

Thriplow C of E Primary School

Newsletter: 21st June May 2024



Wow! What a week! I think this message from me may well go over multiple pages!!

Firstly, we are so, so grateful to the absolutely incredible Summer Solstice committee for the amazing event they put on at the weekend. It was such a fun night and a testament to the enthusiastic, committed, supportive and community-minded parent body we have here at Thriplow. We don't have an exact figure to reveal to you yet, but I know that a significant amount was raised for our new library. A huge thanks to the committee – James Dods, Chloe Phillips, Natalie Barker, Helen Trussell, Sam Sandford, Jules White, Meghan Bonner, Natasha Burford, Emma Hewlett and Steve Woodard. You are all amazing!

A huge thank you also to those of you who supported the event by attending, bidding on the auction, buying raffle tickets, donating items and helping and volunteering in so many other ways.

The PTA held their AGM earlier this week. Please take time to read Meghan Bonner's Chair's report (further down) outlining the amazing support the PTA give to our school. Again, we are so grateful for our supportive parent community.

It's hard to believe that this time last week it was pouring with rain! That didn't stop the children dancing the afternoon away on the field. Thank you to the Year 1 PTA reps for organising this. It raised an incredible £470!

Next Wednesday is Sports Day. This will take place on the cricket pitch in Thriplow. After registering the children, we will walk them down. Logistically, this can sometimes take a while so we can't give an exact start time but I imagine it will be around 9.30/9.40. Sports Day starts off with a round robin of small competitive events. Children have been grouped but we have ensured that siblings are together so that you can support your children. The second part of Sports Day takes place on the painted tracks and each child will be taking part in a running race.

During Sports Day, there will be a school uniform swap. Please bring items along to swap.

We are very proud of Otto in Reception who has completed the reading challenge. Our youngest child to complete it so far!

Yesterday, Bees Class visited St. Paul's Cathedral in London. They had a fantastic time. They took part in a workshop all about the Great Fire of London, explored the cathedral and climbed all the way up the Golden Gallery (over 500 steps!) They had a thoroughly enjoyable day and learnt lots.

Shine your light before others

I spent part of this morning in Cambridge with Goldie, Guy and Molly W-R at the DEMAT Impossible Questions Symposium at Cambridge University's Department of Computer Science and Technology. This year, Key Stage 2 have been attending online lectures given by Isabel Thomas, the author of *The Bedtime Book of Impossible Questions*. They have been exploring impossible questions together and this term, wrote and researched their own. Guy, Molly and Goldie's work was selected from work across the trust to make up part of a DEMAT book of Impossible Questions. Guy's question was 'Can a penguin ice skate?' Goldie's question was 'Could an elephant paint the Mona Lisa?' and Molly's question was 'Could monkeys be allowed in the Olympics?' The children got to meet Isabel Thomas, the author, as well as receiving their own copy of the book containing their work.

We finished off our week with our Poetry Recital Competition final. Our seven finalists (Jayden, Leo C, Sophie F, Ruby, Leo S, Josh P and Pippa) performed confidently and really engaged their audience. We are so proud of them for stepping out of their comfort zones and it was a difficult decision for our judges to make! The judges Highly Commended Jayden and picked out Josh as the 2024 winner of the Thriplow Primary School Poetry Recital Competition. Well done Josh!

Please see further down the newsletter for some photos of the many events that have taken place this week!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Best Wishes,

Lucy How



Shine your light before others

Useful dates!

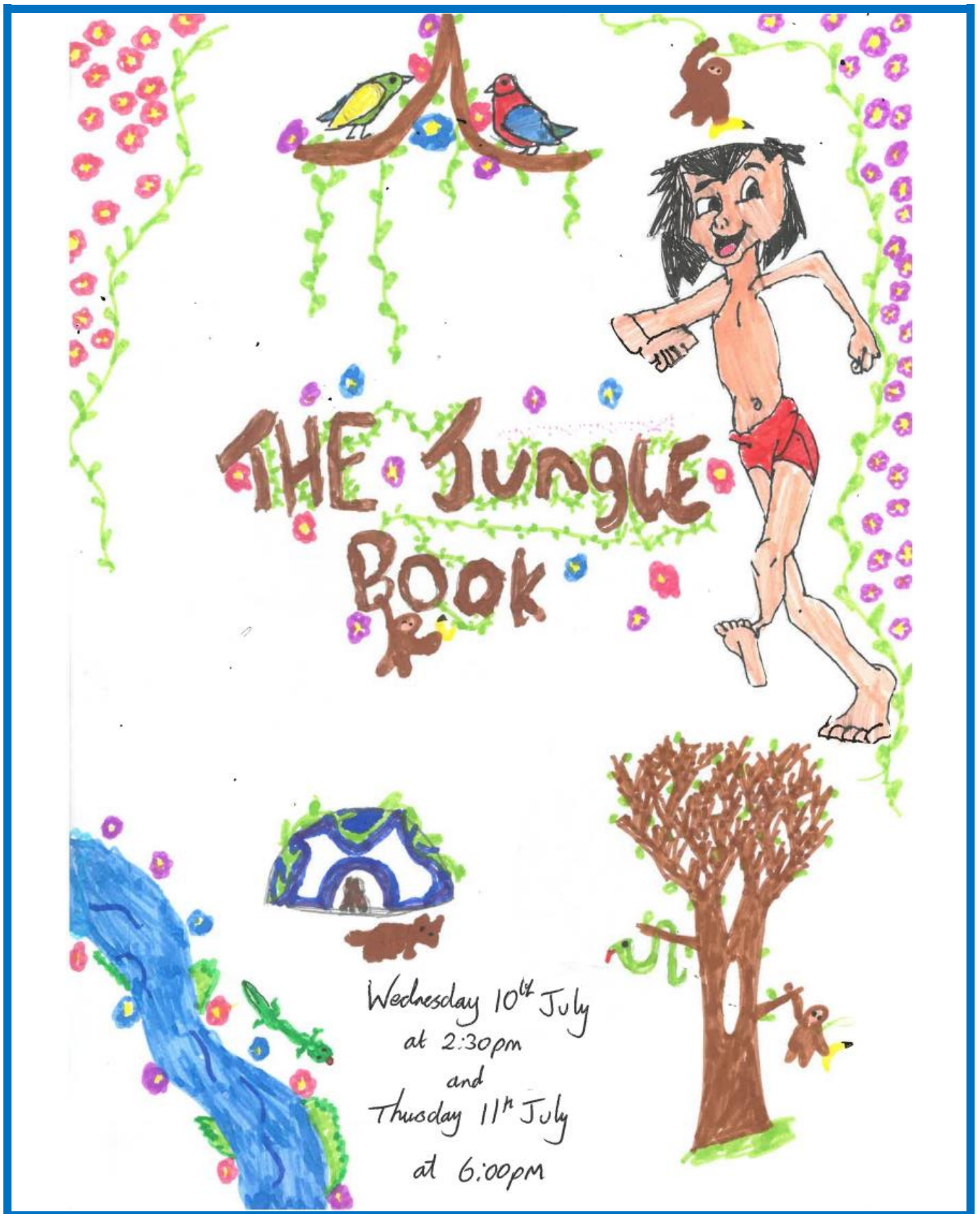
26 th June	Sports Day
2 nd July	Year 3/4 cricket
3 rd July	Ants and Butterflies trip to Wandlebury
10 th July	KS2 Production 2.30pm
11 th July	KS2 Production 6pm
12 th July	School Reports out
12 th July	Olympic-Themed Fun Run for British Heart Foundation
Week Beginning 15 th July	Year 6 Activity week
16 th July	Transition Morning
18 th July	Key Stage 1 Music Concert 2.30pm
19 th July	Leavers' Service 2.30pm
5 th September	Class Information Evenings (straight after school)
9 th -12 th September	Year 5 Bikeability
23 rd October	Individual and sibling photos
24 th and 26 th September	Parent Consultations (for Years 1-6)
27 th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning
Week Beginning 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
29 th November	Decoration Day
10 th December	Nativity Dress Rehearsal (morning – time TBC)
11 th December	Nativity Performance – 2.30pm
12 th December	Nativity Performance – 6pm
13 th December	Festive Friday
17 th December	KS2 Concert (afternoon – time TBC)
18 th December	Christingles (children will need an orange)
20 th December	Carol Service

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Term Dates

Summer 2024		
	Term Ends	Friday 19 th July
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 22nd July</i>
Autumn 2024		
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 3rd September</i>
	Term Begins	Wednesday 4th September
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 25th October</i>
	Half Term	28th October – 1 st November
	Term Ends	Friday 20th December
Spring 2025		
	Term Begins	Monday 6th January
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 14th February</i>
	Half Term	17th-21 st February
	Term Ends	Friday 4 th April
Summer 2025		
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 22nd April</i>
	Term Begins	Wednesday 23rd April
	May Day	Monday 6th May
	Half Term	26th May – 30th May
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 2nd June</i>
	Term Ends	Wednesday 23 rd July

Shine your light before others



Shine your light before others

PTA Chair Report

2023/2024 has been a really exciting year for Thriplow PTA.

After years of fundraising, we have finally seen not only a spade in the ground but the erection of a new classroom. We are tantalisingly close to being able to use the classroom, STEM Room, Staff Room and cosy Library and we really look forward to their opening in September 2024. Thank you to everyone who has had such input in this project over the years. It is amazing to see all the hard work pay off!

As always, it has been a busy year for the PTA. We have implemented a year rep system which has been fantastic and really shared the load – thank you Year Reps!. We have held numerous events including a movie night, kids disco, Hook a Duck stall at Sawston Fun Run, ice cream sales, refreshments at Decoration Day and the nativity, with Sports Day and Summer Production refreshments still to come and we have also managed to man a hugely successful tea room at Daffodil weekend and an incredible weekend of celebrations with the Summer Solstice Party.

The Daffodil Weekend was an amazing school community effort. With almost every family helping out at some point over the weekend, we baked and poured our way to a £4,400 profit over the course of the weekend.

The Summer Solstice Party was run by a committee of 10 school parents (along with a whole host of volunteers and donors) which has taken over 9 months to plan and is likely to have raised even more than the Daffodil Weekend.

None of these events would be possible without the support of the staff at school, waiting late until after school events have finished to lock up, coming in on their weekends to make these events happen, volunteering in the tea rooms, selling tickets, holding floats etc. Special thanks to Mrs How and Mrs Baron in particular for all their support this year.

Shine your light before others

I also owe a special thanks to the Core Committee - Dave, our Treasurer and Nell, our Secretary, who are committed, dependable and positive; quite simply fantastic team members to work with. Thank you!

Despite there being just over 100 children at the school, by my calculations we have spent over £13,000 this year on enriching the children's education. We have funded school trips and experiences for all the children, we have bought new iPADS to support the new maths syllabus, we've invested in the school grounds, we have funded an online safety course for children and parents alike, we've provided games and equipment for the playground and we've secured a grant from Sawston Fun Run for new sports equipment.

Not only that, we have worked with a group of residents in the village who have agreed to give up their time on a Friday to come in and read with the children, which is such an amazing initiative.

Most of these investments would simply not be possible without the PTA. I'm not aware of any other community where the commitment and efforts of the PTA and wider community collectively have such a huge impact on the education and experiences of children. It is something to be truly proud of.

As we head into 2024/2025, I'm really looking forward to seeing parents come together through the PTA and work alongside one another to invest in our children's futures.

Thank you to you all!

Shine your light before others



Due to the risk to a child at school with a severe nut allergy please could we ask that you do not send your child to school with sun cream; but rather apply an 8 hour cream in the morning.

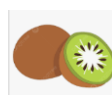
SNACKS – A reminder

Key Stage 1 (Ants and Butterflies) are provided with a free fruit/vegetable snack each morning for playtime. They do not need to bring their own snack from home.

Key Stage 2 are welcome to bring in a snack from home to have at playtime. This must be a fruit or vegetable snack (i.e. a piece of fruit or a vegetable).

If your children has a school dinner, they should not be bringing in additional food to school other than their fruit/vegetable snack.

Please chat to your child's teacher if you have any questions about this.



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OLYMPIC-THEMED FUN RUN

In aid of



*Please give generously
via our JustGiving Page*



12TH JULY 2024

The children at Thriplow School aim to run 316 miles as a team - the number of miles between Thriplow School and the Olympic Park in Paris.

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Your child's school attendance is very important and we are here to help. If you need support to increase your child's attendance, please get in touch with Mrs How via the office.

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

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>

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Happy Birthday to **Felicity** who celebrated her birthday this week!



HOUSE POINTS

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	59	440
Barenton	51	432
Bassett	31	535
Bury	56	420

Well done Bassett!

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

BEREAL

BeReal is the latest trending social media app. The concept is that people see others in their authentic day-to-day lives, sharing candid photos without editing or applying filters. Each day at a random time, users are simultaneously notified to take a picture of what they're doing at that exact moment. The two-minute window to submit an image means there's no time to select a particularly glamorous or exciting activity. BeReal shares two pictures: a selfie, and an image of the immediate surroundings. Users can only view and react to their friends' photos once they upload their own.

AGE RATING
13+
from the
App Store &
Google Play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTINUOUS NOTIFICATIONS

Like any social media app, BeReal's developers want users to be on it regularly and scrolling for long periods. BeReal only sends one notification to post a picture each day, but there are other alerts for events such as mentions, comments, friend requests and reactions to your photo. This can cause young users to feel pressure to open the app and respond, distracting them from other activities.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

When someone signs up to BeReal, it highlights anyone in their phone's contacts list who already has the app – so users can connect with friends, or invite others from their contacts. The 'Discovery' feed, meanwhile, shows posts from strangers and gives users the option to add them as friends, too. This means your child could potentially connect with – and communicate with – a stranger.

PUBLIC SHARING

As well as sharing posts with friends in the moment, the app also allows posts to be shared publicly and public content to be viewed. Before a user can see this public content, they must post their own photo first. Unfortunately, there currently seems to be a lack of moderation on the content that's being uploaded, so a young user could be exposed to posts which aren't suitable for their age.

EASY LOCATION

BeReal's default setting is to share the exact location of where a post was sent from. Given that images are usually shared within the two-minute window, anyone your child is friends with on the app will know exactly where they are (or at least, where they were two minutes earlier). As we've noted, this could include strangers who are intending to use this geographical information for malicious purposes.

VISIBLE PERSONAL DATA

As with any other form of social media, it's important that your child doesn't share too much personal information on their profile. BeReal allows for a photo, full name, approximate location and a short bio. It's safest to make sure that your child's profile doesn't display anything which could identify where they go to school or exactly where they live.

REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE

What your child says and does online – their digital footprint – shapes the way that other people see them. It's essential that young people understand that when they post something online, they are giving the app in question the right to do whatever they wish with that image or content, including sharing it elsewhere. This form of permission is explicitly referenced in BeReal's terms of use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

LIMIT NOTIFICATIONS

BeReal offers the option to turn off individual types of notification. Doing this will significantly reduce the number of times your child is tempted to open the app by incoming comments, uploads, friend requests and so on. Ironically, it will allow them to actually 'be real' by being present in the moment and their current environment as opposed to being engrossed on social media.

STOP AND THINK

BeReal's goal is for users to be authentic with friends, removing the pressure of that flawless photo or perfectly worded post. It's still vital, though, that children stop and think rather than uploading something risky just to meet the two-minute deadline. Point out to them what kind of information strangers could extract from an image: school crests, street names or local landmarks, for example.

KEEP IT AMONG FRIENDS

Remind your child why adding strangers to their contacts isn't a good idea, and advise them to decline any friend requests from people they don't know in real life. If something your child sees on BeReal makes them feel uncomfortable, they can report it by clicking on the three dots in the top right. The reporting tool allows them to state the reason that they're flagging up the post.

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Remind your child to use an avatar as their profile pic (as opposed to a photo of themselves) and use a nickname or just their first name, not their full name. Any information they add to their bio (which is optional) should be kept vague, and personal details should remain private. It's also worth turning off the geolocation feature either through the device's settings or in BeReal itself.

Meet Our Expert

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



**National
Online
Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-56111111>

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Breakfast Club at Ladybird



Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years

Registration
forms can be
found on the
School
Website



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am

Early Starters from 8:30

September 2024
Please book sessions required for Breakfast Club
in September to guarantee your child's place.
Adhoc sessions may still be available, numbers
permitting, but we do ask for 24 hours' notice.
This also applies to cancellations.
ladybirdplaygrouphthriplow@gmail.com



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygrouphthriplow@gmail.com

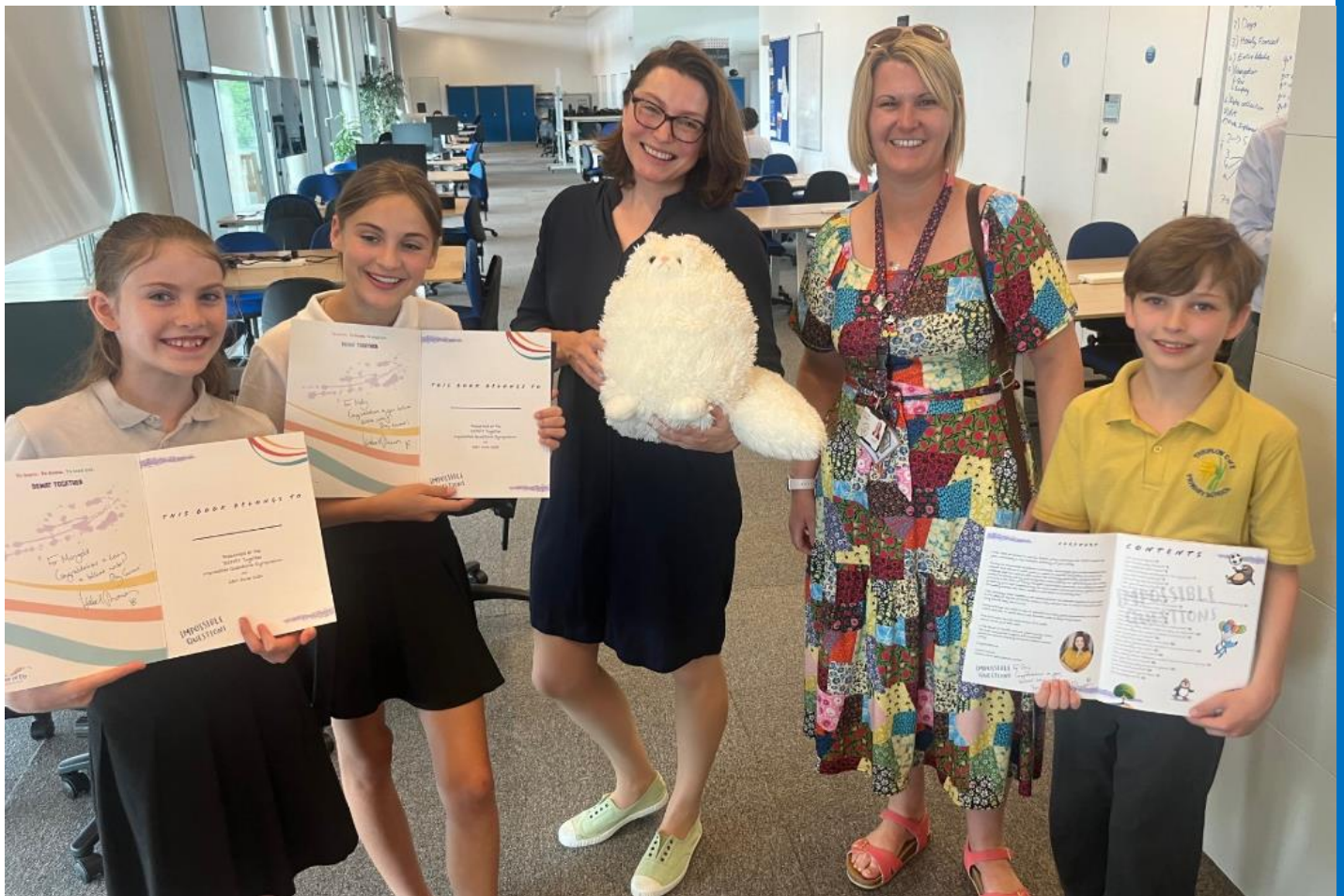
Phone: 01763 208055

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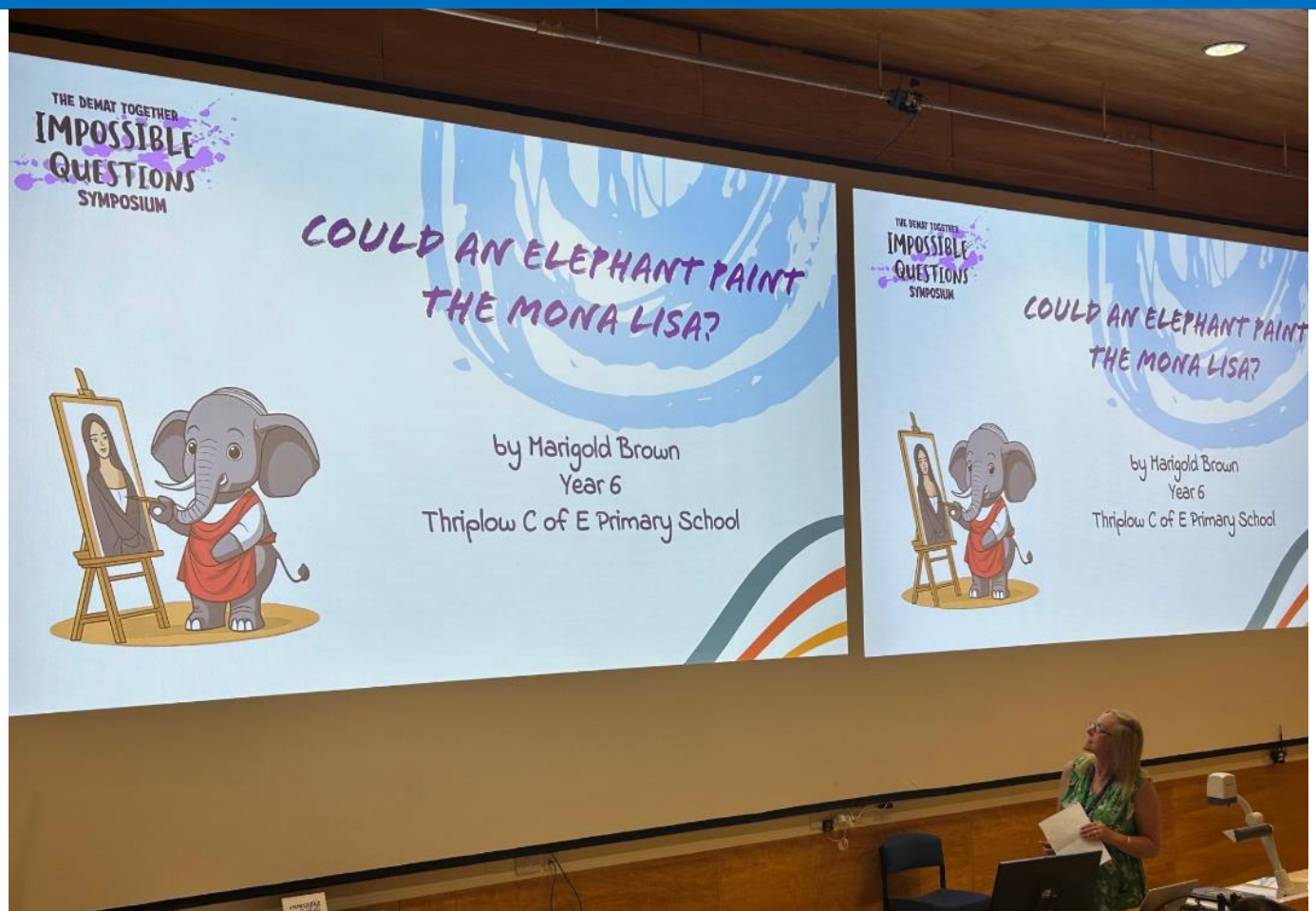
What have we been up to recently?



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