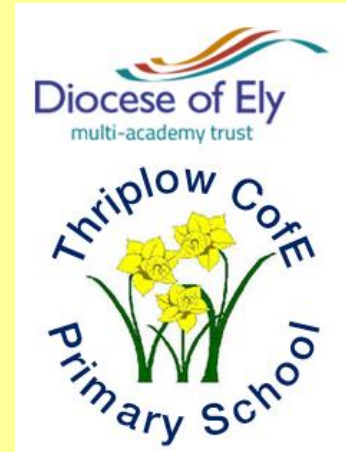


Thriplow School Newsletter

10th October 2025



Many thanks to those of you who were able to come to our Harvest Festival yesterday. I'm sure you'll agree that the children sang their songs so beautifully and confidently. I was very proud of them all! A huge thanks on behalf of Jimmy's for the many contributions of food that were donated. We also raised £91.31p for the Blue Cross, which is the charity that the children have chosen to support this term.

Well done to Tristan who has completed the 20 book challenge for Year 1. He has told me that he particularly enjoyed reading 'Everything Under the Sun'.

We've had a few rainy days recently so I just wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that we very rarely have wet playtimes at Thriplow. We believe that the children need some fresh air and so encourage them to keep appropriate waterproofs and wellies in school so that they can go out even when it is raining.

A reminder that next Thursday, our new library will be open for you to visit from 3.15pm until 4pm. You are welcome to either visit before pick-up alone or after pick-up with your child.

From Monday (13th), we will be hosting two visiting teachers from the University of Cambridge who will be completing their placements at Thriplow. Bees Class will be welcoming Miss Medway and Dragonflies Class will be welcoming Miss Hunter. The children have been told and are excited to meet them next week!



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,

Best wishes,

Lucy



<https://www.facebook.com/thriplowschool>



<https://x.com/thriplowschool>



<https://www.instagram.com/thriplow.school>

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*

15 th October	Flu Vaccinations
23 rd October	Individual photos for all children
6 th November	Holy Communion. 9.10am in the hall. Everyone welcome
WB 10 th November	Anti-bullying week
14 th November	Movie Night after school
28 th November	Decoration Day. Parents welcome in the morning.
1 st December	DEMAT Carol Service (Year 6)
9 th December	Nativity Dress rehearsal (KS1)
10 th December	Nativity Performance (KS1) 2.30pm
11 th December	Nativity Performance (KS1) 6pm
12 th December	Festive Friday
16 th December	KS2 Concert
17 th December	Christingle (children need to bring an orange)
19 th December	Carol Service in church. 2.30. Everyone welcome
20 th January	Young Voices
WB 2 nd February	Relationships and Sex Education Week
24 th February	Parent Consultations
26 th February	Parent Consultations
5 th March	World Book Day
WB 9 th March	Science Week
21 st – 22 nd March	Daffodil Weekend
27 th March	Year ¾ Bikeability level 1
WB 11 th May	SATS week
WB 18 th May	KS2 Residential (Year 5 and 6)
Fortnight beginning 1 st June	Multiplication Check fortnight (Year 4)
5 th June	DEMAT Art Exhibition
WB 8 th June	Phonics Screening check week (Year 1)
WB 15 th June	Poetry Recital Competition
24 th June	Sports day (First thing – will finish 11.15ish)

Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term	
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Friday 24th October</i>
Half Term	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October
End of Term	Friday 19 th December

Spring Term	
Start of Term	Monday 5 th January
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Friday 13th February</i>
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
End of Term	Friday 27 th March

Summer Term	
Start of Term	Monday 13 th April
<i>Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 4th May</i>
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 1st June</i>
End of Term	Friday 17 th July
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 20th July</i>



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>

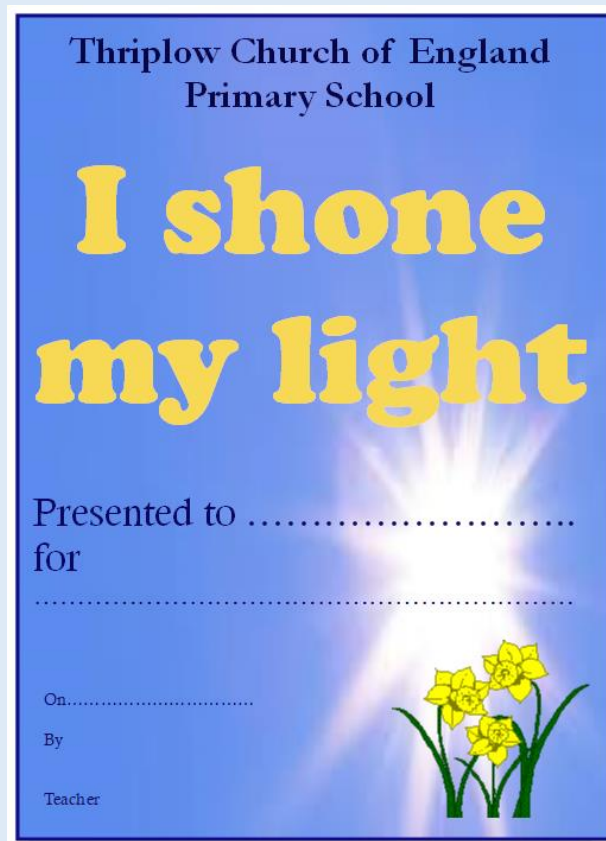
If you would like to donate a book to our library to celebrate your child's birthday, then we would be so grateful. Please follow this link to see a list of books that we would like.

<https://amzn.eu/ez2OYOf>



Our certificate winners this week are: -

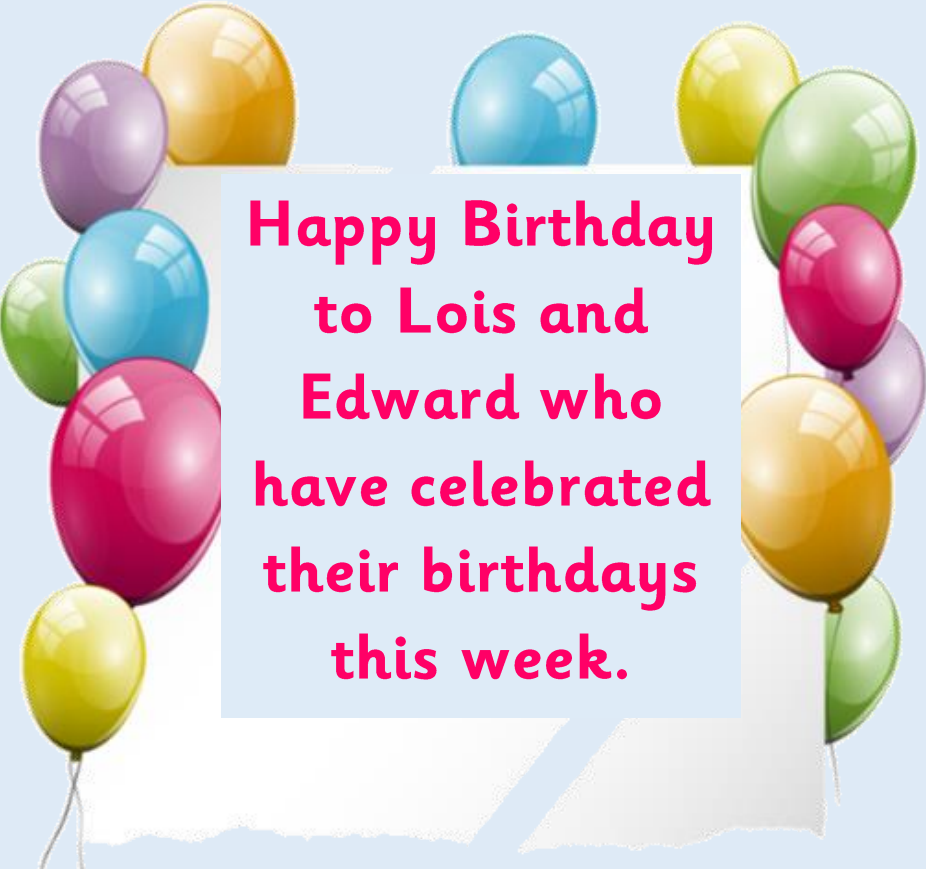
- All of Ants
- All of Butterflies
- Tristan (Year 1)
- Emilia (Year 1)
- Johnny (Year 1)
- Florence (Year 3)
- Elias (Year 3)
- Leon (Year 5)
- Betty (Year 5)



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

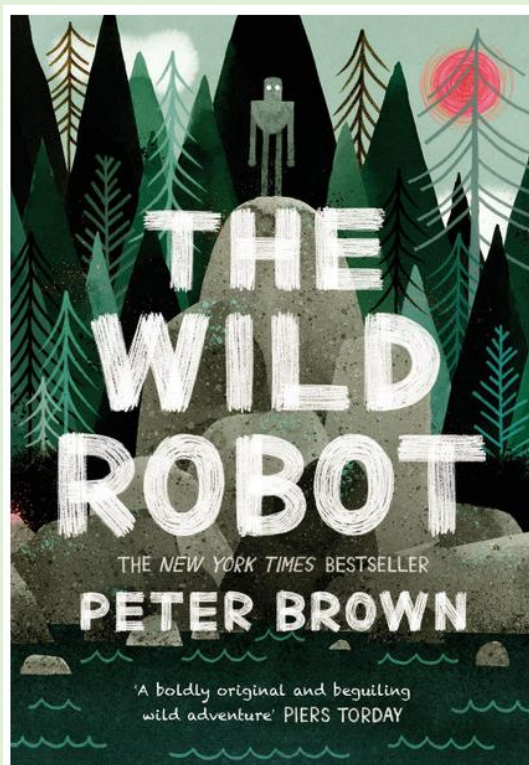
- Arlo (Confidence)
- Charles (Ambition)
- Bella (Community)
- Josh (Confidence)
- Erin E (Respect)





**Happy Birthday
to Lois and
Edward who
have celebrated
their birthdays
this week.**

Birthday Books



**Many thanks to Edward
for donating this book on
the occasion of his 9th
birthday.**

House Points

Our totals for this week!

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	82	358
Barenton	108	332
Bury	98	350
Bassett	103	502

Your child's learning

Ants

We were so proud of Ants Class yesterday for performing their song at the Harvest Festival so confidently. Excitement levels were high going over to church, with the children commenting that it was their first "school trip!"

They then welcomed PC Sandford to talk to them about what the police do to help us. They were fascinated to learn about the role of police and were excited to get to sit in a police car! They asked some very interesting questions!

In other learning this week, Ants have been thinking about special objects in RE. They have been thinking of super describing words to describe the characters in the Gruffalo and they have been working on pattern in maths. They have also been learning the language of 'more than' and 'less than' in maths.

Ants are continuing to make progress with their phonics. Please support this by hearing you child read their reading

books as often as you can – every day if possible. This will help to consolidate what they are learning in class.

We are continuing to share learning on Tapestry. Please let Mrs How know if you are struggling to access Tapestry as we are aware that there have been some 'teething' issues this term.

Butterflies

Butterflies class have continued to work hard this week. They did really well with their singing during the Harvest Service, we hope that you enjoyed it too.

In Maths this week, the children have been practising counting in different steps. Y1 practised counting in steps of 2 and 10. Y2 have been practising counting in steps of 3. Please encourage your child to practise these at home. starting from any number. In English, children wrote their own instructions of 'How to Trick a Sorcerer.'

In Geography, the children looked at a map of Thriplow and wrote directions from the school to different places. In art we looked at organic shapes and the children had a go at doing pencil drawings of flowers using their observational skills. In RE we learned about the Creation story and the children thought about what some Christians believe about the purpose of humans being to help take care of the Earth.

Please continue to encourage your child to login to Purple Mash so they become confident with using their login details during lessons.

If you would like to share activities that your child has done over the weekend with us, then please send it via Tapestry. We have enjoyed discussing what you have shared so far with your child.

Bees

Bees Class have had a wonderful, varied week. On Monday, we began to paint our still life on canvas. The children painted a neutral background with acrylic paint before carefully drawing their fruit in preparation to paint this on to the canvas next week. We are excited to share them with you once they are finished. Another highlight of our week was our Geography learning where the children were identifying different places of interest in Thriplow. The class loved

exploring the village on Google Maps and highlighting a map in their books. In Science, the children enjoyed a demonstration of the digestive system using bananas, orange juice, biscuits and a pair of tights - do ask them more! We have also enjoyed reading the next part of Oliver Twist and meeting the characters of Dodger, Fagin and Bill Sikes. We have also started our new topic of addition in Maths and, for the next few weeks, we will be thinking about mental methods of addition. We have learnt the method of counting on and will move on to partitioning and bridging methods soon. The children have also learnt more about footwork in netball and pacing in running. I am also so proud of the children for how well they sung their harvest song yesterday. Next week will be another great week in Bees as we welcome our visiting teacher, Miss Medway. During next week, the children will be watching the next instalment of our DEMAT together project about important figures in Ely Cathedral's history. We will also be continuing our learning about Thriplow in Geography but moving on to consider how the village has changed over time. I also particularly enjoy our history topic this term about the Greeks and next week we will learn about different philosophers from this period such as Plato and Aristotle.

Dragonflies

We have had another busy week in Dragonflies. In our English learning, we have been working on our narrative. In particular we have focussed on showing rather than telling the mood or emotions of a character. On Wednesday Year 6 welcomed GENR8 for a Cool Choices workshop. The GENR8 team commented on how well the children engaged with the session. In our maths learning we have begun thinking about written formal multiplication building up to multiplying 4-digit by 2-digit numbers. In history we have been consolidating our learning by creating double page spreads demonstrating all our knowledge about Baghdad. The children performed beautifully at the Harvest Festival in the church, I am very proud of them. Next week we will be welcoming Miss Hunter to our class, the children are so excited to meet her.

A reminder that we are a nut-aware school. Please ensure that your child's lunchbox does not include any nuts.



- Let your child help you pack their lunch box and choose what to include from a list of options.
- To keep children fuller for longer, give them a 'main' lunch item that includes carbohydrates, such as whole grain bread, rice or pasta.
- Try pasta salads, stir-fried rice, wraps or crackers and low-fat dips as alternatives to sandwiches.
- Choose lean meats, such as chicken breast as sandwich fillings, and try to include oily fish like tuna once or twice a week.
- Include vegetables such as cherry tomatoes, carrot or celery sticks or home-made vegetable crisps (slice vegetables like sweet potato or beetroot, toss in olive oil and bake).
- Always put salad (lettuce, cucumber) in sandwiches - it all counts towards their five a day.
- Swap the crisps for plain popcorn or vegetable crisps (see above).
- Pre-peel citrus fruits like oranges or satsumas to make them easier to eat.
- Include tinned fruits but make sure they are in juice not syrup which is high in sugar.
- Fruit bars are generally not healthy - try dried fruit like apricots or sultanas instead.
- If your child insists on having crisps or chocolate in their lunchbox, try to limit this to one day per week and let them choose what their 'treat' will be.

According to the NHS, the perfect lunch box for a child should contain:

- a serving of starchy foods (wholegrain bread or pasta, brown rice);
- a protein (lean meat, egg or oily fish);
- a dairy item (low-fat cheese or sugar-free yoghurt);
- a portion of vegetables (celery sticks, carrot pieces);
- a portion of fruit (berries, grapes, melon, apple slices);
- water.

We've put together five balanced lunch boxes here - one for each day of the school week. You can copy them exactly, swap items around or get rid of them all together - whatever works for your family is fine.



Attendance Reminders

Days off school add up to lost learning			
175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR 175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, household jobs and other appointments			
0	6	15	19
DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days)	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE
100%	96%	92%	Below 90%
EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE	SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE	REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT	Persistent Absentee
Best chance of SUCCESS	Harder to make good progress	Less chance of success	CAUSE FOR CONCERN
			Serious concern Possible court action

Three-Year Period

First Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

£80 for each child per parent.

E.g. if two parents take 3 children away, the fine would be $£80 \times 3 = £240$ per parent.

The total would be **£480**.

If you pay after 21 days it rises to **£960**.

If you don't pay after 28 days = a prosecution.

Second Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

£160 for each child per parent.

E.g. if two parents take 3 children away, the fine would be $£160 \times 3 = £480$ per parent.

The total would be **£960**.

If you don't pay after 28 days = a prosecution.

Third Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

Prosecution.

Apply now



for a Reception school place for September 2026

If your child
will be aged 4
by **31st August**

You need to
apply **NOW**
for a School
place



**Apply by
15th January
2026**

For further information please visit
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
or contact your local School

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

School Admissions ALC2605, PO Box 761, Huntingdon, PE29 9 QR or
email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Apply now

for a Secondary school place for September 2026

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

If your child will be aged 11 by **31st
August 2026**

**You need to apply
NOW
for a school place**



**Apply by
31st October
2025**

For further information please visit
or contact your local School

[Secondary school admissions - September 2026 | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

ALC2605, New Shire Hall, Emery Crescent, Enterprise Campus, Alconbury
Weald, PE28 4YE
or email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Breakfast Club at Ladybird



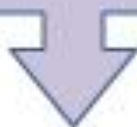
Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am



Early Starters from 8:30



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

LONELINESS ONLINE:

What Causes It and Ways to Feel Better

Have you ever been online and felt a little bit lonely?
In a recent study, 14% of 10–12-year-olds said they often felt lonely, so you're not the only one who sometimes feels that way. We spoke to a group of children and teenagers, who told us some of the things that make them feel isolated when they're online.

CAUSES OF LONELINESS ONLINE

-  Seeing photos or videos of friends having fun without me
-  Being excluded from group chats or games with friends
-  Friends or family not replying to texts or answering my calls
-  People being unkind to me online
-  When friends leave my group chat

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

So if these things happen to you and you start to feel down, what can you do? The same young people also told us how they make themselves feel less lonely when they're online – and we've collected some of their advice to share with you.

- ✓ Tell a friend or a trusted adult that you feel lonely
- ✓ Watch funny videos of cats and pandas
- ✓ Watch yoga videos and do some exercises
- ✓ Play single-player games you enjoy
- ✓ Listen to happy music
- ✓ Listen to your favourite audiobooks
- ✓ Send nice messages to your friends and family
- ✓ Play games with friends who you trust, if they're online too

FURTHER SUPPORT

Remember, it's normal to feel a bit lonely sometimes – but if it's really upsetting you, and you have no-one to talk to, you can call Childline for free on

0800 1111

TAKE A BREAK

Sometimes the best thing you can do is to take a break from technology and do something offline that makes you feel happy.

Here's what our group suggested!

- ✓ Paint or draw pictures
- ✓ Play with a pet
- ✓ Write about your feelings
- ✓ Hang out with your family
- ✓ Get outdoors & enjoy nature



**National
Online
Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our newly updated workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for **September and October**.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form.

Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 23 September 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Understanding and Responding to Challenging Behaviours	Thursday, 2 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Sleep	Tuesday, 7 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Anger	Thursday, 9 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Thursday, 23 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter October 2025

EIFAs offer advice and strategies to parents and carers with a primary school aged child that may be experiencing some challenges such as routines, sleep, sibling rivalry, behaviour, worries or self-esteem. If you'd like a chance to chat about any of these topics, please contact us through scanning the code or clicking on the link, or email us:

earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

<https://forms.office.com/e/4tV6234P68>



and a member of the team will get in touch with you.

Top Tips

Parenting Top Tip

October brings half term and Halloween fun, which can bring its own challenges for us as parents due to the change in routine, and expectations from children!

Things to try and remember:

- Try to remain calm and step away from the situation when it is safe to do so.
- Before you begin the activity or before going out, clearly explain the behaviour expectations and possible consequences for your child/ren if those behaviours are not followed. For example: 'I can't wait to go trick or treating with you, just remember it will feel really exciting, but I want you to stay with me to be safe'.
- If your child struggles with those boundaries in place, remember to gently remind and follow through with any consequences that you have previously explained.

Remember consistency is key!



(Incredible Years programme-click the book for more)

Activity Idea

Autumn is finally here, and amongst the fallen leaves are plenty of opportunities for crafting and having fun with nature.

Try out this spooky fun idea for Halloween or any other time!

1. On your next autumn walk, have a look around for fallen leaves.
2. Place the leaves under a heavy item for a couple of days to flatten them out. (This makes it easier to paint them)
3. Paint the leaves white and let them dry.
4. Draw funny faces on them.
5. You could even stick them on your windows to scare the neighbours!

Check out these other incredible Halloween nature craft activities with the Woodland Trust:

[13 Halloween Nature Activities and Crafts - Woodland Trust](#)

Another Resource

We know that parenting during the holidays can be stressful on the parents. Try to remember to find time to relax and breathe to try and stay calm. Here is a video from Place2Be that explains why it is important to stay calm when children push your buttons.

[My child pushes my buttons | Place2Be's Parenting Smart](#)