

Thriplow School Newsletter

19th June 2026



We've had a such a lovely week in school with so many highlights!

Mrs Forde thoroughly enjoyed taking some of the Year 3/4 girls to the football festival on Wednesday. They had a great time and were so enthusiastic. Mrs Forde was impressed with how they became more and more confident! Well done to Luna who awarded the Most Valuable Player award. Many thanks to the parents who helped transport children and to Mrs Wells for helping out during the day.

Many thanks to those of you who attended the PTA AGM on Monday. It was a really informative meeting. There are so many things coming up to look forward to. Don't forget to book your tickets for the Tipi Party on 19th September. This open to all parents as well as friends/relatives/work colleagues! It will be a great way to start the new term.

You may be aware that the office has a new email address - office@thr.graceschools.org.uk. Email will be forwarded from the old address for the time being but please add the new one to your address book and use this one from now on.

This morning was one of the highlights in the Thriplow School calendar as we watched our Poetry Recital Finalists performing the poems they had selected. Well done to Henry D, Josie, Jess M, Max, Lila, Harvey, Joey and Ruby for making it to the final. The staff chose Ruby as the 2026 winner. Both Harvey and Joey were Highly Commended. Well done Ruby!!

We have had a lot of children in school without sun hats this week. Please ensure they have one every day. It is going to be hot next week and not safe outside without a hat.

Please do sponsor the children for their fun run which takes place in few weeks by following the link below.

<https://fundraise.rnli.org/fundraisers/lucyhow/thriplow-school-fun-run-for-rnli>

We will be saying a sad goodbye to Gisele in two weeks time. Gisele has worked in After School Club for three years and the children have really enjoyed being cared for by her. Many thanks to Gisele for her hard work and commitment. We wish her well as she starts working full time doing care work. If you know anyone who might be interested in working in After School Club, then do share a link to the job advert.

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145246/EDV-2026-TCPS-58844>

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,
Lucy How



**MAT of the Year
2024**



www.facebook.com/thriplowschool



www.instagram.com/thriplow.school



x.com/thriplowschool

In the same way your light must shine before people so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5:16*

You are the people of God: he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with kindness. *Colossians 3:12*

Important Dates -

for sporting events, you will be notified separately if your child is involved.

23rd June	Bees Trip to St. Paul's
24th June	Sports day (First thing - will finish 11.15ish)
30th June	Year 3/4 Cricket Tournament
30th June	Wimbledon visit - children involved have been notified
1st July	Sawston Village College Transition Day
3rd July	Open Classroom Event - 3pm.
3rd July	Reports out

Important Dates

8th July	Key Stage 2 Summer Production 2.30pm
9th July	Key Stage 2 Summer Production 6pm
10th July	Fun Run in aid of the RNLI
13th July	Key Stage 1 Concert - 2.30pm
14th July	Melbourn Village College Transition Day
15th July	Year 6 trip to London
16th July	Transition morning
16th July	Year 6 Quiet morning in church Year 6 quiz
17th July	Leavers' Service. Parents of leavers welcome to attend
19th September	Tipi Party

Term Dates

Summer Term 2025

Start of Term	Monday 13 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May
Half Term	Monday 25 th May - Friday 29 th May
INSET Day	Monday 1st June
End of Term	Friday 17 th July
INSET Day	Monday 20th July

Autumn Term 2026

INSET Day	Tuesday 1st September
Start of Term	Wednesday 2 nd September
INSET Day	Friday 23rd October
Half Term	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October
End of Term	Friday 18 th December

Spring Term 2027

Start of Term	Monday 4 th January
INSET Day	Friday 12th February
Half Term	Monday 15 th February - Friday 19 th February
End of Term	Thursday 25 th March

Summer Term

Start of Term	Monday 12 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May
Half Term	Monday 31 st May - Friday 4 th June
INSET Day	Monday 7th June
End of Term	Tuesday 20 th July
INSET Day	Wednesday 21st July



Safeguarding at Thriplow

Lucy How and Melissa Hardege are the designated safeguarding leads at Thriplow School.

If you have a concern about a child, please come and speak to or email either of us. Alternatively please speak to any member of staff who will be able to pass on information.

If you feel that a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection>

Useful websites:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/>

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/>



Happy Birthday

*to Felicity and
Elwyn who have
celebrated their
birthdays this
week.*



House Points

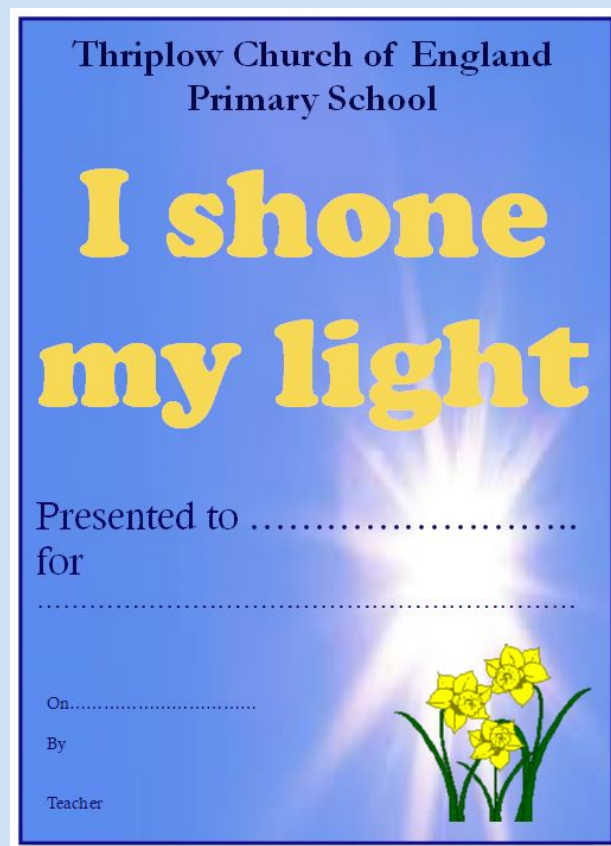
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	75	510
Barenton	86	540
Bassett	153	606
Bury	156	613

Well done **Bury!**

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- Erin P (Year 6)
- Robyn (Year 5)
- Lola (Year 5)
- Emilia (Year 1)
- Lily-Anne (Year 1)
- Thomas (Year 2)
- Theo (Year 4)
- Zanna (Year 4)
- Luna (Year 3)
- Lois (Reception)



The following children were added to our 'Vision and Values' tree for living out our Thriplow and DEMAT values:

- Maddie (Service)
- Erin P (Service)
- Annabelle (Hopefulness)
- Oliver T-J (Achievement)
- Joey (Confidence)
- Percy (Ambition)



Thriplow Primary School



Library



**Open on
Thursdays and
Fridays after
school.**

**Please pop in
and visit!**



From the PTA

Year Reps Needed for Next School Year!

Most of you are already aware of our Year Rep system, but for those who are new to the school, each year group has two Year Reps who act as the link between the PTA and their year group.

As a Year Rep, you'll be responsible for organising one event of your choice during the school year. This could be something for the children, such as a disco or movie night, or even a social event for parents, like a quiz night. Year Reps also help out with teas, coffees and ice cream sales throughout the year.

Each year group is allocated a specific term to organise their event. This works particularly well around key stage events such as the Nativity and Summer Production, helping to spread activities across the year and ensuring every year group has the opportunity to host something special.

We know everyone is busy, but whatever time and support you can give really does make a difference to our school community. Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or completely new to getting involved, we'd love to hear from you.

If you're interested in becoming a Year Rep next year, please get in touch. We would be so grateful for your help and support!

Your child's learning

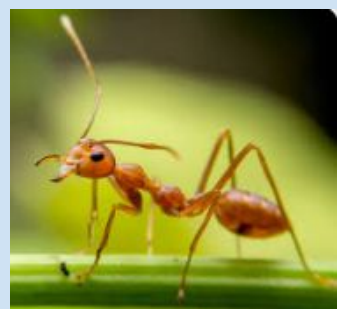
Ants:

This week in Ants we have been continuing our bridging Unit in Phonics with the focus of the sound "ch." Ants class are beginning to recognise that some sounds can be spelt differently by building, writing and organising these sounds. The children have been confident with recognising that the sound "ch" can also have the spelling "tch."

In Maths this week, we have started to explore the composition of numbers to 9. The children have been quick to identify numbers that can make 9 and have also been able to take away numbers from 9. As a challenge Ants class were able to identify missing numbers in an equation when making 9.

In Understanding the World, Ants class continued to explore Stories from the Past with the focus on Myths this week. The children learned that Myths are stories that were told by people in ancient times, often to explain something, they sometimes have gods or people with special powers. We then listened to and discussed the story "Prometheus and the fire." The children then had the opportunity to make a 'torch' from paper and tissue paper to role play Prometheus giving fire to people on earth during child initiated time.

In Art, we have also been exploring Ancient Greeks and have been investigating how they would tell stories. This week in our lesson we explored Ancient Greek theatres and discussed how only men were able to perform before comparing it to the theatre today. We explored how the actors would wear masks when performing in order to become a character. The children then had a go at designing their own masks in Child Initiated Time and when they were finished they began to role play their own stories to each other.



Butterflies:

The children have continued to be enthusiastic with their learning. In History, the children learnt about Malala Yousefzai and how she used her voice for girls to have an education. They were surprised that even today, not all children, in particular girls have a right to an education.

For Maths, the Y1 children have continued to work on time. They then looked at what the different parts of a day is called, and thought about what happens during these parts of the day.

For English, we have continued to read 'The Legends of King Arthur.' The children looked at parts of speech and identified the structure. When you are reading with your child and come across speech, please encourage your child to discuss the different parts. Also identify the different words to show the different ways of saying, 'said.'

In art we have continued to prepare pieces for our whole class mural. This week the children used paper weaving techniques to create some colourful sea creatures. In PSHE we have thought about the benefits of exercise on our physical and mental health and in science we have been learning about microscopes. In RE the children looked at how a Muslim is welcomed into the Muslim community.

In Phonics, the children looked at the different ways of spelling /s/

Thank you for encouraging your child to take part in the heats for the Poetry competition, they did very well.

Next week is Sports Day, please remember to equip your child with water, a sunhat and apply some suncream before they leave for school in the morning.

An email should have come out this week about the children tasting different foods next week as part of our PSHE learning about healthy eating. As requested in the email please do let us know as soon as possible if your child has any allergies or intolerances of which we are not already aware.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.



Bees:

Bees Class have had an exciting week. I especially enjoyed taking ten girls to a football tournament on Wednesday. Another teacher commented about how enthusiastic and kind the girls were. I was so proud of them all and was so pleased with how well they worked as a team.

On Monday, the children continued to cross stitch their bookmarks. They made real progress on their work and I saw a real improvement in their sewing skills.

On Tuesday, we continued our Geography learning on Japan. The children found it so interesting to learn about why Japan has so many volcanoes, mountains and earthquakes. We learnt all about the 2011 tsunami and its effects on the country. In RE we learnt about why Walsingham is a site of pilgrimage. We went back to 1061 and an Anglo-Saxon woman's vision of Mary.

On Thursday, we continued our Science learning on electricity by making circuits with switches. The children then really enjoyed their golf lesson again when we looked at longer puts and how to combine more than one shot!

Today, after a play rehearsal, the children learnt about the rebuilding of London after the Great Fire. They then learnt more about fielding skills in rounders.

Throughout this week, in English, we have started to write our fables. I am already so impressed with the children's creative work. In Maths, we have continued learning about angles. Year 3 moved on to right angles and year 4 have been comparing angles.

Next week is a very busy one for Bees Class. Please remember to be at school for 7:30am on Tuesday for our trip to St Paul's. Wednesday is then Sports Day! I look forward to these fun events.



Dragonflies:

We have had another busy week in Dragonflies.

This week was assessment week for Y5 - they have worked hard completing tests showing off all their hard work this school year.

In maths, we have been recapping our fractions learning, especially adding and subtracting fractions. In addition to reviewing our shape learning.

In English, we looked in detail at Chapter 12 of the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Additionally, we have written a persuasive advert to encourage parents to evacuate their children to the countryside due to WW2 - much like the children in our story!

In History, we have continued our learning about the Victorian Era, we focussed on life in the workhouses and the treatment of poor people as a result of the Poor Law 1834.

In Science, we explored the weather and climate of the UK. We found out about how different air masses impact on the UK's weather and how this varies throughout the year. We enjoyed drawing a map to represent each of the bodies of air that impact upon our weather.

In our RE learning, we considered the connection between religion and culture. We discussed other peoples cultures as well as our own and thought about where religion has played a role in shaping our culture e.g. celebrating Christmas. We considered the questions: Can religion exist without culture? and, Can culture exist without religion?

A quick reminder that next Wednesday is Sports Day - you will have received an email with important information about this. Please ensure you have read this carefully.

Children must have a hat in school everyday.



Thriplow ★ Tipi Party ★

An enchanting summer
send-off under the stars.



Date:
19/9/26



Time:
7pm - midnight

£45
plus
booking fee



Ticket includes a
welcome drink, delicious
hog roast, incredible live
band Worldy and
DJ til midnight



Proceeds go to
Thriplow Primary
School PTA.



The Thriplow PTA invites you to
an enchanting evening to mark
the last night of the summer under
a beautiful sail cloth marquee in
the grounds of Thriplow School.

Featuring a well stocked bar, auction of promises, raffle and more!

SCAN ME
FOR TICKETS



Get your tickets today!

Scan the QR code or visit:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thriplowtipiparty2026>

Proudly sponsored by



CHEFFINS



PINKSTER
AGREEABLY BRITISH GIN



Lifeboats



World Cup Themed

Fun Run!

In aid of the RNLI

FRIDAY

► 10TH JULY 2026



<https://fundraise.rnli.org/fundraisers/lucyhow/thriplow-school-fun-run-for-rnli>

Attendance

365 days in a year

190 days in a school year to support pupils to maintain and even exceed expected attainment outcomes.

175 days for other activities like holidays, appointments, days out, family events

100% attendance	zero days missed	Perfection!
99% attendance	Two days of absence across the year	Excellent!
97% attendance	Five days of absence across the year	Good
95% attendance	Nine days of absence across the year: one week and four days of learning missed. Lost learning is likely to start affecting pupil performance, confidence and self-esteem.	Satisfactory
90% attendance	Twenty days of absence across the year; four weeks of learning missed. Pupils will find it difficult to keep up with work and achieve their best.	Concerns
85% attendance	Thirty days of absence across the year: six weeks of	Serious

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If your child needs time off for a medical appointment, please provide an appointment card or printed confirmation for our records.

Where possible, please make appointments out of school time.

Attendance

If your child is late for school, please ensure that you sign the late book in the entrance hall, giving a reason for the lateness.

If it is a sensitive reason and you would rather not write it down, please chat to Mrs Sandford or Mrs How.

Please do not write 'late' as a reason.

Minutes late per day	School days lost per year
5 minutes	3 days
10 minutes	6.5 days
15 minutes	10 days
20 minutes	13 days
30 minutes	19 days

A reminder that we are a nut-aware school.

Please ensure that your child's lunchbox does not include any nuts.



Keep them fuller for longer

Base the main lunchbox item on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.



Freeze for variety

Keep a small selection of different types of bread in the freezer so you have a variety of options – like bagels, pittas and wraps, granary, wholemeal and multigrain.



DIY lunches

Wraps and pots of fillings can be more exciting for kids when they get to make them. Dipping foods are also fun and a nice change from a sandwich each day.



Cut back on fat

Pick lower-fat fillings – like lean meats (including chicken or turkey), fish (such as tuna or salmon), lower-fat spread, reduced-fat cream cheese and reduced-fat hard cheese. And try to avoid using mayonnaise in sandwiches.



Mix your slices

If your child does not like wholegrain, try making a sandwich from 1 slice of white bread and 1 slice of brown bread.



Always add veg

Cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A Day. Adding a small pot of reduced-fat hummus or other dips may help with getting kids to eat vegetables.



Ever green

Always add salad to sandwiches and wraps too – it all counts towards your child's 5 A Day!



Cheesy does it...

Cheese can be high in fat and salt, so choose stronger-tasting ones – and use less of it – or try reduced-fat varieties.



Cut down on crisps

If your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox, and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.



Add bite-sized fruit

Try chopped apple, peeled satsuma segments, strawberries, blueberries, halved grapes or melon slices to make it easier for them to eat. Add a squeeze of lemon juice to stop it from going brown.



Tinned fruit counts too

A small pot of tinned fruit in juice – not syrup – is perfect for a lunchbox and easily stored in the cupboard.



Swap the fruit bars

Dried fruit like raisins, sultanas and dried apricots are not only cheaper than processed fruit bars and snacks but can be healthier too. Just remember to keep dried fruit to mealtimes as it can be bad for teeth.



Switch the sweets

Swap cakes, chocolate, cereal bars and biscuits for fruited teacakes, fruit breads or fruit (fresh, dried or tinned – in juice not syrup).



Yoghurts: go low-fat and lower-sugar

Pop in low-fat and lower-sugar yoghurts or fromage frais and add your own fruit.



Get them involved

Get your kids involved in preparing and choosing what goes in their lunchbox. They are more likely to eat it if they helped make it.



Variety is the spice of lunch!

Be adventurous and get creative to mix up what goes in their lunchbox. Keeping them guessing with healthier ideas will keep them interested and more open to trying things.



Plan to Eatwell

The guide shows how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet. It can be really useful when thinking about what goes into kids' lunchboxes.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide/>

Breakfast Club at Ladybird



Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am



Early Starters from 8:30



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screentime. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

1 WORK TOGETHER

Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.

2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES

Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.

3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY

Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.

4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE

To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices – especially smartphones – are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.

5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY

Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family; discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key – so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.

6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO

Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.

7 BE RESPECTFUL

Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online – such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lend themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.

8 "NO TECH" ZONES

Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to potentially engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.

9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES

As a family, discuss why the rules are important: to balance their screentime, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.

10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS

To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at 8CyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College



Ladybird Playgroup Thriplow's

Paint & Sip Evening

Thriplow Village Hall

Friday 3rd July 2026 @ 7pm

£36pp

INCLUDES:

- Step-by-step painting session guided by a local artist
- All painting supplies provided
- One complimentary welcome drink (Bar & Snacks also available)
- Fun, laughter, and a masterpiece to take home.

No prior artistic experience needed!



BOOK HERE:

Scan the QR code or:

Phone: 01763 208055

Email: secretaryladybirdplaygroup@gmail.com

Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/3wxhvn4b>

All funds raised will support Ladybird Playgroup.

