

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Summer Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 35 Friday 26th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a warm week it has been! Thankfully, the hottest weather arrived after Sports Day, allowing us to enjoy a fantastic event without disruption.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us on Monday. It was wonderful to see so many families cheering, clapping and encouraging every child. The atmosphere was fantastic and the children demonstrated great determination, teamwork and sportsmanship. My thanks also go to Mr Snowling for organising another successful Sports Day and to our PFA for keeping everyone refreshed throughout the afternoon - especially with the much-appreciated ice poles!

The extreme heat on Wednesday and Thursday brought different challenges. Thank you for your understanding following our decision to close the school earlier than usual. After considering the Met Office weather warnings, Department for Education guidance and completing a site-specific risk assessment, we felt this was the safest balance for our children, staff and families.

Forest School proved a popular way to keep cool this week, with plenty of water play and outdoor fun. Congratulations also to Mrs Wheaton, whose commitment to school sport has helped Thorncombe achieve the **School Games Gold Mark Award 2026**—a fantastic recognition of the sporting opportunities available.

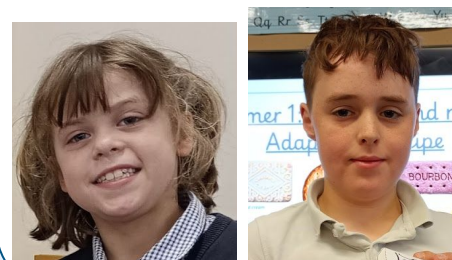
With a few weeks of term still to go and warm weather set to continue, please ensure your child comes to school each day with a named refillable water bottle, sun hat and sun cream already applied.

Have a wonderful weekend. Best wishes, Sal Davies

Our core value this term is:

Endurance

Our golden apple winners for this week.



The winning house this week:

Silver Birch & English Oak!

W/B 29/06/26

Monday

Bikeability level 1 (Year 6)

Breakfast club: 8-8.30

PE Lessons

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

Bikeability level 2 (Year 6)

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

This week Little Acorns have loved water play! This has helped us to keep cool as much as possible this week. The children have also loved exploring ice, discovering how it is made and how it melts while also trying to free the trapped animals!

How amazing were little Acorns during sports day. They all coped so well and did fantastic in their races, i am so proud of them all! We absolutely had the best time in our forest school session this week. We explored lots of water based activities, playing a water game, building water tunnels and having the time of our lives downing down the slip and slide! Just would like to say a massive thank you to you amazing Little Acorns Parent for being so understanding while we had to close for a couple of days. I hope you all managed to stay cool during the heat!

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

The children have been absolutely brilliant this week despite the warm weather, keeping hydrated and safe in the sunshine!

The children have started their reading, writing and maths assessments this week to review their progress. They have made a fantastic start, and it has been wonderful to see how much they have achieved since the start of the year.

In English, we have started learning about biographies. We have explored their features, including writing in the past tense, using real facts and organising events in chronological order. We used the Little People, Big Dreams book about David

Attenborough before ordering the events of his life and identifying past tense verbs. We have also started researching facts about Mary Anning, ready to write a biography next week.

Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

Wow, what a week! 🌞🔥

The children have been absolutely fabulous! They all started their assessments this week and, despite the heat, they have all really focussed and showed great pride in their learning! It has been really lovely to see how much they have achieved this year!

In Science, year 5 and 6 researched how different plants and animals have adapted to survive, as part of their learning on Evolution and Inheritance.

In English the children have started our new unit of work on Explanation Texts. Year 4 are writing about the water cycle - linked to their science and year 5 and 6 are writing about Natural Selection.

All children have been learning their lines for our school play, it is coming along wonderfully! Due to assessment week and the heat, our homelearning this week is to learn our lines ahead of rehearsals in the hall!



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.

Sports Day 2026!

1st Place: Copper Beech
2nd Place: Silver Birch
3rd Place: English Oak



What a lovely week!



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What a lovely week!



Play rehearsals!!!



Additional Information



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](#).