

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Summer Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 33 Friday 12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy and productive week has flown by at Thorncombe and it has been wonderful to see the fantastic learning taking place.

This week, I have particularly enjoyed seeing some excellent learning in Science and PSHE (including Relationships and Sex Education). Pupils have been exploring themes of growth, change and life cycles, developing their understanding of how living things grow and change over time. Alongside this, children have been discussing relationships, friendships and how to interact positively with others. These are important areas of learning that help children develop the knowledge and understanding they need to build healthy relationships.

A huge well done must also go to our Year 1 and Year 4 pupils who approached their Phonics Screening Check and Multiplication Tables Check with confidence and determination. We are incredibly proud of the positive attitudes they showed throughout the process. They truly gave their best and should be very proud of themselves. We look forward to sharing the outcomes of these assessments with families later this half term.

Looking ahead, a reminder that our annual Sports Day will take place on Monday 22nd June. We would love to welcome families to join us and support the children as they take part in a range of sporting activities. Please can parents of Pippin and Orchard arrive for 1:30 and Little Acorns 2:30.

I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy some sunshine over the weekend.

Best wishes,
Sal Davies
Head of School

Our core value this term is:

Endurance

Our golden apple winners for this week.



The winning house this week:

English Oak

W/B 15/06/26

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

Class photos 9.15

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.



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 enjoyed creating our own tent using resources like wooden blocks, crates tyres and tarpaulin. They all did a great job of working together and had lots of fun roleplaying in their tent. The children really enjoyed an activity where we drew around each other and used different items to measure how tall we are. They had a great fun and this was a great introduction in learning about measure, size and height. They have also enjoyed lots of messy play this week, getting very messy in the mud kitchen, enjoying the sensory exploration of shaving foam and creating wonderful artwork in paint. We had lots of fun creating our own rainbows using a paper towel, colouring pens and water.

What a busy week we have had!

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

A big well done to our Year 1 children who participated in the Phonics Screening Check this week. We are very proud of you and your progress in reading!

In Maths this week, reception have been learning how to share and group. They have learned 'equal' means the same.

Year 1/2 have been learning about measurement: grams, kilograms. They used scales to measure the mass of objects in our classroom.

In History we have learned what a historian is and why they are important people. We learned that they can learn about the past through different sources such as photographs, toys, fossils or letters.

In DT we learned about what a mechanism is and found different types of them in our classroom such as scissors, doors, blinds and locks.

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

A huge well done to our wonderful Year 4 children, who completed their MTC times table tests this week! Miss Taylor was very impressed with their knowledge and effort.

The children have been brilliant in Art and English, linking their fantasy narratives with their art project on fantastical creatures.

They explored texture through rubbing plates, printing and other creative techniques, discussing which creatures their textures would suit best. They then planned their narratives using ambitious expanded noun phrases and varying sentence lengths to build tension.

In PE, Orchard started learning golf. The children practised aiming the ball at targets and quickly discovered it was harder than it looked!

In RE, we finished learning about Moses and the Exodus. The children demonstrated an excellent understanding of the key events in Moses' life and discussed how his story continues to inspire Christians today.

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.

OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING



At TSM, we are incredibly proud of our play provision. Playtimes make up around 20% of a child's time in school, so we work hard to provide a wide range of opportunities, including bikes and trikes, mud kitchens, den building, tree climbing, loose parts play, music and football. With a puddle suit for every child, outdoor play can continue in all weathers. We have also introduced our new Golden Welly Award to celebrate children who demonstrate positive play behaviours and our school values during playtimes.



What a lovely week!



All four of our caterpillars have now made the transformation into becoming butterflies! We are excited for them to dry and stretch their wings before their beautiful colours can be seen properly.



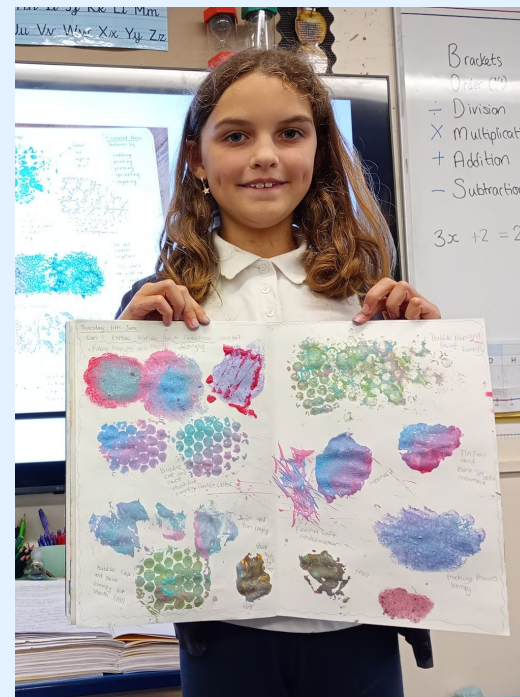
What a lovely week!



What a lovely week!



Orchard Class have had a very creative and imaginative week this week! We have loved exploring textures and creating our own imaginary worlds and creatures!



Additional Information



Junior Race

Wednesday 25 June
6.15pm start @ Forde Abbey

- 1500m off-road race
- Under 11s
- Team and individual prizes
- Medals for all participants
- Refreshments available
- FREE entry on the day

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](#).