

Thorncombe, St. Mary's CE Primary Academy



Living, Learning and Growing Together



Summer Term 25-26 Newsletter Issue: 37 Friday 10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We kicked off the week by watching England v Mexico, which was brilliant - and very suspenseful! We certainly have some serious England fans in school, and it was lovely to see such fantastic sportsmanship on display too. A bonus that we won!

This week, we also had our OPAL accreditation visit, which we have been working towards for the past two years. Kate, our assessor, described us as "one of the top schools in the country for playtimes." This incredible achievement would not have been possible without the support of our children, staff, parents and wider community. We look forward to holding a big celebration in the autumn term!

We also welcomed some of the children who will be joining us in September, with Pippin's transition morning on Tuesday and Little Acorns' on Friday. It was lovely to meet everyone and begin building those important relationships.

Finally, a big thank you to Imogen, who joined us for work experience this week. She has been wonderful and provided so much support, we have loved having her with us!

Best wishes,
Sal Davies

Our core value this term is:

Endurance

Our golden apple winners for this week.



The winning house this week:

English Oak

W/B 13/07/26

Monday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
KS2 Play rehearsal - **Costumes**
PE Lessons
Lego/games: ASC 3.15-4.30

Tuesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
New Reception Transition
KS2 French Day! 🇫🇷
Play rehearsal - **Costumes**
Forest School Sessions
Bikes+Trikes ASC: 3.15-4.30

Wednesday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
KS2 Play rehearsal - costumes
PE Lessons
Sports Skills ASC: 3.15-4.30

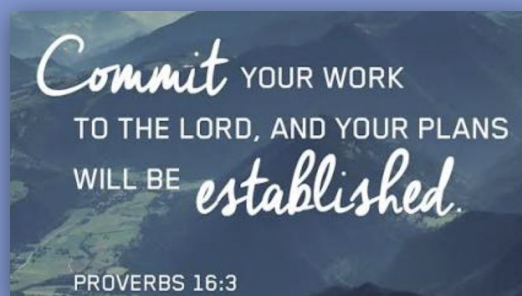
Thursday

Breakfast club: 8-8.30
School Play
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

I would just like to start off by saying how well Little Acorns have coped this week with the heat! It hasn't been an easy week however they have adapted so well. They have thoroughly enjoyed our story of the week 'Shark in the Park'. This is really fun interactive story, Little Acorns have loved joining in and using their telescopes to look for sharks along with the story. Little Acorns have really enjoyed our gross motor this week, we have spent most of our time in the school hall where it has been a lot cooler, They have loved the game musical mats, dancing along to their favorite songs and doing some yoga. It was wonderful to welcome new children in for our transition morning. It was a wonderful morning getting to know the children as well as the parents. We are looking forward to welcoming them in and joining us in September!

Pippin Class - Mrs Wheaton

It was wonderful for our new Reception starters to come and join us for transition on Tuesday, make new friendships and become familiar with one another ahead of September. We have such a lovely group of children starting with us, and we are so looking forward to them joining our class in September.

This week, we have been writing autobiographies in English. The children have done an absolutely remarkable job with their writing. These pieces of work have been put into their 'Writing Through the Years' book, which will see them through school. It is always great to reflect and look back at where they started, and I genuinely feel so proud of all the children, but particularly the ones who have been with me for a while, as they have made so much progress in that time.

A big thank you to Imogen for being so fabulous this week on her work experience placement too. What a star!



Orchard Class - Miss Taylor

The children have been working incredibly hard to learn their lines for our fantastic play next week. We have been so impressed with their enthusiasm and commitment, especially in the continuing hot weather. With just one week to go, please continue to listen to them practise their lines at home – your support makes a huge difference!

In English, Orchard Class began writing their Summer Poems this week. They have shared some wonderful ideas while exploring both free verse and rhyming poetry. The children have been experimenting with different rhyming patterns and using a range of figurative language to make their writing imaginative and engaging.

Art was great fun this week! The children worked with clay to create 3D versions of the fantasy creatures they have been designing over the last few weeks. It was wonderful to see all of their creative ideas come to life, and they should be very proud of their imaginative sculptures.

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.

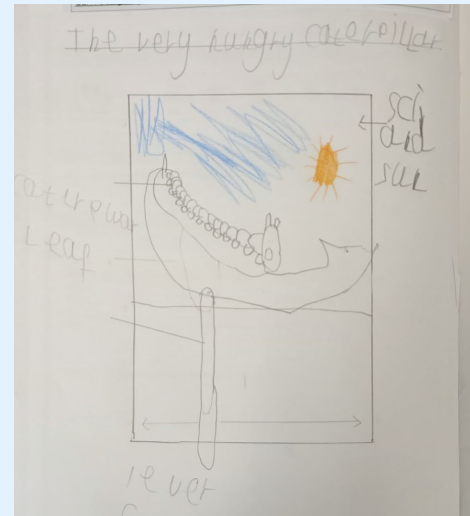
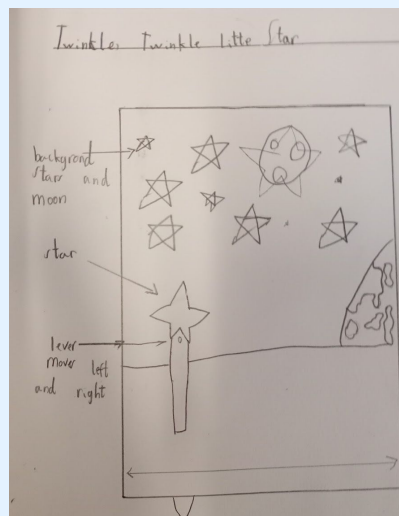
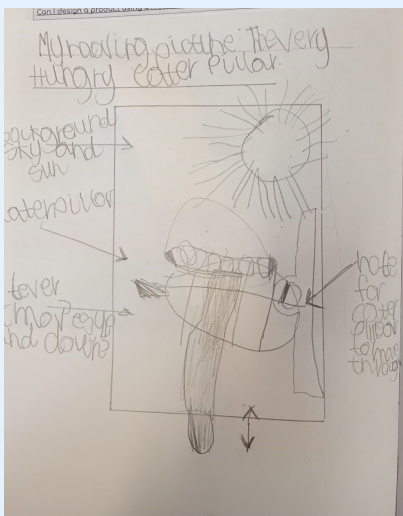
What a lovely week!



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Pippin Class have had a fantastic time exploring mechanisms in DT! Reception enjoyed creating their own moving people with support, while Year 1 and 2 designed and made moving pictures based on a nursery rhyme or story of their choice. They carefully chose the mechanism they wanted to use and worked really hard to make their finished creations match their original designs. We are so proud of them - they look brilliant!



Additional Information

SCHOOLS OUT DISCO!

...VERY
NEARLY...

FRIDAY 17TH JULY 5.30-6.30PM
£1 ENTRY PLUS CASH FOR TUCK SHOP

PARENTS OF RECEPTION CHILDREN TO STAY PLEASE

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](#).