

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Autumn Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 4 Friday 3rd October 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the School,

It's been another lively week at school. We began with a well-attended PFA meeting full of fantastic ideas for fundraising, voluntary projects and promoting our school, thank you to everyone who joined us.

We're also delighted to have a Tesco 'blue token' fundraising box at Chard Tesco. Please help spread the word to family and friends, and pop in a token whenever you can, every one makes a difference!

Thursday was school photo day, with everyone looking so smart (and a few posing like future models!). The bright weather has been a real bonus too, giving us plenty of sunny breaktimes, forest school and outdoor PE.

Finally, our young leaders received their roles this week and are already showing great enthusiasm, supporting playtimes, monitoring areas of school, and setting an excellent example.

With warm regards,
Sal Davies
Acting Headteacher

Our core value this term is:

Love and Compassion

Our golden apple winners this week are...



The winning house this week:

Silver Birch

W/B 06/10/25 At a glance:

ASC = After School Club

Monday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

PE Lessons

Lego+Board games ASC: 3.15-4.30

Tuesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

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 (forest clothes in bag)

Hello Yellow

Forest school sessions

Chromebooks ASC: 3.15-4.30

Upcoming Dates	
8th October	Yeti photography in school for promotional video
10th October	Hello Yellow
17th October	PFA School Disco
20th October	KS2 Dance Workshop @ Woodroffe <i>Letters have been sent home to children who are interested</i>

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.



Thought of the week:



St. Mary's CE Primary Academy, Chard Street, Thorncombe, Somerset, TA20 4NE

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Website: <https://www.stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk/>



Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

This week Little Acorns have thoroughly enjoyed our story of the week "We're going on a bear hunt". The children have engaged in various activities around this story. They have enjoyed: making bear masks, exploring the tuff tray with story props and story sequencing. We also very much enjoyed going on many adventurous bear hunts throughout the week. The children have also enjoyed, car painting, mud kitchen, building sandcastles and bikes and trikes. We have focus on counting songs this week to support Little Acorns with joining in with saying number names. We have sang songs like 5 little ducks, 5 speckled frogs and 12345 fish alive. Just a little message to the parents of children who will be starting school in September 2026, you can now apply for their school place. Please log onto Dorset county council website to apply.

Pippin Class - Miss Chestney

In Geography this term we are looking at the United Kingdom. Over the last few weeks children have learned how to identify the UK on a world map and they have been learning the four countries that make up the UK: England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

In Art we have been creating prints using previous artwork as inspiration. We used styrofoam boards and copied a design using blunt pencils. We then used printing rollers and created prints of the artwork on different coloured paper. We explored what went well and what we could improve on next time.

I have enjoyed playing teachers this week with some children, except they were the teachers and I was the child who was given lots of learning. The children enjoyed marking my work and telling me I had got lots wrong (I have to add I did this on purpose!) - the children told me that it was 'okay to make mistakes and that is how we grow.' Which showed me what a lovely learning environment we have at school.

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

In Geography this week, Orchard class explored the different layers of the rainforest, they created a fabulous flip book of information, including all the plants and animals in each layer!

In RE, children have been learning about Hinduism and the idea of duty. They enjoyed sharing their own responsibilities at home, like feeding pets or making their beds, and we discussed why people choose to do good things, such as helping others or giving to charity. We learned that for Hindus, these good deeds are especially important, as they believe they can be rewarded in their next life.

In Music, Orchard class created a river and then explored how their music could follow the shape of the river, they added obstacles such as rapids - tempo, waterfalls - pitch, lakes - texture and a haunted house - tonality! We can't wait to hear their finished performances next week!

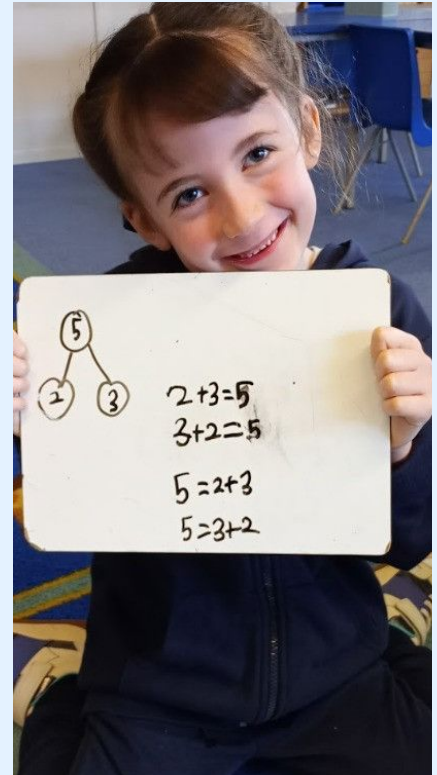
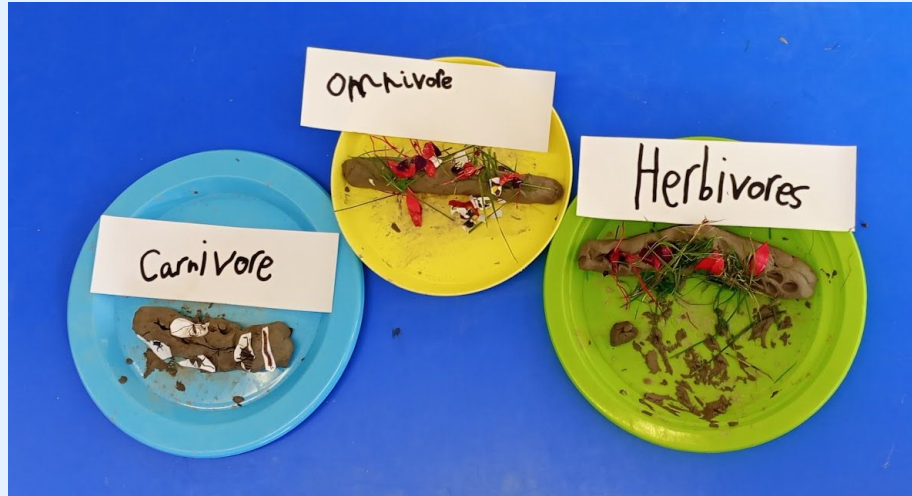
Over the next week...

- 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.

What a lovely week!



What a lovely week!



Chard Tesco - Blue Token Grant Scheme



If you're shopping at Chard Tesco, please drop a blue token in our box to help us raise funds for new resources in our play spaces. Don't forget to spread the word to friends and family who shop there too!

Mental Health Support Services:

[Dorset Support](#)

[Somerset Support](#)

[Devon Support](#)

Safeguarding Information

Mrs Sol Davies
Acting Head of School
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Merryn Chestney
EYFS Lead and Pippin
Teacher
Deputy DSL



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