping in their nests.





Oak class (Year 1&2)

This term Oak class are learning about the Arctic and Antarctica. On the first day of school, the children came in to see penguin footprints all over the classroom floor. The footprints made a little trail which led them to a lost penguin. This penguin is the main character in their new book; Lost and Found!







Maple (Year3&4)

This term Maple class are learning about the Stone Age. The children of Maple class went on an expedition to find items they used in the Stone Age. They were items that people used for survival. The items were all over the school. Survival in this age was incredibly important as not everybody had a house and food.

Elder class (Year 5&6)



This term Elder class are learning about the Saxons and Vikings. They are starting with the Saxons. The children of Elder class went outside into the forest school area to do Saxon cooking. Our forest school instructor is Matt and he is also a year 6 teacher, who has done the topic of Saxons at his school. The first group of children made a Saxon vegetable stew. Instead of a stock cube, the Saxons would boil up a pig and then use the juice from that for flavouring. The second group made Honey cakes. The Saxons used honey for sweetness because they didn't have granulated sugar. In the afternoon everyone went back out to taste our stew and honey cakes. Matt told us a story: that's what the Saxons would do at mealtimes. We all sat around the fire and tried our food.

School Uniform Orders – Free Shipping Offer Code TPS01234

Mrs Otto would like to inform you of the deadlines for ordering school uniform this half term.



If you would like to make use of the free shipping offer, please place your order online before 12pm on Monday 3rd February and quote TPS01234. Orders will then be delivered to school between 24th - 28th February 2020.

Orders placed after 12pm on Monday 3rd February will not be delivered to school until the week before Easter unless the shipping is paid for.

If you have any queries relating to uniform, please contact Mrs Otto directly on <u>info@abcembroidery.co.uk</u> or call 01964 624 814 / 07856 760013. Website address <u>www.abcembroidery.co.uk</u>

Our school milk scheme

Our school provides a milk scheme that is available to **all** of our pupils and (if you haven't already done so) we would like to invite you to register your child. School milk is free for under-5s, and for over-5s it is available at a subsidised price per day.



Each child that registers with Cool Milk will receive a 189ml portion of semi-skimmed milk every day, delivered fresh and chilled to the classroom. Their school milk will not only provide them with essential nutrients, but as it is rehydrating and energy boosting it also bridges the gap between breakfast and lunch to help children stay focused. For more information on how milk can benefit children visit www.coolmilk.com/why-milk-is-great.

How to register

If your child is under five:

Don't worry, the school has already registered your child and they will be receiving milk until their 5th birthday.

If your child is five or older:

If you have not already done so, register and pay online at www.coolmilk.com Alternatively, fill in a registration form available from the school office - once Cool Milk has processed your form, you will receive a payment request You can pay Cool Milk either online, over the phone or at a local PayPoint in half-termly, termly

or annual instalments.

Please pay by a Tuesday at 5pm for your child's milk to start the following week

If you have any questions regarding school milk please visit <u>www.coolmilk.com</u> or contact Cool Milk directly on 0800 321 3248. More information on milk is also available from the school.



Is your child struggling with daytime toileting?

If the answer is YES

We have organised a support session on

Wednesday 26th February 2020, 9am-12pm

At The Hub, Upper Beeding, BN44 3HP

Please contact The Healthy Child Programme on

01273 696011 ext 4524 to find out more information and book





Drum Kit and Keyboard Lessons at Thakeham Primary

Spaces Available!

Great news, SAM Music Service offer individual and paired drum kit and keyboard lessons at Thakeham Primary. Lessons take place during and after the school day.

Learning to play an instrument can be a fantastic way to help with confidence, creativity, social skills and academic development. Our students are encouraged to progress through the accredited graded syllabusses such as Trinity Rock & Pop.

The teachers are experienced and passionate real-life musicians; lessons are fun and engaging; and parents / guardians are kept up to date with weekly online feedback via our unique, mobile friendly software "mySAM"!

There are limited spaces so please enquire as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, as lessons will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

How to Enquire:

- 1. Email: lessons@sussexmusic.com include student name / school name / instrument
- 2. Web: www.sussexmusic.com/schools complete the quick and easy contact form

What does it Cost:

- Individual 30min lessons are £16.50 per lesson
- Paired 30min lessons are £11.55 per lesson per person
- Lessons are paid for in half-termly blocks.
- We encourage individual lessons for the most efficient learning experience!
- SAM Music Service is Ofsted registered and accepts payment via Childcare Vouchers (including Tax-Free Childcare), thus helping to keep the price of lessons to a minimum.





Chartwells Catering has various kitchen vacancies:

St John the Baptist, Team Leader, 16¼ hours per week St John the Baptist, Kitchen Assistant, 10 hours per week Storrington Primary School, Kitchen Assistant, 15 hours per week Storrington Primary School, Kitchen Assistant, 7½ hours per week Relief Team Leader, 16¼ hours per week North Lancing, Kitchen Assistant, 10 hours per week

If you are interested in any of these roles and would like a school catering term-time only job that fits around your family life, for more information please contact:

Nicola Eves, Area Manager, via email at

nicola.eves@compass-group.co.uk