



ALL SAINTS' THURLESTONE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Families,

Despite the bad weather this week, there has been some truly great learning happening across the school. I continue to be incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils, who have shown real resilience and determination as they work through their SATs practice. Their attitude and effort have been excellent.

We were also delighted to welcome our EAC (Ethos and Advisory Committee) members into school this week. They completed a full learning walk, beginning with our whole-school worship before visiting classrooms and speaking with a group of pupils. The children talked so confidently and positively about their school, and throughout the visit, the EAC were able to see our school values being lived out in every space. They were impressed by the enthusiasm for learning that was evident in every class.

This visit has been a valuable part of our preparation for our SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection, which we are expecting later this year. SIAMS explores how well the school's Christian vision is lived out across all aspects of school life. If you would like to know more about what this involves, please do get in touch — I would be happy to share further information.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mrs Ruston

Dates for your Diary

Friday 30th Jan- Bend the rules day (info to be sent out shortly)

Friday 6th February-NSPCC number day

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

Steeple Cove Nursery



This week in Steeple Cove we have been exploring 'Nursery rhymes', choosing our favourites and singing loud for all to hear! The children have been discovering that each nursery rhyme has a different melody, pitch and tempo. Steeple Cove especially enjoyed the traditional stories part of the week, reading stories such as 'The three little pigs' and 'The Gingerbread man'. The children had a go at reciting the story of the 'The Three little pigs' and recreated the three different types of materials the pigs used to create the houses, the fun part was trying to blow the houses down, just like the big bad wolf.

Yarmer (Reception/Year 1)

This week, Yarmer have been busy exploring spirals in art inspired by the work of *Andy Goldsworthy*. We experimented with paint and cotton buds to create our own unique variations of spiral patterns. In Geography, we learned about the seas that surround the British Isles, building our confidence in naming and locating them on a map. We also took time to think more deeply about the world around us. As part of our spirituality question, we discussed why we should care for animals and plants and explored how our choices can make a positive difference.

Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)

This week in Leas Foot we have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes in maths, naming them, counting sides and vertices and starting to think about lines of symmetry. In art we have been exploring colour and how Andy Goldsworthy used it in his sculptures. As scientists we have continued to explore properties of materials and their suitability for different objects. We have been very impressed with the use of scientific vocabulary children have used whilst they have been investigating. Well done to all this week in Leas Foot!

Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)

Sedgewell have had a fantastic week. As writers we have been planning our explanations of our own iPet and their fantastic capabilities. I can't wait to see the final pieces next week. As mathematicians we have been dividing numbers by drawing place value grids and using our times tables knowledge to help us. Please support your child to use TTRS regularly as knowing our times tables helps us so much with lots of our Maths learning. In Art we began making our sculptures inspired by Henry Moore and used pipe cleaners to create the armature base. We also thoroughly enjoyed our Steel Pan music lesson with Mrs Bickle and the children were incredibly focused and followed the instructions beautifully.

Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)



Despite the awful weather, the children have coped admirably with a few wet breaktimes and put lots of energy into their learning. With writing, we are close to planning our own non-chronological report and the class have been enjoying our class reader – Viking Boy. They have understood formal methods of multiplication and are now learning division, with some learning the bus stop method. In Art, they made their own armatures in preparation to produce their own sculpture based on Henry Moore. In PE, they were

leaping off benches, gaining in confidence and landing with style. In History, they have learnt about Viking trade and what materials were sought-after.

Bantham (Year 6)

We have had a busy and rewarding week in Bantham class. It has been so wonderful to see the hard work the children have put into everything so far this year pay off this week whilst we have completed another round of practice SATS. This valuable learning experience has highlighted just how much they have learnt – I am very proud! In our Art this week, the children had lots of fun making armatures out of wire, which they will continue to build on next week! During RE, the children deepened their learning on the Five Pillars of Islam and looked at Zakat in more detail.

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.

Whole school attendance (Target 98%)	94.6
Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)	98.1% Great work Yarmer!!
Leas Foot (Year 1/ Year 2)	97.1% Nearly there Leas Foot!
Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)	97.6% So close, lets try again next week!
Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)	90.3%
Bantham (Year 6)	90.8%

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

Steeple Cove Nursery	Rocco Runewitsch
Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)	Georgia McNicholl
Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)	Autumn Summerfield
Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)	Benji McNicholl
Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)	Frank Williams
Bantham (Year 6)	Joshua Paylor

Home learning

Yarmer (Reception/ Year 1)	R – Maths activity sheet: 15 + letter formation 'f' Y1 – Maths activity sheet: 3+ spellings 'ar'
Leas Foot (Year 1 and 2)	Y1 – Maths activity sheet and spellings 'igh' Y2 – Maths activity sheet and common exception word focus spellings. Children have been sent home today with QR code links to sounds and words to focus on for their RWI learning. Please can you enjoy sharing books for pleasure and send in some photos of your children reading books in cosy/interesting/unique places!
Sedgewell Cove (Year 3 and 4)	Spellings, a Maths activity sheet about division and TTRS please – approx. 3 x garage games at least 4 times a week.
Butter Cove (Year 4 and 5)	Spellings, Rollama! and maths division activity
Bantham (Year 6)	Please complete the maths activity on ratio and proportion. Don't forget to log on to TTRS and Rollama!