

Thriplow School Newsletter

4th September



Welcome back! We have had a lovely week in school altogether again. I want to extend very warm welcome to our new families in Reception as well as to Mrs Marr and Mrs Okai in Butterflies and Bees.. The children have been doing so well getting to know new classrooms, new teachers and new routines.

The Autumn Term is a busy one! Please make a note of the dates below and let us know if you have any questions.

I hope that you found the Class Information Evenings helpful last night. If you were unable to attend, please read the letter provided by your child's teacher carefully and let us know if you would like to query anything.

Well done to Peter and Evelyn for completing the 20 books challenge from last academic year in the holidays! We hope that your children enjoy accessing the challenge for new school year.

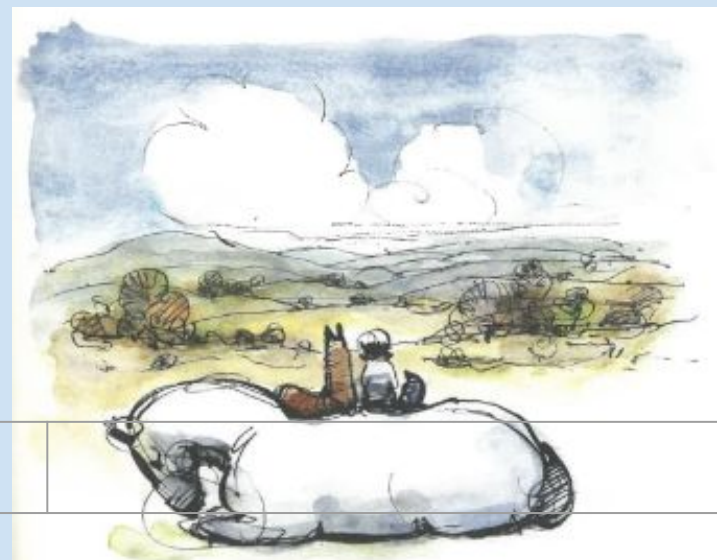
On the theme of reading, well done to Izzy and Evelyn for completing the summer reading library challenge! If your child completed this, then do let us know so that we can celebrate with them.

Could you please take time this weekend to have a check on MCAS that the information we hold about you is still up to date. Please do also check that you are happy with the parental consents you have provided for your children. Please email us (office@thr.graceschools.org.uk) if you wish to make changes.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday for the first full week of term.

Best wishes,

Lucy How



"Nothing beats kindness," said the horse. "It sits quietly beyond all things."

Grace
SCHOOLS

MAT of the Year
2024



www.facebook.com/thriplowschool



www.instagram.com/thriplow.school



x.com/thriplowschool



<https://thr.graceschools.org.uk/>

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 -

7th & 8th September	Bikeability
9th September	SATs information evening - for Y6 parents in Dragonflies Classroom. 3.30pm
11th September	Reception half day Reception parents consultations
14th September	School photographs - note change of date
18th September	Open classroom - 3pm
19th September	Tipi Party
21st September & 24th September	Parent Consultations (Y1-6)
25th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning/Uniform Swap (No Celebration Collective Worship)
28th September	PTA meeting in the hall. 9am
6th October	Harvest Festival in church - 9.15am
5th November	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
6th November	Open classroom - 3pm
9th November	Flu vaccinations
Week beginning 16th November	Anti-bullying week
23rd November	Uniform swap/Coffee morning 9am

Important Dates

27th November	Decoration day
1st December	Grace Schools Carol Service (Y6 only)
8th December	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal
9th December	Nativity 2.30pm
10th December	Nativity 6pm
11th December	Festive Friday (Christmas Jumpers)
15th December	Key Stage 2 Concert
16th December	Christingle Day
18th December	Carol Service 2.30pm in church
7th January	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
8th January	Open Classroom - 3pm
11th January	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
19th January	Young Voices
Week beginning 8th February	RSE week
23rd February and 25th February	Parent Consultations (All children)
25th February	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome

Important Dates

26th February	Open Classroom - 3pm
4th March	World Book Day
12th - 13th March	Daffodil Weekend
17th March	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
25th March	End of term service - 2.30pm in church
15th April (TBC)	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
16th April	Open Classroom - 3pm
22nd April	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
Week beginning 10th May	SATs week
Week beginning 17th May	Year 5/6 residential
Fortnight beginning 7th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Holy Communion	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
11th June	Grace Schools Art Exhibition
Week beginning 14th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
24th June	Sports Day
Week beginning 28th June	Poetry Recital Competition

Important Dates

2nd July	Open Classroom
6th July	KS2 Dress rehearsal - 9.30pm
7th July	KS2 production - 2.30pm
8th July	KS2 production - 6pm
12th July	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning
15th July	Transition morning (9-10.30)
19th July	End of Term Concert

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2026

<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 1st September</i>
Start of Term	Wednesday 2 nd September
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Friday 23rd October</i>
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
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Friday 12th February</i>
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
<i>Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 3rd May</i>
Half Term	Monday 31 st May - Friday 4 th June
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 7th June</i>
End of Term	Tuesday 20 th July
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Wednesday 21st July</i>



Safeguarding at Thriplow

Lucy How, Annabel Forde and Kulsoom Sheikh 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/>

House Points

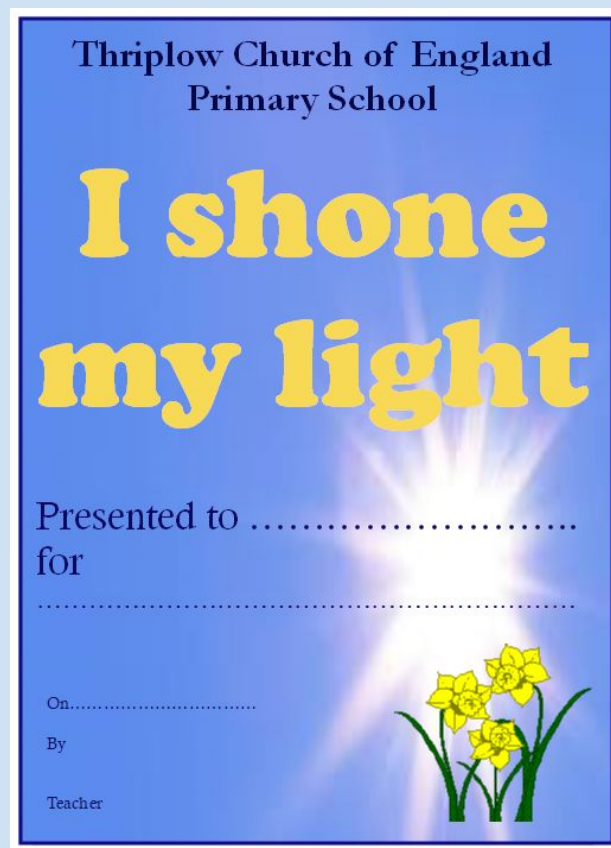
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	19	19
Barenton	23	23
Bassett	15	15
Bury	18	18

Well done **Barenton** !

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- Bobby (Reception)
- Henry (Year 1)
- Elwyn (Year 2)
- Henry (Year 3)
- Emily (Year 3)
- Betty (Year 6)
- Chris (Year 6)



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

- Alice (Hopefulness)
- Peter (Kindness)
- Zack (Confidence)
- Rudy (Confidence)



Happy Birthday

*to Arlo, Bella, Izzy,
Elias, Luna, Fitz,
Freddie R and
Tristan who
celebrated their
birthdays in August!*

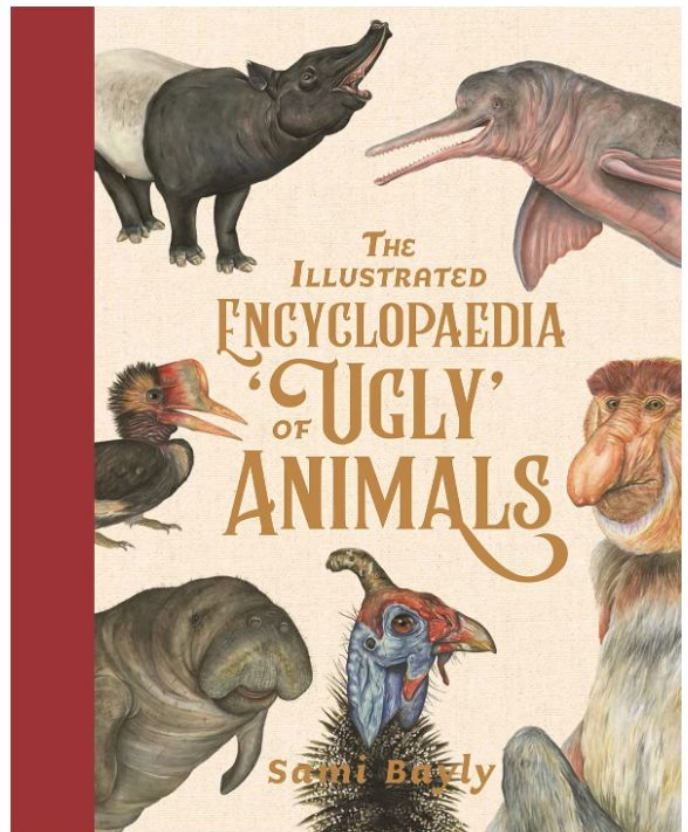


Birthday Books

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>

Many thanks to Fitz for donating this book on the occasion of his 7th birthday.





Thriplow Primary School



Library



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

**Please pop in
and visit!**



Your child's learning

Ants:

It has been lovely to welcome a brand new Ants class this week! I am very proud of how well the children have settled into school and how quickly they have learnt the new routines.

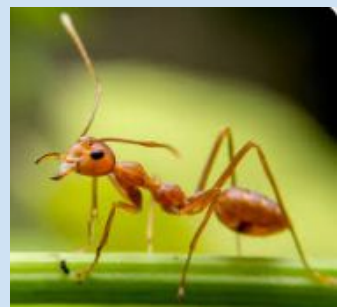
The past three days the children have been getting to know each other, the classroom and the adults. It has been wonderful to see some friendships already start to blossom and I am enjoying getting to know the children too.

We have also been exploring emotions by listening to and discussing a range of stories. We have also played a variety of games where we have identified how we feel and where we could go if we feel sad/scared/nervous.

We have also started our Phonics learning! We focused on building a word together and how we should hold our pen before having a go at writing the word.

In Maths, we have been listening to and singing counting songs as well as playing different games such as snap in Choosing Time.

I am very much looking forward to the progress the children will make over the year.



Butterflies:

We hope that you have had a good Summer with your families. It was wonderful to welcome the new Butterflies class - they have settled in really well.

The Year 1 children will do Wildspace on Tuesdays, please ensure that they have their Wildspace clothes in school.

The Year 2 children will have their first recorder lesson on Monday, please can you check that they have their recorder and their book with them.

The children have been given their reading books, please read with them regularly. On some occasions, the children will not be given a new book, as we will be encouraging them to re-read the book for fluency, please continue to hear them read daily.

For Maths, the Y1 children counted amounts to 20 and beyond. The Year 2 children looked at 2-digit numbers and practised making them with Dienes, saying how many tens and ones there were. For English, we have started reading the book, 'The Gruffalo,' and looked carefully at who the characters were and the opening features of the story. The children joined in with reading the story. We also began our new Science topic, the human body and we discussed the 5 senses. The children loved discussing what each of the senses can help us do, we will continue to explore our senses and how they work over the next few weeks.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.



Bees:

It has been wonderful getting to know the children this week. We have also been working on establishing routines and expectations.

In English, we have been exploring *Stig of the Dump* by practising inference and prediction skills. Children will need to bring their copies of the book to school next week as we dive deeper into the text.

Our Maths lessons have focused on place value and representing numbers in various ways, with Year 3 working on three-digit numbers and Year 4 tackling four-digit numbers.

In Science, we started our study of the human body by reviewing healthy habits and examining the differences between cells, tissues, and organs.

In History, we have started to look at the Mesolithic hunter-gatherers as part of our unit spanning the Stone Age to the Bronze Age.

Finally, during our P.E. netball session, the children practiced chest passes along with passing and receiving to maintain team possession.

Children should have their login details for Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) stuck into their reading records. Children are expected to practise times tables for at least 15 minutes weekly.

Please refer to the class letter shared, which contains class information and our learning overview.



Dragonflies:

It has been lovely to welcome the children to Dragonflies Class at the start of this new academic year. It has been a joy to see the children again, and it has been wonderful to observe how much the year 6s have progressed since I last taught them!

The start of term has revolved around starting new units for this academic year. On Wednesday we began to consider our new English text - *The 1000 Year Old Boy*. The children made some excellent predictions about the text just by analysing the front cover. On Thursday and Friday we then began to read the start of the book. The children were very interested in the concept of the main character (Alife) being a 'Neverdead'. I will leave them to explain more!

The children have also started new Maths units this week. Both year 5 and 6 will be focusing on place value. The year 6s have begun to look at numbers up to 1,000,000; the year 5s have moved on to numbers up to 10,000.

In our afternoon work, we began learning about the Human Body on Wednesday. We particularly focused on the heart and learnt about the atria and ventricles. We watched an online simulation of a heart pumping blood through it which the children were fascinated by!

On Thursday we began our topic on World War I in history. The children had very interesting debates about what constitutes a war before also debating whether the assassination of Franz Ferdinand was the only reason for war to break out. I was so pleased with the children's engagement with our new topic. After the first choir practice of the year, the children then did some sprinting in PE as part of our topic on running. We considered how to use our body to increase our speed.



Dragonflies:

Today, in Geography, we learnt about lines of latitude and lines of longitude and why geographers need these imaginary lines. Then, in Art, we began our work on the Italian Renaissance. We particularly considered Leonardo da Vinci's work on drawing realistic human features using proportion. The children used their learning to start drawing a realistic picture of their own hand.

Next week is year 5 bike ability. Please do remember to bring in your child's bike and helmet on Monday. Whilst year 5 are completing their bikeability, year 6 and I will be doing play leader training on Tuesday. Please ensure that year 6 are in PE kit for this extra session where they will learn about how to run lunchtime events for the younger children.



Our Year 6

In Year 6, each child is assigned a leadership role. Some of the children have already started work on their role this week. We are so proud of you all!

Ambassadors	Ruby and Hamish
Bacon House Captain	Molly
Barenton House Captain	Sophie
Bassett House Captain	Leon
Bury House Captain	Joey
Friendship Champions	Annabel and Robyn
Charity Champion	Barney and Chris
Worship Team Leaders	Betty and Lois
Library Champion	Felicity
Ants Class Champions	Nelly and Betsy
Sport Champion	Ellie
Eco Champion	Alice

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>

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CHEFFINS



PINKSTER
AGREEABLY BRITISH GIN

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

Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

BUY
MILK

GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE
BOX

The
National
College



National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

**FOWLMERE & THRILOW
GARDENING CLUB**

**CHILDREN'S ENTRY FORM—2026
SHOW**

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Exhibitor
Number

Office use only

Please ensure you read the rules and guidelines before completing this form. Please note that an auction of produce takes place after the show. To ensure your entry is not sold, read rule 9 carefully. There is no entry fee.

EXHIBITOR'S DETAILS

Exhibitor's Name

Address

Telephone No

Age on day of show

EXHIBITOR'S ENTRY

Class	Description	Qty Entered
L-1	A miniature garden.	
L-2	An animal—using fruit and vegetables products	
L-4 3	Four decorated home made biscuits	

FORM SUBMISSION

Completed entry forms must reach the following village contacts no later than ~~6~~^{6.00 pm} 00 pm on Wednesday 16th September 2026.

Fowlmere	Jill Vinton	Stoneyfield , High Street	01763 208955
Thriplow	Hanna Roberts	1 The Green	01763 209352

SECTION L – CHILDREN - GUIDELINES

CLASS	GUIDELINES
Class L-1.	Miniature garden (KS 1 and 2) Although the garden can be any shape, please ensure the footprint does not exceed 300 mm in any direction.
Class L-2	Fruit and vegetable animal (KS 1 and 2) You can use any of the following for making your animal — flowers, fruit, vegetables and leaves. Matchsticks, pins, glue, sticky tape or blu tack or wire and paperclips can be used for supporting or joining structure. Please state what sort of animal you have made and give your animal a name.
Class L-3	Four decorated biscuits (KS 1 and 2) Four decorated biscuits each of which may be decorated differently.
Entry Staging	<i>Exhibits should be staged on Friday 18thⁿ from 7:00 to 7:30 pm and Saturday 19thⁿ from 08:30 to 09:45 am. Club stewards will be on hand to advise.</i> <i>No entry to the hall will be allowed between the times of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on Saturday 19th..</i>