

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Autumn Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 3 Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the School,

It has been a real pleasure to begin my first week as Acting Headteacher, and I have been made to feel so welcome by pupils, staff and families alike. From the moment I arrived, I have been struck by the warmth of the school community and the way everyone works together to make this such a special place for children to learn and grow. Over the past few days, I have enjoyed spending time in classrooms, joining in with activities, and getting to know the children. Their enthusiasm, kindness and curiosity have left a lasting impression on me, and it has been wonderful to see how proud they are of their school. I have also had the privilege of meeting our dedicated staff team, who show such commitment to ensuring that every child feels supported and encouraged to achieve their best. As we move forward, my focus will remain on celebrating the many strengths of our school while looking for opportunities to grow and develop further. Together, we can make sure that every child leaves here with both happy memories and a love of learning that will stay with them for years to come.

With warm regards,
Sal Davies
Acting Headteacher

Upcoming Dates	
1st October	PFA Annual General Meeting 2-3pm at School
10th October	Hello Yellow

Our core value this term is:

Love and Compassion

Our golden apple winners this week are....



The winning house this week:

English Oak

W/B 29/09/25 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

PFA AGM 2-3 (Hall)

Sports Skills ASC: 3.15-4.30

Thursday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

Creative ASC: 3.15-4.30

Friday (forest clothes in bag)

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

Forest school sessions

Chromebooks ASC: 3.15-4.30

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

Phone: [01460 30535](tel:0146030535) Email: office@stmarysthorncombe.dorset.sch.uk

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



Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

This week Little Acorns have continued to learn about the season Autumn. Some of our activities have included, going on a autumn walk, leaf printing in playdough and leaf painting. The children very much enjoyed all these activities especially getting a bit messy with the paint and mixing colours. One of our topics this week has been to talk about our families. Some children have shared wonderful stories about their families and drawn some lovely pictures of their family members. It has been wonderful to hear these stories and how lovingly each child talks about their family. We have explored the book Brown Bear Brown Bear this week. Little Acorns have enjoyed listening to this story during our carpets times. Other activities Little Acorns have enjoyed this week have been: tap art, sand and water play and exploring the mud kitchen.

Pippin Class - Miss Chestney

In PE, the children have been focusing on teamwork. We had our secret spotters looking out for encouragement, respect, and perseverance, and it was wonderful to see so many moments of children supporting and cheering one another on.

In Science, our topic this term is Animals Including Humans. After exploring mammals and birds last week, this week we turned our attention to amphibians, reptiles, and fish. The children identified key features of each group, while Reception enjoyed sorting animals into land, sea, and sky categories.

During RE, we reflected on the Parable of the Lost Coin. We discussed what it feels like to be lost and how special it is to be found again. The children then created their own 'lost and found' stories, helping them to understand that every single person is valuable and deserves care and kindness.

We have loved computing with Mr Harris this week, focusing on developing our keyboard and mouse skills.

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

This week, in English, the children have finished their fiction write about stories with issues and dilemmas. They have all used wonderful adjectives, expanded noun phrases and other literary devices to complete their stories. Miss Taylor is looking forward to reading them all!

In DT, Orchard Class programmed a virtual micro:bit using block coding. The children wrote code to make the LED panel flash when a button was pressed, then tested and debugged their work. They also thought about how patterns and shapes could make the product more appealing to children.

Year 5 and 6 children made their own blood in Science this week! They explored the different parts of blood and their role and then made their own blood bag!

Orchard class absolutely loved their computing lesson with Mr Harris! They used AI to create an image of Mr Harris! The images were fantastic, one even had a shark!

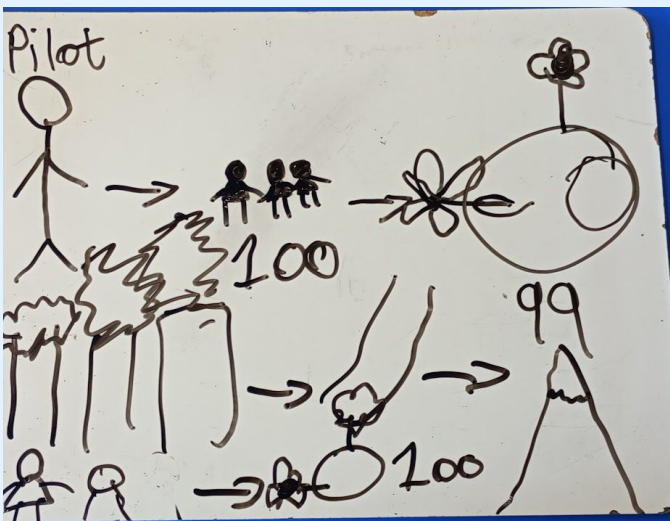
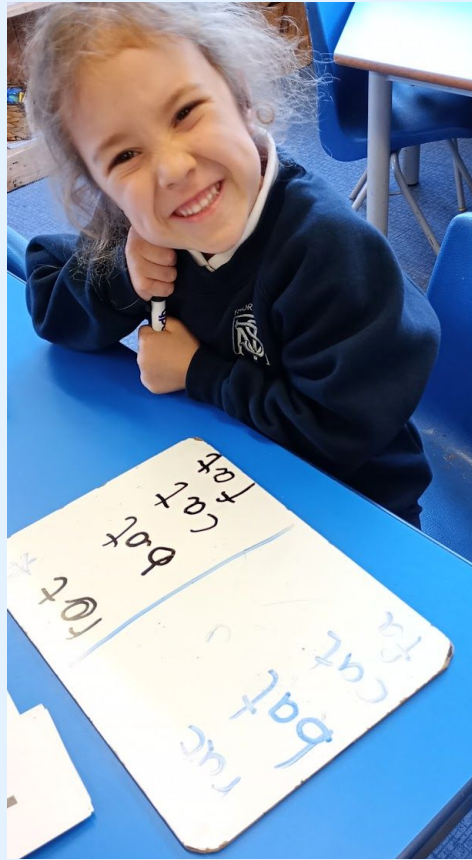
Over the next week...

- 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!



THORNGOMBE ST MARYS

**PFA
AGM**

.....

**WEDNESDAY 1ST OCT
2-3PM**

All welcome - will take place at school



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](#).