



## ALL SAINTS' THURLESTONE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

**Friday 1st May 2026**

Dear Families,

As we move through the term, it has been lovely to see our school community take part in a range of positive and enriching experiences.

We were delighted this week to welcome the Year 3 and 4 children from Charleton and West Alvington to our school for a sports afternoon. The children had a fantastic time taking part in a range of activities, showing great teamwork, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship. It was a pleasure to see pupils from different schools learning and playing together, with new friendships beginning to form. Thank you to all staff who helped make the afternoon such a success.

Looking ahead to next week, our Nursery children will be joining the Nursery pupils from West Alvington for a trip to East Soar. This promises to be a wonderful opportunity for exploration and shared experiences in an outdoor setting. The term is already shaping up to be a busy and exciting one, filled with opportunities that enrich our children's learning beyond the classroom.

Please also find attached a Safer Internet document from our Family Support worker Mrs Dugard.

Have a lovely long weekend

Mrs Ruston

### **Dates for your Diary**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May- Year 6 SATS week

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>- Year 6 Woodlands trip

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May- Half term**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June- Start of term**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup>-Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June-Year 4 residential

Monday 8<sup>th</sup>-Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June- Climate workshops

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June- Year 5 and 6 Sports afternoon

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June- Sports day

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July- Transition day with Yr6 at KCC

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July- Reserve sports day

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July- End of Year performance

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July- Last day of term**



### We're delighted to share some exciting news!

Our partnership of schools has been shortlisted in the prestigious *Times Educational Supplement (TES) Teaching Awards*, reaching the finals for **Inclusive Trust of the Year 2026**.

This recognition celebrates the way we work together as one family of schools. Rather than working in isolation, we actively share training, resources and expertise across all 18 schools, ensuring staff are supported and children benefit from the very best practice.

The shortlist also reflects the strength of our SEND support. It highlights the guidance we receive from our SEND experts and the collaborative work led by our SENDCO, **Alannah Holloway**, who works closely with SENDCOs across our schools to improve support and outcomes for children with additional needs.

We are also working hard to prepare for and respond to the government's SEND reform plans, making sure inclusive practice is at the heart of everything we do for all our children. To have this commitment recognised nationally is something we are incredibly proud of — and it is only possible because we work together as a strong, connected family of schools.

The TES finals take place in June, and we will be sure to share the outcome with you.

### Steeple Cove Nursery



This week Steeple Cove have been exploring different feelings and emotions, discussing what make us feel those emotions and how to recognise them on ourselves and our friends. On Tuesday we ventured down to the Forest school area where we explored natural habitats and we made bread over the fire, which we enjoyed with jam and honey. As the weather has been dry this week the children have been exploring natural habitats, discovering birds in nests and mini beasts that live in dark and damp locations.

### Yarmer (Reception/Year 1)

This week we were excited to launch our new Drawing Club! This fun and imaginative approach helps to develop children's language, early writing and fine motor skills through storytelling and drawing. Inspired by picture books, traditional tales and animations, the children use "magic codes" and "magic buttons" (letters, sounds and numbers) to bring their drawings to life. In class, we began with the familiar favourite *Jack and the Beanstalk*, focusing on drawing the main character, Jack. We also had a fantastic time at Forest School making flatbread, and the children have loved exploring the classroom environment and trying out some new tools. In geography, we've been

learning about where the UK and Australia are in the world, sparking lots of curiosity about different places.

### Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)

This week in Leas Foot children have begun our new art focus on 'printing' and learning all about Australian artist Gloria Petyarra. We have been learning all about aboriginal art and had a go at drawing lots of aboriginal symbols. As scientists we have been sharing all that we know about plants and labelling parts of a flower. As mathematicians we have continued to focus on measuring in cm and m and have taken our maths outside to explore measuring on a larger scale. In PE we have had fun learning lots of skills to play cricket! As geographers, we have started our learning about Australia! This week, we learnt about where in the world Australia is.

### Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)

Sedgewell have worked really hard this week. As writers we have been exploring the features of a newspaper report through our sentence development thinking about the 5 W's (who, what, when where, why) about the event. We have been subtracting fraction in Maths and have begun our Geography unit learning about Greece and its features. In Art we created an abstract picture of a face using shapes and bold colours like our artist Paul Klee. We are loving our Computing learning and have been learning to programme an on-screen turtle. This week we had to explore the commands to write letters on the screen – it was quite challenging, but once we achieved it, we felt very proud of ourselves!



### Butter Cove

Butter Cove have continued to work hard this week and I am so proud of the children. Our two new children have settled in brilliantly and I have been really pleased with the kindness shown towards them. As writers, we are coming to the end of our Newspaper topic and the children will be planning and writing their own newspaper report; something I am sure they will do brilliantly. #in Maths, the children have continued to master decimals and are able to round them to the nearest whole number and add and subtract decimals. We are studying Paul Klee in Art and the children have looked at examples of his work and described what they can see and how they feel when looking at his abstract paintings. In Computing, they are coding using a different programme and becoming quite the experts, In Geography, they were learning 4 and 6 figure grid references, whilst looking at a map of Greece. This is a tricky skill and I was pleased with their perseverance.

### Bantham

We have had another busy but great week in Bantham. I have been so proud of the hard work and resilience all the children have shown in their learning. In our English lessons, we have discussed, used and identified lots of different grammatical terms and tenses. In particular, I have been super impressed with their ability to use different verb forms (including perfect and progressive). In maths we have been exploring position and direction and have started to master plotting points in four quadrants as well as translating and reflecting points and shapes. We have also been thoroughly enjoying our music lessons with Mrs Bickle so far this term as we have been playing steel drums with precision and rhythm to play different tunes and tempos.

### Attendance

Thank you for all your efforts to maximise the children's attendance. As we start the new year, we would really to see an improvement in our attendance, let's work together to achieve this.

The attendance this week can be seen on the table below.

<b>Whole school attendance (Target 98%)</b>	95.3%
<b>Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)</b>	98.4%- Excellent work Yarmer!
<b>Leas Foot (Year 1/ Year 2)</b>	89.3%
<b>Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)</b>	98.3%- Really great work!
<b>Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)</b>	97.5%- So close Butter Cove
<b>Bantham (Year 6)</b>	92.6%

## Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

<b>Steeple Cove Nursery</b>	Olivia Weller
<b>Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)</b>	Sam Hannaford
<b>Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)</b>	Phoebe Thomas
<b>Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)</b>	Isabella Taylor
<b>Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)</b>	Alana Dyson
<b>Bantham (Year 6)</b>	Magnus Brooker

### Home learning

<b>Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)</b>	R – Maths activity sheet: 7 + letter formation 'x' Y1 – Maths activity sheet: 2 + spellings: 'oo' and 'yoo' spelt 'ue' and 'ew'
<b>Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)</b>	Y1 – Maths activity sheet and spellings – the vowel diagraph 'oo' Y2 – Maths activity sheet and spellings – Suffixes ending 'less' and 'ful'

<b>Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)</b>	Spellings, a Reading Comprehension activity and TTRS please – approx. 3 x garage games at least 4 times a week.
<b>Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)</b>	Spellings and decimals task. Please go on Rollama and TTRS for at least 15 minutes 4 times a week
<b>Bantham (Year 6)</b>	A maths and SPaG activity and spelling sheet. Please also log on to Rollama and have a go at some of the White Rose Infinity quizzes I have created.