



**ALL SAINTS'
THURLESTONE**

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Friday 9th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand-new term! It has been a truly lovely first week in school, and we are delighted to see the children settling back into routines so confidently. Classrooms have been full of enthusiasm, curiosity, and a real readiness to learn.

Our staff have been busy planning lots of exciting learning experiences for the term ahead, and we are looking forward to everything the new year has in store. Please do take some time to look at the important dates listed below, as our calendar is already beginning to fill up.

I would also like to share that I met with our fantastic **Friends of the School (FTS)** this week. We have some exciting plans underway for the term, and we are very grateful for their ongoing support and commitment to our school community.

We look forward to a positive and productive term together.

Warm regards,

Best wishes,
Mrs Ruston

Dates for your Diary

Monday 16th February- Friday 20th February – Half Term

Monday 23rd February- Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday 24th February and Wednesday 25th February- Parent consultations

Thursday 5th March- World book day

Monday 9th March- Friday 13th March -Year 5/6 Residential

Wednesday 1st April- Easter Service 9am All welcome

Thursday 2nd April- Last day of term

Tuesday 21st- First day back for Summer Term

Steeple Cove Nursery



The children have returned full of beans and excited to share stories of their Christmas holidays. This week Steeple Cove have been focusing on 'Winter', discussing how the weather has changed in temperature and how the trees are now different from Summer. Steeple Cove have been busy using a wide range of materials to represent the Winter season, flour as 'snow' and exploring the ice tray outside. We cannot wait to start our Forest school sessions next Tuesday!

Yarmer (Reception/Year 1)

The children have returned from the Christmas holidays full of energy and ready to learn. They've enjoyed exploring the United Kingdom in Geography and discovering the sculptor Andy Goldsworthy, even beginning to critique his work. Year 1 have been learning about 2D shapes and sorting them, while Reception have loved parachute games that help strengthen their muscles for writing. A fantastic start to the new term!

Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)

It has been so wonderful to have the children back in school after the Christmas break! They have all come back so beautifully and ready to learn. We have already been really busy, getting back into our routines and into our learning. As mathematicians, we have been back to our place value to 100, thinking about number lines and estimating on number lines. As geographers, we have made a start on our learning all about London and the British Isles, identifying the 4 countries which make up the British Isles and their capital cities.

Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)

The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm for their learning and have enjoyed starting their new units. Our focus in English is writing to inform where we are learning how to write 'Explanation Texts' and we will hone our skills leading to writing our own independent piece. We have moved on to the next stage of multiplication and division and I ask the children to ensure they practise their times tables on TTRS as this will really help them with this learning. The children are incredibly keen about their new Vikings unit in History and were fascinated by Henry Moore as they began their new Art unit focusing on the medium of sculpture.

Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)

The children have come back full of energy and have really impressed me with their efforts. I was particularly pleased with their teamwork in PE, where the learning is gymnastics this term. In English, we are learning how to write a non-chronological report, and the children have been really engaged in this and eager to write their own. In maths, we are looking at formal methods of multiplication and division. Please do encourage the children to go over their times tables on TTRS, as this will help them a great deal. We are studying the Vikings in history, and the children are excited about how they lived and raided other countries.

Bantham (Year 6)

We have had a fantastic first week back from the holidays and the children have blown me away with their resilience, hard work and positive mindset when it comes to their learning. This week we have started our new writing unit and purpose – writing to inform. For this unit of work, we will be using the story 'Letters from the lighthouse' to inspire our informative recount. As mathematicians we have been exploring ratio and using it to solve



problems. During our history lessons, we have started to explore the Vikings and in class we made a timeline of what happened during the Viking period.

Attendance

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

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

Whole school attendance (Target 98%)	93.5%
Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)	98%
Leas Foot (Year 1/ Year 2)	94.6%
Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)	94.1%
Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)	92.4%
Banham (Year 6)	89.1%

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

Steeple Cove Nursery	Phoebe Hurrell
Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)	William Yeoman
Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)	Willa Hurrell
Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)	Sophia Speechly
Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)	The class for their excellent effort in PE
Banham (Year 6)	Archie Moore

Home learning

Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)	R – Maths activity sheet: 13 + letter formation 'u' Y1 – Maths activity sheet: 1+ spellings 'ie' Y1 – HFW + common exception words
Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)	Y1 - Maths activity sheet, spellings words using 'ie' and HFW and Y1 common exception words. Y2 - Maths activity sheet, spellings words ending in 'le' and HFW and Y2 common exception words.
Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)	Spellings and a reading comprehension activity.
Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)	Please go over their spellings – tion words, Rollama (English grammar) and TTRS.
Banham (Year 6)	Please complete pages 13 and 14 (on multiplication) in your Key Stage 2 Maths SATS Question Book.