

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Spring Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 22 Friday 6th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As someone still quite new to the village, it was a real joy to spend some time out and about in Thorncombe this week. I had the opportunity to visit the church and the village shop, and it was lovely to experience more of what makes our community so special, particularly as the village begins to look so beautiful in the spring sunshine.

As spring continues to blossom around us, we are looking forward to making the most of the wonderful natural environment that surrounds our school, both in our learning and during time spent outdoors. In that spirit, we were very excited to complete our trout project this week. After carefully nurturing the eggs in school, the children proudly released the young trout into the local stream today – a fantastic moment for everyone involved.

Our work towards the RSPB challenge is also continuing well. It has been wonderful to see a growing range of birds visiting our new feeder, and the children have enjoyed spotting them throughout the day. My personal favourites this week were two little robins who paid us a visit.

We also celebrated World Book Day this week, and what a fantastic effort everyone made. The children and staff looked brilliant in their costumes, with some wonderfully inventive ideas on display. It was a superb way to celebrate the importance and enjoyment of reading.

A big thank you to the PFA for supporting the day by hosting the end-of-day book drive and helping to give many pre-loved books a new home. It was lovely to see so many children excited to choose something new to read.
Warm regards, Sal Davies

Our core value this term is:

Hope

Our golden apple winners this week are....



The winning house this week:

Copper Beech

W/B 09/03/26:

Monday

Breakfast club
Lego & Games ASC: 3.15-4.30

Tuesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
Forest School Sessions
Bikes+Trikes ASC: 3.15-4.30

Wednesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
PE Lessons
Sports Skills ASC: 3.15-4.30

Thursday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
Creative ASC: 3.15-4.30

Friday

Breakfast Club: 8-8.30
Chromebooks ASC: 3.15-4.30
3:15 PFA cake sale

Please like, comment and share on our social media posts to spread the word of our wonderful school. Click below to be taken to them.



"I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a good book."

-J.K. Rowling



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Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

This week Little Acorns have loved spending lots of time outside. The weather has been kind to us, allowing us to enjoy our outdoor space even more. The children especially enjoyed exploring the sandpit and building lots of wonderful sandcastles. This term we are exploring creatures of the earth. Our story this week was Farmer Duck, so we have been learning about farm animals. We also went on a wellie walk in the sunshine to look for signs of early spring. The children spotted beautiful flowers, bumblebees and even a butterfly, and enjoyed listening to the birds. We also had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day. The children looked amazing in their costumes and enjoyed a day full of book-themed activities including making bookmarks, designing book covers and sharing their favourite stories with friends.

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

World Book Day was so fun! We loved listening to stories, sharing our outfits and designing our own characters. Reading is a big priority in our school and it's lovely to see such a genuine love of reading from the children.

Reception's story of the week has been The Gingerbread Man. They enjoyed lots of activities linked to this including gingerbread man threading, junk modelling and counting.

In English, we have been exploring non-fiction diaries. We identified the features, re-told a diary entry and learned how to write in first person. The children then planned, wrote and edited their own diary entries. I have been so impressed with the effort they are putting into their work and how they are using feedback to improve their writing.

In computing we explored inputs and outputs and designing our own robots - some fantastic ideas such as pizza making robots and my favourite - a cleaning robot!



Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

The highlight of the week was World Book Day! The children were fabulous and imaginative, and had a lovely time reading to each other, especially sharing stories with Pippin. They also wrote wonderful, descriptive pieces to persuade others to read their favourite book, which are now proudly displayed in our reading corner.

In Music this week, the children learned the note G, bringing them to three notes on the flute. We can't wait to perform them!

In Science, Years 3 and 4 explored how sound travels and investigated the effectiveness of string phones. Years 5 and 6 compared the diameters of planets and learned about gas giants and terrestrial planets.

In RE, we began a new unit on Humanism. This week we discussed rules, and the children created their own lists of rules that would help make the world a better place.

In PE, we are continuing with gymnastics and learned some partner balances this week.

Over the next week...

- Hear your child read at least 3 times each week. Please record this in their reading records/BoomReader. Parents - children are never too old to have a story read to them. They gain so much from this special time with you.
- Practise your multiplication and division facts using TTRS or other resources.

Year 1	2s, 5s, 10s
Year 2	2s, 5s, 10s
Year 3	3s, 4s, 8s
Year 4, 5 and 6	all multiplication tables up to 12x12

Children learn
4,000 to 12,000
words per year
through reading.

WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

5 MARCH 2026

You all looked fabulous in your World Book Day outfits!



WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

5 MARCH 2026



I like my book - Year R

I loved reading buddies because we get to read our stories to each other - Year 3



I like reading buddies because I get to express the book - Year 5

Reading Buddies

We enjoyed some reading time with children from different classes, sharing our favourite stories and, for the older children, helping the younger ones on their reading journey.



WORLD BOOK DAY 2026



WORLD
BOOK
DAY
5 MARCH 2026

What a lovely week!



Our School Librarians have been busy adding the new books we bought with funds raised from our book fair.



It has been lovely for it to be warm enough to do some learning outdoors!

What a lovely week!



Additional Information



CAKE SALE

Friday 13th March

3.15pm

**50p each
or
3 for £1**



BINGO BINGO

**Easter
Bingo Night**

**EYES DOWN 7.30PM
FRIDAY 27TH MARCH**

AT THORNCOMBE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

**IN AID OF THORNCOMBE ST MARYS
CE PRIMARY ACADEMY PFA**

Mental Health Support Services:

[Dorset Support](#)

[Somerset Support](#)

[Devon Support](#)

Safeguarding Information

Mrs Sal Davies
Acting Head of School
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Merryn Wheaton
EYFS Lead and Pippin
Teacher
Deputy DSL



Our child protection policy can be found [here](#).