

Thriplow C of E Primary School

Newsletter: 23rd May 2025



We have all had a really wonderful week, both on the Isle of Wight and in Thriplow. Dragonfly Class have behaved beautifully and have had a packed week of activities. I know they can't wait to share with you what they got up to. There are some photos in the newsletter so that you can get a taste of the fun we have had. Highlights included a theatre workshop (follow us on Facebook to see some great dance moves!), thrill-seeking at Blackgang Chine and spending time at the idyllic Osborne House beach. A huge thank you to Miss Hardege and Mr Baron for their dedication to making this week a really special one for the children.

On Thursday, Bees had a fantastic day being geologists. Mrs Forde tells me that they enjoyed classifying rocks, re-enacting the Boscastle flood, conducting experiments about erosion and making their own fossil impressions. The children represented Thriplow wonderfully. Lisa from 'Off the Page', who led the day, described them as a delightful and inquisitive class. A big thank you from the Bees Class staff to the volunteers who came to help - lots of fun was had by all!

A reminder that the first day back after half term is an INSET day. We very much look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3rd June.

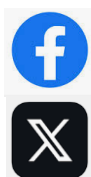
Have a wonderful half term,

Best Wishes,

Lucy How



**MAT of
the Year
2024**



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

<https://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*

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Useful dates

5 th June	Holy Communion in school hall. 9.15. All welcome
5 th June	Quadkids
6 th June	Class Photos
10 th June	PTA meeting 8pm on Zoom
11 th June	Year 5/6 cricket tournament
13 th June	DEMAT Art Exhibition
Week Beginning 16 th June	Poetry competition. Year 2 upwards.
18 th June	Year 3/4 football festival
25 th June	Sports Day (am)
1 st July	Year 3/4 cricket tournament
2 nd July	Ants and Butterflies trip (details to be confirmed soon)
11 th July	Sponsored run for MAGPAS
11 th July	Reports out
14 th July	KS2 Production – Dress Rehearsal 10am
14 th July	Singing concert (for those learning with Lucy Beeton) 4pm
15 th July	KS2 Production – 2.30pm
16 th July	KS2 Production – 6pm
17 th July	Transition morning
17 th July	Year 6 Quiet morning – in church
17 th July	Year 6 Wildspace afternoon
18 th July	Celebration Collective Worship at 9am
18 th July	Year 6 Quiz
21 st July	Year 6 trip to London
22 nd July	Year 6 cooking morning – Please note that Y6 do not need to book lunch
22 nd July	KS1 Concert
23 rd July	Leavers' Service For parents of Year 6 children leaving the school

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Term Dates 2024/2025

Summer Term	
Half Term	Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 2nd June</i>
End of Term	Wednesday 23 rd July

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Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term	
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 1st September</i>
Start of Term	Tuesday 2 nd September
<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

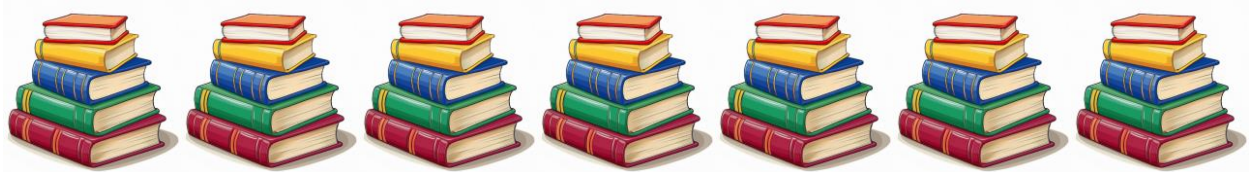
Summer Term	
Start of Term	Monday 13 th April
<i>Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 4th May</i>
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 1st June</i>
End of Term	Friday 17 th July
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 20th July</i>

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We have updated our Amazon Wishlist. Please follow this

link if you'd like to donate a birthday book.

<https://amzn.eu/ez2OYOf>



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 **Jess M** who has celebrated her birthday this week!



HOUSE POINTS

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	25	218
Barenton	27	227
Bassett	19	154
Bury	29	209

Well done Bury!

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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING OPEN CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

With tricky topics and occasional clashes of opinion, it can be challenging to maintain an environment where children feel able to talk candidly and honestly. However, encouraging such conversations helps to develop trust – making it easier to unpack even sensitive subjects as children get older. Here are our top tips for promoting open conversations at home.

1 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Criticism, blaming or shaming can all prevent children from feeling emotionally safe – while showing affection, positive attention and an interest in what a child has to say builds their sense of security. These formative years are when children's opinions and values begin to take shape, so it's important to provide a non-judgmental environment in which to discuss them – especially if their opinions differ from your own.

2 CONSIDER OTHER OUTLETS

Some children may find it easier to talk while they're participating in another activity such as drawing, writing, walking or sport. If it's possible, taking part in these activities together presents you with an opportunity to communicate while doing something side by side. A child may feel less pressure that way and can be more inclined to open up of their own accord.

3 NORMALISE CHATS ABOUT FEELINGS

Incorporate mental health and emotional wellbeing into everyday conversations, using age-appropriate language and examples to help children understand their emotions. Ask questions like "How are you feeling today?", "What was the best and worst part of your day?", "If you could start today again, what would you do differently?" and "Is there anything you want to talk about?"

4 LISTEN ACTIVELY

When children express themselves, make it obvious that you're listening closely and giving them your full attention. Maintain eye contact and validate their feelings without immediately trying to solve the problem. It's not helpful to dismiss their issues as childish or 'teenage angst' – or to assume that they'll simply 'get over' whatever they're feeling. Children don't have your life experience; their resilience is still developing as they learn to push through difficulties and handle problems.

5 ASK OPEN QUESTIONS

Encourage children to share their thoughts by asking open questions about their feelings and experiences. Closed questions (such as "Did you enjoy school today?") are more likely to elicit a simple "yes" or "no" response. Instead, you could ask things like "Who did you spend time with at break?" or "Who did you sit with at lunchtime?"

6 RESPECT THEIR BOUNDARIES

If a child isn't ready to talk to about something yet, respect their boundaries: this reinforces that their feelings are important and worthy of consideration. Ideally, you're aiming to let them know you care without smothering them, so just make it clear that you're there for them whenever they're ready to chat. Gentle, regular check-ins can sometimes be the best form of progress.

7 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Model open, honest and healthy communication in front of children and young people. Try to demonstrate kindness when talking about others and yourself, because if children hear adults being overly harsh, critical or judgmental, or see them having unrealistic expectations of themselves, it makes them more likely to adopt and repeat this behaviour themselves as they grow.

8 HAVE REGULAR CHECK-INS

Check in with children periodically to discuss how they're feeling and what's going on in their lives. This could be a weekly or monthly conversation, where the child has an opportunity to share whatever's on their mind. For parents and carers, getting away from the house and other distractions might be productive here: you could consider regular trips to a coffee shop or a café, or just a weekly walk.

9 PROVIDE RESOURCES

It's often beneficial to let children know about other support that's available to them if they're struggling to talk to you specifically. Encourage them to talk to school counsellors, trusted adults or even a therapist, if necessary – while normalising this route and dispelling the harmful stigma around asking for help. Older children could engage with resources such as Kooth or YoungMinds.

10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

It's beneficial to praise children for expressing their feelings honestly – emphasising how important it is to talk about their emotions and how proud you are of them for doing so. This can be especially pivotal for boys, who often experience more of a stigma around talking frankly about their feelings and their mental health – a barrier that can be overcome, with enough love and support.

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SEPTEMBER at LADYBIRD

If you are looking for a place for your child from their 2nd birthday in a safe

and fun rural environment why not consider us?

Based within the grounds of Thriplow Primary School, Ladybird has been running for more than 25 years.

We offer daily sessions from 9am to 3:15pm with the option of joining our

Breakfast Club from 3 years old.

Please email us on ladybirdplaygrouphthriplow@gmail.com or call 01763 208055

to **book a visit.**

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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

2025
Please book sessions required for Breakfast Club
in order 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.
ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

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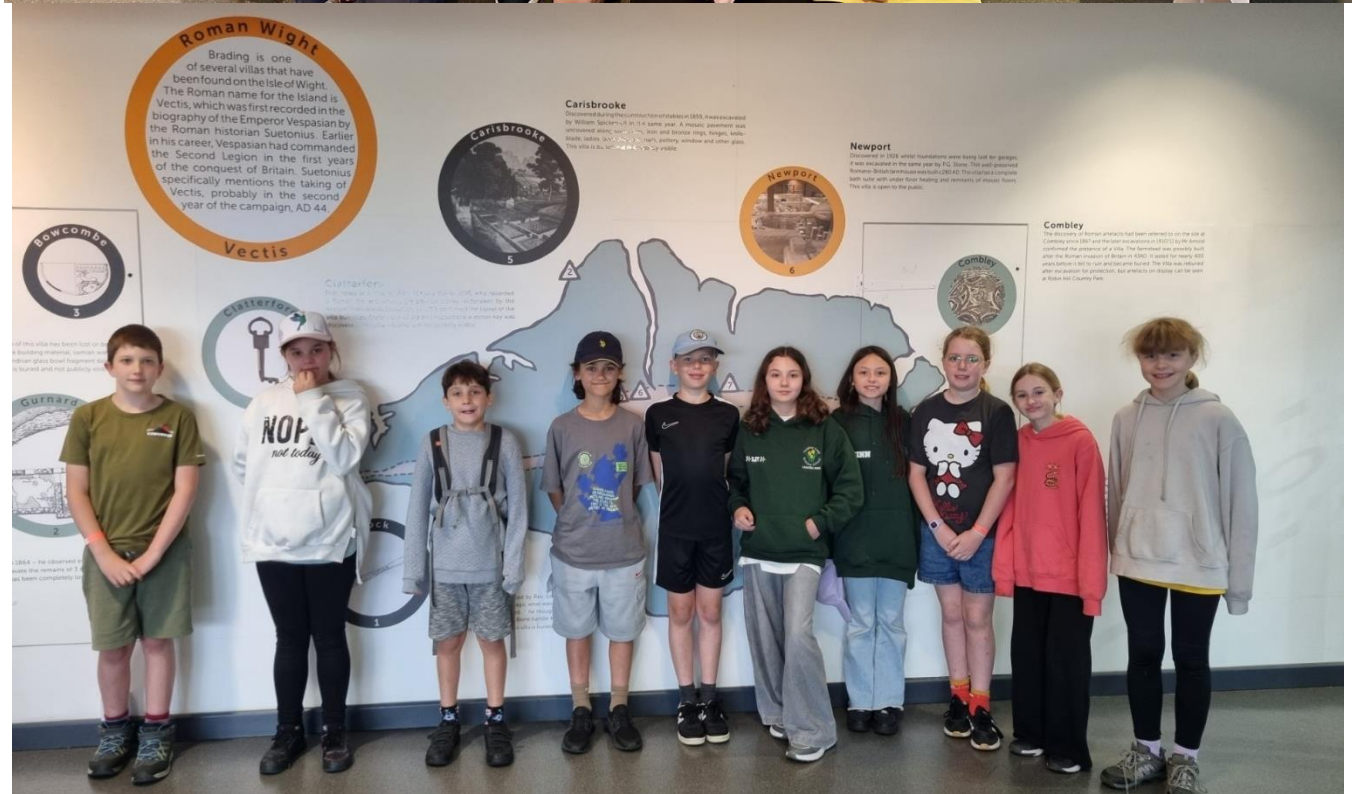
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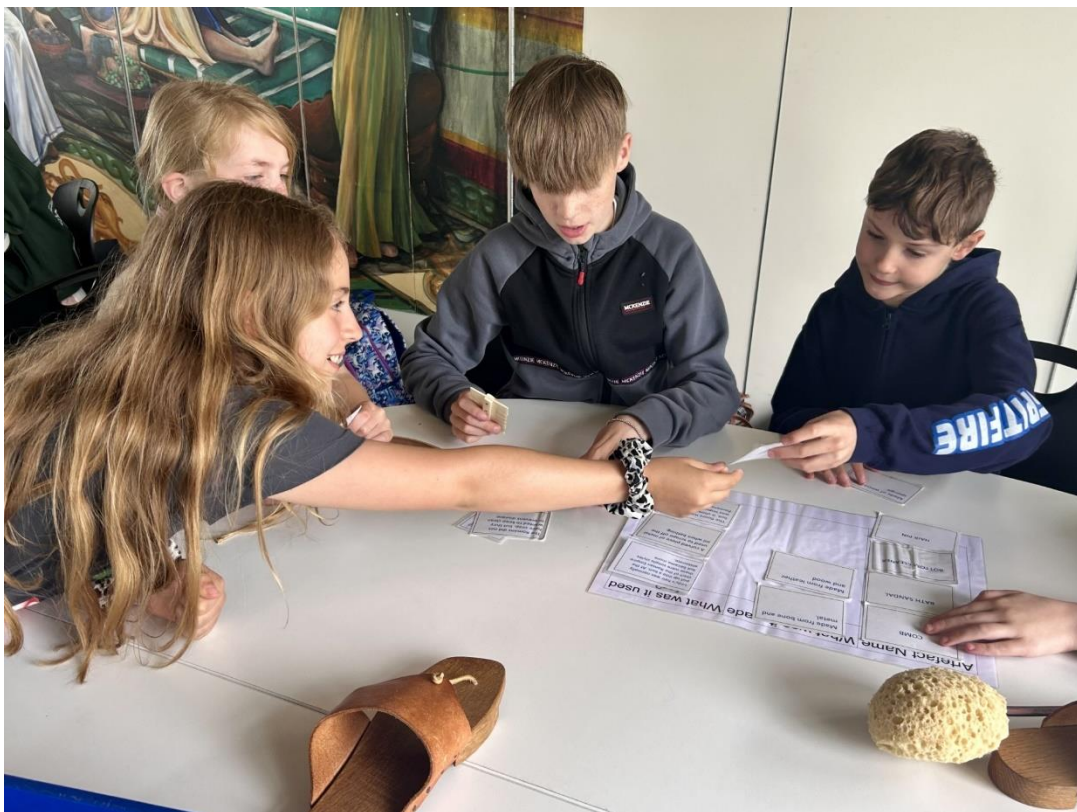
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