

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Summer Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 32 Friday 5th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an absolute pleasure to see our Year 6 children challenge themselves and embrace new adventurous activities during their PGL residential at Barton Hall this week. They demonstrated tremendous courage, resilience and enthusiasm as they stepped outside their comfort zones and took part in a wide range of exciting experiences.

The children were fabulous ambassadors for our school throughout the trip, showing excellent manners, respect and great team spirit. They supported one another brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves.

One of the highlights of the week was undoubtedly Miss Batten being pushed off the canoe and all the splashing that ensued! She was a fantastic sport and took it all in good humour. Thank you, Miss Batten!

The children's target for any future residential is simple: keep a tidy dorm! We know they can rise to the challenge!

Looking ahead to next week, Year 1 will be completing their Phonics Screening Check with Mrs Wheaton, and Year 4 will be taking their Multiplication Tables Check with Mrs Taylor. The children are well prepared for these assessments, and they provide a wonderful opportunity for them to show off all of their hard work and learning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.
With best wishes,
Sal Davies

Our core value this term is:

Endurance

Our golden apple winners for this week.



The winning house this week:

Copper Beech

W/B 08/06/26

ASC = after school club

Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week

Y4 Multiplication Check Week

Monday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

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

Film 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.



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Class News from this Week!

Little Acorns - Claire Stockford

It has been a wonderful week for Little Acorns who have settled back in wonderfully. The children have enjoyed lots of messy play activities, including gloop which they loved. We have enjoyed playing games in the hall for gross motor such as duck, duck, goose and pirates and sharks! The children also enjoyed splashing in puddles, we didn't let the weather get us down.

Little acorns explored the life cycle of a frog, doing some cutting and sticking of what came first.

We have been exploring representing numbers. Children have individually been working towards some of their next steps and showing amazing progress. Well done all!

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

What an exciting start to the Summer Term! We returned to school to find that our caterpillars had made their chrysalises. They have now been moved into their butterfly habitat to complete their transformation, and we are very excited to see them emerge!

In Art we painted our seaside tiles following the design we made earlier on in this unit of work. There have been some brilliant seaside tiles produced!

In English, we have started our Stories with Familiar Settings unit. Using our trip to Lyme Regis last term as inspiration, we have explored The Storm Whale and begun thinking about how familiar places can be used in stories.

Have a wonderful weekend - I hope the sun makes an appearance!

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

Orchard Class have described the summary of their week below:

This week in Science, Year 3/4 have been learning about the three states of matter: solids, liquids and gases. They explored how particles in solids are packed closely together, while particles in liquids are more spread out and gases move freely. Meanwhile, Year 5/6 investigated how fossils form and discovered that minerals carried by water can fill spaces within remains over time, helping to create strong fossils.

In Art, the children used their imaginations to design unique hybrid animals by combining features from different creatures. They thought carefully about their animal's appearance, diet, habitat and special powers, resulting in some wonderfully creative and imaginative designs.

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!



We are all loving watching our caterpillar life cycle unfold!

We have made predictions about what colour our butterflies will be when they emerge from their chrysalis.



Year 6 Residential

Our Year 6 children had an amazing time at Barton Hall, embracing new challenges and making memories together. They showed great courage, teamwork and resilience throughout the week and were fantastic ambassadors for our school. We are incredibly proud of everything they achieved.



Additional Information

**National
Online
Safety**

7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

#WakeUpWednesday

1 Which apps/games are you using at the moment?



THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

2 Which websites do you enjoy using and why?



AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY. ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.

3 How does this game/app work? Can I play?



SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.

4 Do you have any online friends?



CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD. FOR EXAMPLE: "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.

5 Do you know where to go for help?



ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.

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](#).