



Newsletter Friday 12th January 2024

Next week's lunch menu is Week 2

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

It was great to welcome the children back after the two week Christmas holiday. We hope you all had an enjoyable break despite the rather extreme weather conditions. Happy New Year to you all! We are delighted to welcome two new members of staff to the Thorpe Acre team: Miss Fairbrother will be working as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant across the school and Mrs Tovey will be working as a Learning Support Assistant in Reception.

Celebrations!



We welcomed parents and friends to the **All Stars Assembly** this week. Congratulations to these children for demonstrating the following school values:

Be proud – Ivy, Freya and Corey
Be independent – Aurora and Sofia
Reach high – Ollie

Well done to the following children who have achieved...

25 Monster Points certificates:

Aurora

50 Monster Points certificates:

Joshua, Muhammed, Oliwier, Archie, Esther, Mason, Elodie, Harley, Barnaby, Andrei, Jasper, Sebastian, Kiah, Mckensie

75 Monster Points certificates:

Albie, Ralph, Bobby

100 Monster Points certificates:

Alissia

Attendance Award

This week the award goes to Woodpecker Class with 98.2% attendance. Well done!

Rainbow Reading Awards

Well done to the following children for all the reading at home:



Red: Alyissia-Mae, Tommy-Jake, Max, Oscar, Dhiyaan

Orange: Freddie, Eloise, Marcelina, Isabella, Ezra, Thomas, Isla, Tommy, Mckensie, Ava, Freya, Nolan-Gabriel

Yellow: Hanaa, Alissia, Mckensie, Daria, Joshua, Eloise, Ingrid, Marcelina, Christopher

Green: Andrei, Hanaa, Kayden, Riaan, Esther, Daria, Alissia, Mantraa

Blue: Daria, Ellie, Mantraa, Riaan, Elden, Lizzie, Esther, Andrei,

Indigo: Lilith, Elden, Lizzie

Violet: Lilith

Gold: Lilith – 1st person to achieve this! Well done!



Meet The Governors

The Governors are volunteers who form part of the leadership of the school. This week, we meet Gill Lyon, who is one of the Co-Chairs of the Governing Body.



I have been a governor at Thorpe Acre Infants since my daughter started here in 2019. I joined as a parent governor and stayed on as Co-Chair when she moved up to the Junior School.

My background is in special education and working with children who have been excluded from school. I am passionate about inclusion and creating opportunities for every young person, which is why I became a governor. My current responsibilities are safeguarding, reading/phonics and well-being. I particularly enjoy my visits to the school and working with the supportive staff team and enthusiastic children.

Advice for Parents and Carers

Here is a link to some really useful information and advice for parents and carers, for example: PANTS – the underwear rule and how to talk to children about difficult topics.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>

Snow

We will inform you if school is closed by sending a message to you on Weduc. The information will also be on the school website.

Have a lovely weekend.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 15th January – Deadline for Year 2 parents to apply for a Year 3 school place.

Tuesday 13th February – Singing Festival for Y1 and Y2 children.

Friday 16th February – break up for half term

19th-23rd February – Half term holiday

Monday 26th February – back to school

Wednesday 6th March – YR Heights and Weights (information to follow)

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Wednesday 20th March – Parents' Evening until 6.30pm

Thursday 21st March – Parents' Evening until 6.30pm

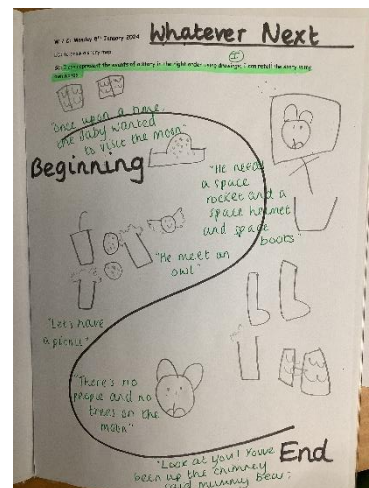
Friday 15th March – end of Spring term



Spotlight on Learning

YR

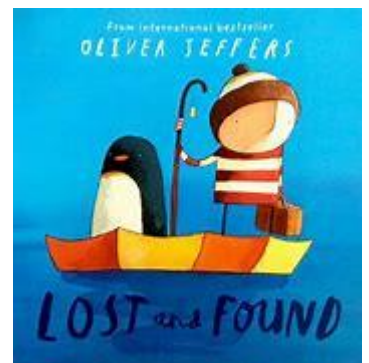
In Literacy the children have been reading the story *Whatever next!* by Jill Murphy. They have learnt key vocabulary from the story and created a story map to retell it. The children have also changed parts of the story using their imagination.



In Maths, the children have been learning about mass. They have been using cubes to weigh different objects.

Y1

The children in Woodpeckers and Badgers have started to learn the story *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers and have been finding out what the landscape of Antarctica is like to start the *Antarctic Adventures* topic. They have been investigating teens numbers in Maths. In Science, they have been outside to look at how our school grounds have changed during the season of Winter. The children have started to plan how to make puppets in Design Technology. Next week they will be starting to sew them! All the children are very excited about this!



This week the children in Year 2 have started a new unit in Science - Living things and their habitats. They have learnt about 7 life processes which help us decide if something is alive, dead or has never been alive. These are: Movement, Respiration, Sensitivity, Growth, Reproduction, Excretion and Nutrition. (Remembered using the mnemonic Mrs Gren!)

In Geography - they are beginning a unit where they will be comparing their own location to Kampong Ayer, which is a village in the country Brunei, in Asia. This week they were looking at maps, locating the UK and labelling the 4 nations and the surrounding oceans and seas.



In Maths, the children have been learning to add money so have been adding pence and then pounds and pence.

In English, they have written a 'Cold Write' about a lost animal then they have begun learning the story of *The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies, using their Talk for Writing actions. The children made 3D story maps collaboratively in groups.

