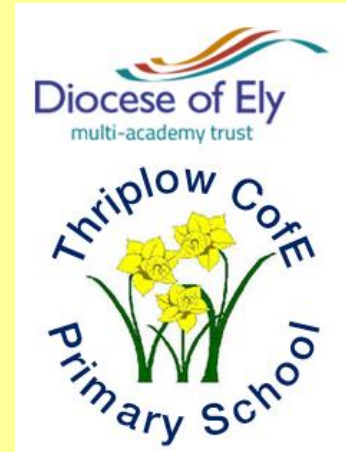


Thriplow School Newsletter

17th October 2025



We have had such a lovely week in school this week! Miss Hardege and I took the Year 5/6 netball team to a tournament at Melbourn Village College on Monday after school. The team were fantastic – full of energy and encouragement for each other! They showed off some wonderful netball skills, winning 3 games and drawing 1. This put them at the top of their group. They play the next round in the Spring.

I met with the school council again this week to discuss our charity fundraising for the year. Maddie (Ambassador) and Sophie (Charity) in Year 6 did a great job of facilitating the discussion. After discussions in classes and a school council vote, they decided which charities to support. The school council decided to organise a 'Dress as an animal' Day on 14th November! Our school council this year comprises of:

- Eliza (Year 1)
- Josie and Emily (Year 2)
- Max (Year 3)
- Harvey and Zanna (Year 4)
- Betsy (Year 5)
- Maddie (Year 6)

If your child would like to do some additional fundraising for The Blue Cross then the school council would like to encourage you to visit <https://www.bluecross.org.uk/pennies-for-pets> Your child can

sign up to raise money for The Blue Cross by doing helpful things either at home or in their community. I would love to hear if anyone decides to do this so that we can celebrate it at school as well!

A reminder about Celebration Collective Worship: It's lovely to see so many of you at our Celebration Collective Worship on Friday afternoons and we really value sharing our achievements and highlights with you. It is a highlight of our week. Could I please ask that you try to get to the worship at **3pm** when we start to minimise disruption. Could I also ask that you are mindful that although the worship takes place in the hall, some of our children access it from the entrance hall and so it is essential that they have a clear view and complete quiet in order to take part. It would be helpful if the entrance hall was kept completely clear to enable this.

A reminder that next week we have an INSET day so it will be a four day week for the children.

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*

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	'Dress as an Animal' day. Suggested donation £2 for the Blue Cross
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>

Our chosen charities for this year

Autumn Term



Spring Term

**Fauna
& Flora**
Saving Nature Together

Summer Term



Lifeboats



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>

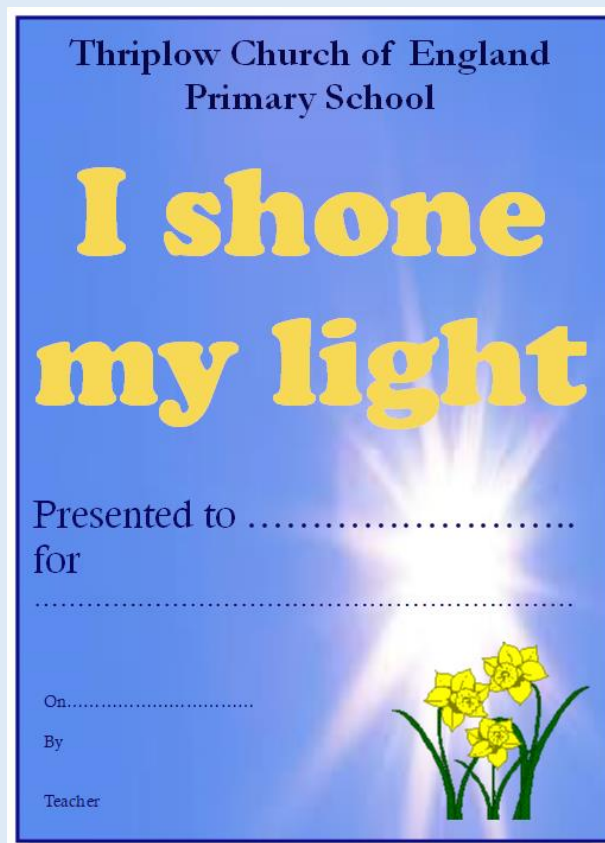
If you would like to donate a book to our library to celebrate your child's birthday, then we would be so grateful. Please follow this link to see a list of books that we would like.

<https://amzn.eu/ez2OYOf>



Our certificate winners this week are: -

- Sophie (Reception)
- Otto (Year 2)
- Cameron (Year 2)
- Alex (Year 3)
- Emily (Year 3)
- Sophie (Year 6)



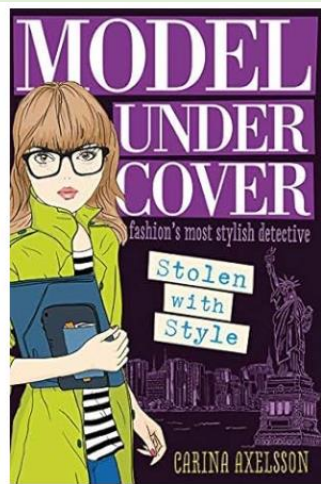
The following children were added to the 'Vision and Values' tree for living out our Thriplow and DEMAT values.

- Maya (Confidence)
- Leo (Confidence)
- Percy (Kindness)
- Josh (Confidence)
- Bella (Ambition)

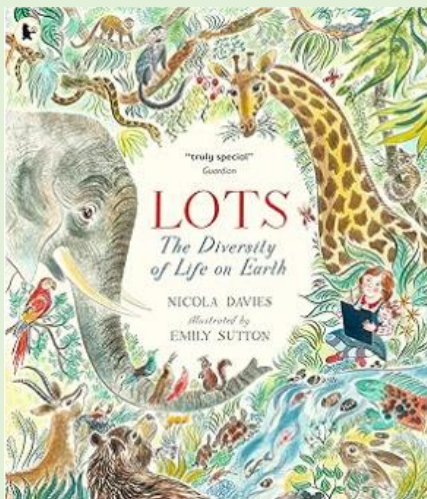
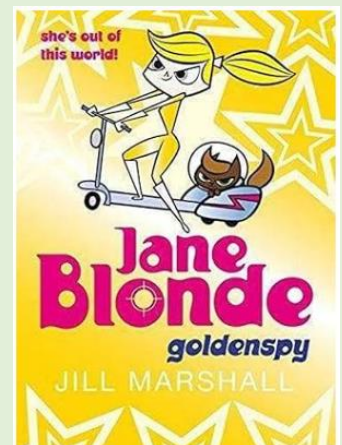


**Happy Birthday to
Sofia and Oliver
who have
celebrated their
birthdays this
week.**

Birthday Books



**Many thanks
to Sofia for
donating these
books on the
occasion of
her 9th
birthday.**



**Many thanks to Oliver
for donating this book
on the occasion of his 5th
birthday.**

House Points

Our totals for this week!

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	87	445
Barenton	67	466
Bury	73	423
Bassett	111	502



BLUE
CROSS



14th November

**'Dress as an
animal' day!**

Suggested donation – £2



Your child's learning

Ants

Ants Class are continuing to enjoy their learning! They are making good progress with their phonics. Please support their learning in class by remembering to help them to read their reading books. This consolidates their learning and helps them to progress.

We have been looking at different seasons this week. The children have sorted pictures depending on the season and have been thinking about clues we can look out for in each season. To support this learning, the Ants have enjoyed creating leaf people using the leaves they collected themselves from the playground.

In RE, the children have been learning that everyone has a different worldview and that some people have a religious worldview. We shared the story of a 'Not now, Noor!' and talked about why the hijab is special to Muslims. We also spent time looking at our Collective Worship table and the symbols on it.

In English we are continuing to enjoy the story of The Gruffalo. The children created some very imaginative new settings for the Gruffalo!

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. In maths, the children have been practising counting in different steps: Year 1 children have been counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10. They are finding it a challenge to count in these steps when they start from any number. Year 2 children have reinforced counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10. Please encourage your child to count backwards and forwards in these steps from any number (up to 100). We have also taught Butterflies a game to help them count in these steps using a hundred square. Please encourage them to show you how to play.

In Geography, the children have looked at a virtual route of walking from school to the church.

In English, the children have been writing their story of Aladdin. They have been focussing on writing simple sentences and have been reminded to use capital letters and full stops in their writing.

For Phonics, the Year 1 children have been learning the alternate /oe/ sound. Please find on tapestry a reading book called, 'Kate Bakes,' which reviews the /ae/ sound which they had learnt previously. When you have read this with your child, please comment in their Reading record, focusing on how well they could read and recognise the /ae/ words. Year 2 children have been reviewing the alternate spelling for /oo/ sounds. Please encourage your child to practise the spellings of: wasp, could, should, would,

In art we have completed our unit on shape and colour by making our own sculptures using coloured paper in the style of the artist, Calder. The children are looking forward to bringing these home to share with you. In RE we have continued thinking about what it means to be human by contrasting the beliefs and practises of different branches of Christianity.

The weather is becoming colder and some children are coming into school without wearing a coat. Please encourage your child to bring in a coat every day.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Bees

Bees Class have enjoyed a great week as we welcomed Miss Medway to our class. On Monday, we continued to think about Thriplow in our Geography lessons. This week, the children really enjoyed looking at a map of Thriplow from 1886. We considered what has stayed the same in the village and what changes have taken place. On Tuesday, I was really impressed with the children in Science as they showed me what they have learnt this term by annotating a diagram of a human body. The children showed me so clearly and neatly all of their learning on muscles, nerves and the digestive system!

We also continued our still life paintings in art. We will finish them next week. We have also enjoyed reading the next part of *Oliver Twist* and meeting the character of Mr. Brownlow. In Maths, we continued our topic of addition and began learning about column addition today. This will be our focus for next week as well. The children have also learnt more about footwork in netball and pacing in running. Next week, the children will take part in a mini Bees' Netball tournament on Wednesday so they can apply all of their learning from this term. Also next week, the children will be learning about the importance of rules in PSHE and starting to write a recount of the burglary in *Oliver Twist* from Oliver's perspective. Very excitingly, the children will have an assembly on Tuesday from our new sports provider to get them enthusiastic about the clubs that will be on offer next term and, on Thursday, the children will have their school photos taken. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Dragonflies

It has been a very exciting week in Dragonflies this week as we have welcomed Miss Hunter to our class. The children have enjoyed getting to know her and learning from her. On Monday members of Dragonflies represented our class and school at the Y5/6 Netball competition. I am so proud of their effort, sportsmanship and success at this event. In English, we have written our own narrative based on our class text, *Skellig*. In Maths, we have continued our learning about multiplication and have begun thinking about division. In our PE lesson this week we working on pacing and tactics in running. In geography we have begun our learning about mountains, in particular we have looked at the physical features of the Alps. As a reminder there will be no PE on Monday or Thursday next week. PE will be on Wednesday instead.

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



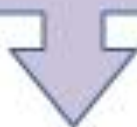
Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am



Early Starters from 8:30



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

COME ALONG TO THE ANNUAL
LADYBIRD PLAYGROUP THRILOW

Quiz Night

Saturday 15 November Doors at 7pm for
7.30pm start Tickets £15 per person
includes food.

To book visit: [https://www.pta-
events.co.uk/ladybirdplaygroupthriplow/index.cfm](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/ladybirdplaygroupthriplow/index.cfm)

Click
to
book



Teams of
up to six
Ploughman's
sharing platter
for your table

THRILOW VILLAGE HALL, MIDDLE STREET, THRILOW, SG8 7RD

DONATIONS

for
Breakfast Club and Ladybird Playgroup

Any Pre-loved toys and games, in good
condition wanted.

Including: (for children aged 3- 11 years)

Outdoor toys:
Balls, hoops etc.

Board games

Toys

Craft supplies

Building blocks

Please drop off any donations at

*Ladybird Playgroup - School Lane,
Thriplow, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 7RH*

Or call 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](#)