

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Summer Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 28 Friday 1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We were delighted to welcome pupils from Marshwood School on Wednesday for our Growing Together Day, which this year coincided with International Dance Day. The day provided a wonderful opportunity for children to meet others they may see again in the future, particularly as they move on to secondary school.

Our pupils were fantastic ambassadors for the school, warmly welcoming our visitors and confidently showing them around. Throughout the day, the children took part in a range of enriching activities including a dance workshop with a specialist instructor, alongside art, music and outdoor learning sessions.

The dance workshop was a real highlight and a brilliant way to celebrate International Dance Day. We were incredibly proud to see 100% participation from all children. It was especially pleasing to see pupils demonstrating key values that link closely to our School Games Award, including teamwork, resilience and respect. Children supported one another, worked collaboratively in groups and showed determination, particularly when learning new routines, making mistakes and then persevering to improve.

A truly memorable day that reflected our school vision:

"Through living, learning and growing together, we nurture each individual's uniqueness and potential so that they may enjoy life in all its fullness (John 10:10)."

With best wishes,
Sal Davies

Our core value this term is:

Forgiveness

Our golden apple winners for this week.



The winning house this week:

Silver Birch

W/B 04/05/26:

ASC = after school club

Monday

Bank Holiday (School Closed)

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

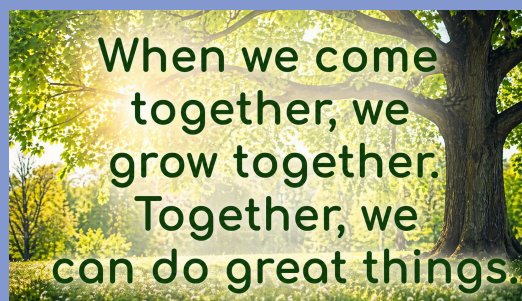
Friday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

Film ASC: 3.15-4.30

PFA Quiz

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.



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Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

This week Little Acorns have become fantastic artist, enjoying a range of different mark making activities. We use crayons and paper to trace over natural objects in and around our environment. Little Acorns enjoyed experimenting with paint using a variety of household items to see the different effects they could create. They showed curiosity as they explored how each objects made different marks and patterns. It has been lovely to see all of their artwork creations and the pride they take in what they make. Little Acorns also love making flapjack this week. We put our own little spin in the recipe by adding banana. The children loved this idea and i hope they enjoyed sharing this at home with you. Have a wonderful weekend.

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

In art, we have been learning how to show texture and make things look like how they feel. Last week, the children explored how to create different textures. This week, they were challenged to make small seaside objects such as starfish, shells and animals, using a range of tools to shape their creations and add texture.

In PSHE, we learned about physical contact. We discussed how people can feel differently. Some people like hugs, while others don't. Some people like holding hands and others don't, and that is okay. We talked about how everyone's feelings are important and that we should listen to our friends and respect their choices. We also learned that if someone continues touching you in a way you don't like, you should say, "Please stop, I don't like that," and tell a trusted adult.

Pippin Class made me so proud when we welcomed Marshwood to our school. They were incredibly kind and caring, and were keen to help throughout the day. Each one of them is an absolute credit to our school

★★★★★ and their families ★★★★★

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

In DT this week, the children explored budgets and got creative by designing their own biscuits, thinking carefully about unique ingredients to appeal to specific consumers. They came up with some fabulous ideas!

In Science, Years 3 and 4 explored vertebrates and their characteristics, grouping them accordingly. Meanwhile, Years 5 and 6 produced lovely diagrams to explain why we have day and night as part of their Earth and Space unit.

In Geography, we looked at the physical features of the Amazon rainforest. The children impressed us by recalling lots of facts from their Rainforest unit back in the Autumn term.

In PSHCE, the children demonstrated great maturity and empathy when discussing the topic of loss and bereavement. They were very respectful and made some thoughtful contributions to class discussions.

All the children thoroughly enjoyed welcoming Marshwood School on Wednesday - especially the dancing!

Another wonderful 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.

Growing Together Day



Growing Together Day





At Thorncombe St Mary's we...

- Aim High
- Show Respect
- Make a Difference



you ARE awesome

Well done! Someone spotted something brilliant you did during our Growing Together Day, so you've earned a praise postcard!

from:

Some of us were awarded a special praise postcard for the day from different adults, including those visiting our school for the day.

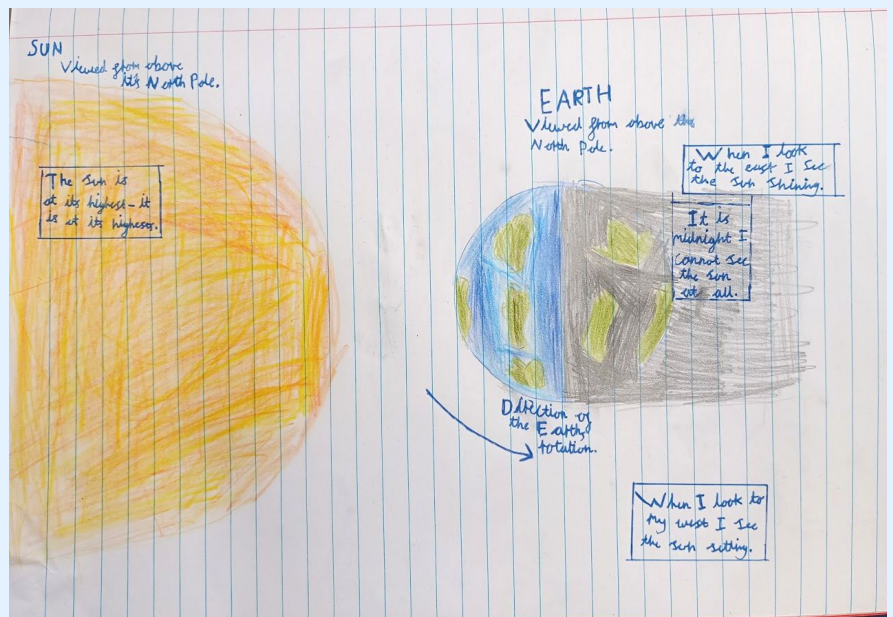
What a lovely week!



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Mammals	Birds	Reptiles	Amphibians	Fish
are warm-blooded	lay hard-shelled eggs	are cold-blooded	lay spawn	live their whole lives in water
typically give birth to live young	are warm-blooded	mostly lay soft-shelled eggs	often undergo metamorphosis	have fins
produce milk for their young	have wings	have scales	are cold-blooded	have gills for their whole lives
have fur or hair	have a beak		usually have moist or slimy skin	have scales
	have feathers			lay spawn
				are cold-blooded



What a lovely week!



Additional Information

PLEASE COME ALONG, ALL WELCOME TO
Thorncombe St Mary's CE Primary Academy PFA

BIG BREAKFAST

JOIN US FOR A
DELICIOUS
MORNING & HELP
RAISE FUNDS FOR
THORNCOMBE ST
MARY'S CE
PRIMARY
ACADEMY

COOKED
BREAKFAST,
CROSSIANTS, FREE
TEA & COFFEE
REFILLS, RAFFLE
PRIZE DRAW

9-11AM SUNDAY

10TH MAY

THORNCOMBE VILLAGE HALL
CHARD STREET
TA20 4NE



FRIDAY 8TH MAY

8PM

THORNCOMBE
SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB



Raising funds in aid of
Thorncombe St Mary's CE
Primary Academy PFA



Mental Health Support Services:

[Dorset Support](#)

[Somerset Support](#)

[Devon Support](#)

Safeguarding Information

Mrs Sol 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](#).