



ALL SAINTS' THURLESTONE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a restful—if rather soggy—half term break. Despite the wet weather, the children have returned full of enthusiasm and are ready to embrace the exciting term ahead. This week, there has been a real buzz around school as the children eagerly discuss the details of the Premier League event starting next week. I would like to extend a big thank you to M.F. for organising this fantastic opportunity for our pupils.

Next week, we are also looking forward to welcoming visitors from the Trust into school. They will be spending time in classrooms to see the wonderful learning and positive attitudes that our children demonstrate every day, and we know the pupils will make us proud.

We will also be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March with a range of fun activities, including dressing up as a favourite book character. There is no expectation to buy a costume—simple, creative ideas from home are perfect, and our staff are always happy to offer suggestions if needed. Children who would prefer not to dress up are welcome to wear mufti and bring along their favourite book.

In addition, we would like to warmly invite parents and carers into school to share a book with your child or children from 3:00–3:20pm in the afternoon. This will be a lovely opportunity to enjoy reading together and celebrate a shared love of books. Details of a competition will be coming home today so please keep a look out for this.

We are looking forward to another positive and enjoyable week ahead.

Warm regards,

Mrs Ruston

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 5th March- World book day
Monday 9th March- Friday 13th March -Year 5/6 Residential
Monday 16th March- Friday 20th March- Science Week
Wednesday 1st April- 9:00am Easter Service at church (all welcome)
Thursday 2nd April- Last day of Term
Friday 3rd April- Easter Holidays
Monday 20th April- Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 21st April- First day of term

Steeple Cove Nursery

This week Steeple Cove have been busy learning about 'Chinese New Year', observing traditional Chinese dragon dances while listening to traditional music. On Tuesday the children enjoyed their first sunny forest school, the best part was making the campfire pizzas! The children have also been attending their music sessions with Mrs Bickle, introducing them to the steel drums. On Thursday we were joined by Mrs Shea from Tesco, she supported our learning of 'Chinese New Year' by kindly providing us with Chinese food for us to taste, the best part was seeing who had the longest noodle!



Yarmer (Reception/Year 1)

It's been wonderful welcoming the children back to school this week, and the sunshine has made for an especially cheerful start to the term. We've loved getting straight back into Forest School, where the children enjoyed making pizza wraps over the campfire. Year 1 have begun their new maths topic on addition and subtraction within 20 and have approached it with great enthusiasm. Reception have been busy too, finishing their work on how numbers 1–10 are made. We're also really enjoying our class story, *Paddington*, and have made a great start to our DT topic by identifying different types of bridges. It's been a fantastic first week back!

Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)

It has been so wonderful having the children back together after half term. They have come back refreshed and recharged, ready to learn! As geographers this week, we have been learning about different physical features from countries in the British Isles. This week, we were focusing on Wales and Northern Ireland, looking at lots of lakes and mountain ranges. We have been busy as scientists this week testing materials to find which make good shock absorbers. We wrapped different material around eggs and dropped to see if it would crack! We are excited to be doing Forest School this half term! We will be going in the afternoons. Please send your child in their school uniform with a change of clothes for Forest School.

Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)

Sedgewell have returned with enthusiasm for their learning this week. Our writing theme is 'To Entertain' and we will be learning how to write an exciting adventure story. Our new DT unit is all about structures and I look forward to seeing the various way the children learn how to build different types over the coming weeks. As global citizens we have begun learning about Hinduism and what life is like for Hindus in Britain and in RHE we have started learning about our Economic Wellbeing and we had to choose what we would buy on a budget and are beginning to understand the value of money and the tough decisions we all face when spending our money – a crucial life skill! I was very impressed with their reasons for what they chose to buy and not buy.

Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)

I have been really impressed with the children this week. They are working hard in all areas and being particularly kind to one another, which is lovely to see. In English, we are starting our new narrative text, *The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse* by Charlie Mackesy and I am sure they will be inspired to write their own story based on this wonderful text. We are into our last week of fractions, where the children have been working hard but adding and subtracting fractions, particularly with different denominators, can be tricky. We are learning about clothes in French, so please do ask them what the French is for a particular garment, as they put them nicely away for you!

It was lovely to see so many of you over parents' evening and sharing their attributes with you. Please contact if you missed an appointment and would like to arrange one. Please continue to encourage your children to read, go on TTRS and Rollama! To aid their learning.

Bantham (Year 6)

Thank you so much to all the children that have joined our morning SATS session! These sessions are open to all and focus on both English (grammar and reading) and Maths. These sessions run on a Tuesday and Thursday from 8am and are run by the wonderful Mrs Mckay and I look forward to seeing you all there!

This week it has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school. We have been working hard to finish our non-chronological report and editing them to make sure they sound professional – we are experts after all! In Maths we have been multiplying and dividing fractions and applying them to real-life problems. In DT this half term, we have started to explore different frame structures. The children have explored how frame structures have changed and improved over the time.

Attendance

Thank you for all your efforts to maximise the children's attendance. 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.

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| Whole school attendance (Target 98%) | 93.7% |
| Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1) | 92.9% |
| Leas Foot (Year 1/ Year 2) | 96.% |
| Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4) | 99.6% Amazing work Sedgewell |
| Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5) | 90.5% |
| Bantham (Year 6) | 87.5% |

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

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| Steeple Cove Nursery | Louis James |
| Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1) | Olivia Crabtree-John |
| Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2) | Isabella Stoop |
| Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4) | Alexa Ireland |
| Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5) | Roman Summerfield |
| Bantham (Year 6) | Airlie Birch |

Home learning

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1) | R – Maths activity sheet: 2 + letter formation 'r' Y1 – Maths activity sheet: 1+ spellings 'days of the week', 'common exception words' |
| Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2) | Y1 – Maths activity sheet and spellings 'days of the week', common exception words' Y2 – Adding and subtraction sheet – You could time yourself to challenge yourself further. Spellings spelt 'y' |
| Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4) | Spellings, a Reading comprehension about the Vikings and TTRS please – approx. 3 x garage games at least 4 times a week. |
| Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5) | Spellings and fraction activity. Please can you go on Rollama and TTRS. |
| Bantham (Year 6) | Arithmetic paper and special World Book Day Task. |