

# THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



*'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'*



Friday 27th April 2018

## Super Learning Hero Awards

Congratulations goes to the following children for being given awards for the week commencing 16th April. These awards were recognised in assembly on Monday 23rd April

Positive, Persevering  
Poppy

Co-operative, Caring  
Craig

Curious, Questioning  
Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing  
Ruby

Rafferty (Maple)  
Frankie (Oak)

Olly (Maple)  
Jasper (Elder)

Congratulations goes to the following children for being given awards for the week commencing 23rd April. These awards will be recognised in assembly on Monday 30th April

Positive, Persevering  
Poppy

Co-operative, Caring  
Craig

Curious, Questioning  
Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing  
Ruby

Luke/Lucas/Bea (Oak)

Yasmin (Elder)

Janneke (Acorn)  
Toby (Maple)

### Head Teacher Award

Logan & Yasmin (Elder)

### Governor Award

Ellie & Brook (Elder)

## Time to Shine!

Congratulations to these children for their outstanding achievements outside of school, well done to all of you!



**Maddie  
Poppy  
Thomas  
Beth  
Grace W  
William  
Emma Rose  
Flossie**

## Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents & Carers,

### **Creative Individuals**

“We nurture and celebrate each child’s individual talents and skills.....” part of our School Vision is linked to recognising each of our wonderful pupils as individuals and supporting them to achieve their very best. This idea was the starting point for a whole-school art project working with Wendy Brooker (Have a go Pottery), who leads our after-school pottery club. Wendy worked with each child across the school to enable them to make their own clay leaf. Each leaf, like each pupil in our school, is unique and forms part of our Thakeham tree and our Thakeham family.

We hope you will be able to come in and have a look at our tree as it grows down the corridor—more yet to come. Over time, children who join Thakeham will also have this opportunity, so won’t miss out! In fact we have 2 new children joining us in Year 3 on Monday. I am sure Charlie and Harvey will settle in quickly and receive a warm Thakeham welcome from children and adults alike.

We hope to engage in another whole-school Art project this term when each class will produce a 3D version of their class tree for display in their cloakroom/corridor, as part of a collaboration with Steyning Grammar School Art Department.

Don’t forget we are looking for examples of art work to be used in the design of the Thakeham Village Day programme. Children should submit their drawings in colour on an A4 piece of paper by **Thursday 3rd May** to their classteacher.

### **Transition**

We are delighted that we have a full class of 15 Reception pupils joining us in September and even more delighted that all placed Thakeham top of their list! This intake and the growing waiting lists for 4 year groups are testament that Thakeham is a wonderful place to learn and grow! Fantastic resources and facilities complement our small school ethos with high quality teaching and learning at the heart of everything we do. Transition dates are in place and we look forward to welcoming the new children in June/July.

Similarly transition arrangements are also finalised for our Year 6 pupils who will be moving up to secondary school in September. We are so pleased to have had the opportunity to work with these wonderful children for an extra year and they will be very much missed! Luckily for most we’ll be able to wave over the fence if they are heading to SGS! Respective secondary schools will be sharing these arrangements with you shortly (via our school).

### **Sporting Achievements**

We were delighted that Year 5/6 pupils achieved 1st place in the STARS Rounders tournament last week! Hard work and skills development with the support from SGS are really making a difference! Well done!

Year 6 children spent afternoons this week improving their bike riding skills as part of the bikeability project. They have learnt rules of the road, how to be safe and super manoeuvrability! Certificates will be presented in assembly on Monday.

### **Bikes and scooters**

We are really pleased to see children using these means of transport to get travel to school where safe to do so. A couple of points to note though please. Until such time as we can afford a bike/scooter pod/shelter (£1300+), please ensure bikes etc are secured to the fence and not left blocking the entrance to the school, which is also a fire exit. It is also advisable that children wear a helmet and dismount on arrival at the school gate and walk their bike/scooter along the path, rather than riding it please.

Some of you may be aware of a ‘near miss’ this week involving one of our pupils and a car that did not stop for Mick, the School Crossing Patrol. Please can I ask if you have any incidents to report that you let us and the Parish Council know. We will continue to push for further road safety investment in various forms.

### **Latest developments on the playground and FOTS**

We have used some of our funding to have a Storyteller chair and benches installed at the front of the school. We hope this will be enjoyed during breaks/lunches and as part of curriculum time too. We are also hoping through fundraising and the rest of our building funding, that we can purchase shade canopies for the playground. This area will be prioritised over and above shade planned for the rear of the building. A huge plea therefore to support all FOTS activities as without this funding we will be unable to make these purchases.

FOTS organise a wide range of activities for children across the year but without the help at the organisation stage these plans will not come to fruition unfortunately. There are lots of ways in which you can help. It makes such a difference to have that support at all the stages of FOTS events, though of course we do appreciate everyone is busy!

### **Staffing Update**

Mr Penty will be moving to a new exciting career at the end of the summer term and so won't be with us in September. I am sure you will want to join me in wishing him all the very best for the future. This week we appointed a very experienced teacher Mrs Double who will start with us in September. It is anticipated that there will be some moving around of classteachers next year, but this will not be finalised until the later in June/July. Only then will we be able to confirm the classteachers for next year. Please be patient and bear with us!

### **Absence from School**

I have noticed a sharp rise in families taking holidays during term time. Whilst I understand the financial reasons for this, children are missing out on valuable learning time and for all children assessments are made during this term, some of which are statutory assessments. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, absences of 5 days or more are referred to the Pupil Investigation Team who often charge a Fixed Penalty Notice of £60 per child per adult. NB these fines do not come to the school but to the County.

### **Pupil Premium/Free School Meals**

Thank you to parents who took time to complete the form that went home recently. If you haven't done so, please return this to the school office asap. Your child may be missing out on funding and support in school. Please note your child does not have to have the free lunch if they qualify for this funding.

With very best wishes

Mrs S. Norton (Headteacher)

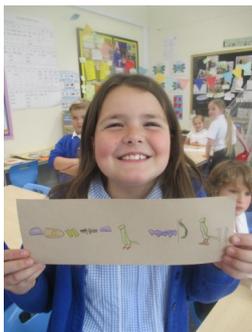
## **Maple class Stunning Start**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Maple Class started the Summer term with a hieroglyphic stunning start. They began their morning with a message to decode, they used hieroglyphic translations to find the missing letters but realised that one word didn't quite look right:

T H E T I M E G N I L L E V A R T C A T

What did this tell them about Hieroglyphic writing? Afterwards, Maple class then wrote their names or initials in hieroglyphics. Children then had to identify which name belonged to who using their knowledge of Left to Right and Right to Left reading!



## Rounders Tournament

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, a group of 10 children from Elder class took part in a tournament against other schools in the local area. The group used their team work skills to make sure that they had all the bases covered and that someone was free in areas to catch any high balls! They developed their fielding skills and were amazing batters against teams that were fierce competition. Therefore, we are extremely delighted to say that Thakeham took first place, a very well deserved reward for a really hot day!



## Oak Class—Stunning Start

### Monsters and Superheroes

The children were visited by a guest from One Day Creative, who set the scene of a dark and scary forest. The children had to imagine what monsters might be lurking in there before becoming those monsters, acting them out and describing what they looked like. The children took part in a monster fashion parade which was wonderful and full of imagination. Then came the superheroes to defeat the monsters! The children acted out a variety of characters and scenes and made the superheroes come alive.



## Acorn Class—Stunning Start

On Tuesday Acorn Class were very lucky because we had a very special visitor. Mrs Flitney came to see us with Lissy and six tiny chicks. All of the children were very excited and had the chance to hold the chicks as well as Lissy, learning about how to take care of them. Lissy is a very special chicken, who loves cuddles! The children have been looking at lots of stories about hens and have now written their own non-fiction books about what they have learnt. A big thank you goes to Mrs Flitney.



## Elder Class

### Elder Stunning Start

To start our topic of 'A Child's War' based around the impact of WWII and the Battle of Britain, the children experienced rationing. We looked at the allowances granted one adult in 1940 Britain and an actual ration book and how it was used. The children then cooked and tasted three WWII ration recipes: Honey cakes, Eggless sponge Gone Wrong and Shortbread. It was interesting to see how you can still bake even when your eggs are rationed.



### Bikeability

Come rain or shine, year 6 have worked hard all week learning how to stay safe on the local roads when riding their bikes. They have focused on a range of road junctions, signalling, pulling away as well as how to maintain their bikes and ensure they are fit for purpose.



### Photo of the Fortnight

Who is this?  
Whose family do they belong to?



## Maple class—Drop Everything and Read

On Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, year 7 pupils from Steyning Grammar School visited Maple Class. They had written stories for younger pupils with strong moral messages. 22 pupils shared their wonderfully produced and written stories with us in year 3 and 4. It was lovely seeing Maple interact so enthusiastically and positively with the elder children. Maple will be looking forward to sharing their own stories with younger children in the summer term!



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your journey  
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## Southern Rail

As of the 20th May Southern rail are implementing a timetable change.

*If you need any further information on the planned changes or more detailed route specific information including the new timetables, please visit [www.railplan2020.com](http://www.railplan2020.com).*

## Ellie Thornton Foundation

PRESS RELEASE - 18 April 2018

### ELLIE THORNTON FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY OF LOCAL SCHOOLGIRL

Ben and Vicky Thornton are proud to announce the establishment of a charity in their daughter's name, *The Ellie Thornton Foundation*. Ellie, aged 11, a pupil at Rydon Community College in Storrington, died after she was involved in a road traffic accident in West Sussex in March 2017. Ellie and a school friend were crossing the Storrington Road, in Thakeham, to reach a temporary school bus stop when she was knocked down by a van. She was airlifted by the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance to St George's Hospital, London where a week later she lost her fight for life from her brain injury.

Following questions that were raised at the coroner's inquest a formal letter from the Coroner, Penelope Schofield, was sent to West Sussex County Council raising concerns over delays to traffic calming measures and the protocols for the risk assessment of temporary bus stops. WSCC are now reviewing their standard operating practice (SOP) for the siting of bus stops, in particular, the suspension or temporary relocation of stops due to highway works.

Ellie was an extraordinary girl with an extraordinary life, marked by her desire to have fun, her obsession with theme parks, and her ability to engage anyone in conversation. Ellie was worldly, resilient, bubbly and full of ideas and ambitions. She wanted to help children who didn't have the opportunities that she did and recognised that she was lucky to travel the world and have amazing family experiences. The Ellie Thornton Foundation will champion what was important to her, and what is important to her family, in her name.

Ellie's father Ben had these words *'The pain of losing Ellie will never leave us, it will not diminish over time, however, we truly believe that to carry on, to be strong for our family, we need to grow around the grief. Vicky and I are determined to carry Ellie's name forward, for there to be a legacy whereby Ellie continues to help others'*.

The Ellie Thornton Foundation has the following areas of interest;

Grant making to support "Ellie Days" for families who may struggle to facilitate fun days out for their children due to illness and incapacity

Championing and advocacy for, and interventions to support, Road Safety for Children travelling to and from School

Advocating and sharing information about for Equal Rights for Parents to support parents and children.

Supporting initiatives to help parents and siblings bereaved by the loss of a child.

The Ellie Thornton Foundation will officially launch with "Ellie's Star Gala" on her birthday, Tuesday 10th July 2018, held at Cissbury Barns, Findon, West Sussex. This event will include a three-course meal, entertainment, charity auction and, of course, dancing and a party to Ellie's exacting standards of fun. The Foundation are seeking local businesses able to support with donations of raffle and auction prizes for this event.

The charities trustees are:

Ben and Vicky Thornton - father and step mother

Denise Thornton- Ellie's grandmother and local fundraiser for St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree House

Steve Robinson - Ellie's godfather and fire fighter with West Sussex Fire Service

Anne Colvin - Shoreham-by Sea based dance artist and practitioner

Tamsyn Holmes - Ellie's neighbour, arts and crafts specialist

Matt Bent - Project Engineer at Ricardo Technical Centre Shoreham

Emma Lind - Cultural researcher and politician, lives in Kristiansand, Norway

Ellie's Star Gala has been kindly supported by Etta Wyatt and her team at Cissbury, and Ash Kent of Tents N Events, Champion Catering, Co-ordination Catering Hire, One Beautiful Day, Twinkle Twist Events and Andy Prior design. The trustees are in discussion with numerous other suppliers who are keen to support the charity.

If you would like more information on the foundation or visit the website at

[www.elliethorntonfoundation.org.uk](http://www.elliethorntonfoundation.org.uk), you can also follow the foundation on Facebook.

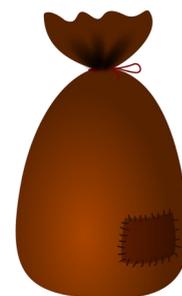
If you would like to attend for the official launch, tickets are available £45 per ticket (plus booking fee) at [www.elliesstargala.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.elliesstargala.eventbrite.co.uk)

Contact Ben at the Ellie Thornton Foundation on [hello@elliethorntonfoundation.org.uk](mailto:hello@elliethorntonfoundation.org.uk)

## FOTS Bag 2 School

Next week a bag from Bag 2 School has been sent home with your child. Bag 2 school specialises in good quality second hand clothing that can be re-used. The bags are filled and weighed and the total weight collected then translates into money for the school.

Please look out for the bag in your child's backpack and return filled bags to the school playground on Tuesday 22nd May by 9:00am



## **GIRLS' FOOTBALL WEEK**

SUNDAY 29TH APRIL 2:00 pm

AS PART OF THE FA GIRLS FOOTBALL WEEK, ASHINGTON ANGELS ARE PROVIDING  
A TASTER SESSION FOR GIRLS AGED 10 – 13 (YEARS 5-8)

AT

ABINGWORTH FOOTBALL PITCH  
THAKEHAM  
RH20 3EJ

SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
14:00-15:30

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
SARAH OSBORNE

[sarahfosborne@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarahfosborne@hotmail.co.uk)  
or just turn up on Sunday 29th

## West Chiltington Rainbows and Brownies

West Chiltington guiding units have spaces for some new girls in their Rainbows and Brownies. They have spaces at both units from April. Rainbows meet on Fridays for ages 5-7 and Brownies meet on Mondays ages 7-10 both at West Chiltington church hall from 5pm.

The leaders contact details are [sarahafrance@aol.com](mailto:sarahafrance@aol.com) or parents can go onto the Girlguiding website to join the waiting list for our unit.

## FOTS

FOTs will be holding a Quiz Night in the school hall on Friday 18th May at 7.30pm. £5 per person - bring your own drinks and snacks. Teams of up to 6 people. Either put a team together or just join another table.

Booking and payment slips will be available from next week.

Please come along and support this fun event and help our fundraising for playground sunshades.



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Kellie Oldfield, Area Manager on 07917210121 or email  
[Kellie.oldfield@compass-group.co.uk](mailto:Kellie.oldfield@compass-group.co.uk)

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## LODGE HILL HALF TERM ACTIVITY CLUBS

- ***Drop your child off at 8:30am for a full day of exciting outdoor activities!***
  - ***Pick up at 5pm***
- ***These days are for 8-14 year olds and will include lunch and refreshments.***
- ***£35 per child per day or £60 per child for both days***
  - ***Spaces are limited***
- ***Booking closes Wednesday 25th May***

**CALL 01798 831411 OR EMAIL  
ADMIN@LODGEHILL.ORG.UK TO BOOK**