



Spring Term

12th January 2024

# newsletter

At Thakeham we CARE

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## Welcome

Dear All,

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2024! We hope you all had a good winter break with your loved ones.

The children have settled well back at school and are learning new exciting topics with Wonder class even taking a trip to Antarctica!

A reminder that if you have a child due to start school in Sept 2024, the deadline for primary school applications is **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January** is Census Day, a very important day for funding for the school – the menu can be seen below.

A polite reminder to order your children's meals as far in advance as you are able to. ParentPay do send regular meal ordering reminder emails and the dates cut-off calendar has also been sent to you.

Best wishes from the Thakeham Family.

## Who Are We Celebrating This Fortnight?

Positive,  
Persevering Perry



Co-operative  
Caring Chloe



Headteacher  
Award



Reflective,  
Reviewing Rowan



Curious,  
Questioning Cleo



Lexi (Wonder)  
Fynn (Marley)

Dougie (Beatles)  
Harrison (Franklin)

## Attendance Figures

Thank you for your support in helping our pupils to see the value in each and every day at school. We track attendance because only a little missed can have a huge long-term impact on a child's progress. **Our target is 97%**. Current attendance percentages for the new academic year to date are:

Beatles Class: **98%**  
Wonder Class: **98%**  
Marley Class: **96%**  
Franklin Class: **95%**

## Our School Values

**CARE – COURAGE – AMBITION – RESPECT – ENJOYMENT**

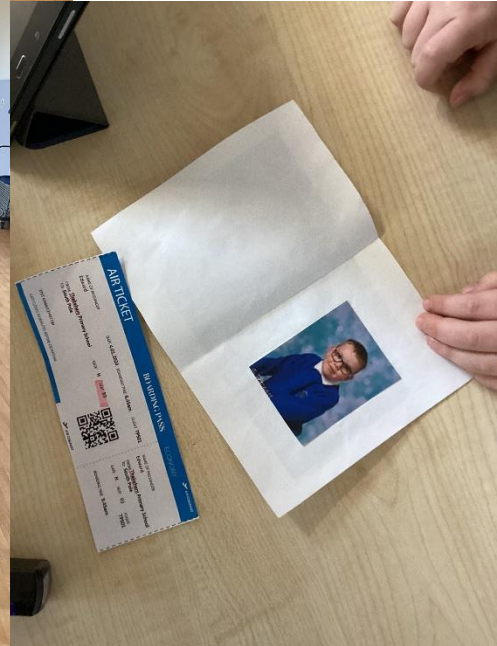
These are the values that drive our school. They feed into how we learn, how we act with one another, how we teach, how we handle our pastoral elements; so much of what we do! So, it is important we remember them. Our Super Learning Heroes relate directly to these and are how we make our values child friendly. They all come under our new, 'Thakeham Way'.

## School Life

Some of the exciting activities some of our pupils have experienced over the last few weeks!

### Wonder Class trip to Antarctica!!

Wonder Class as part of their 'Stunning Start' wrapped up warmly, grabbed their passports, queued for their boarding passes and took a flight to Antarctica!





## School Life

Some of the exciting activities some of our pupils have experienced over the last few weeks!

### Beatles class Forest School



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### Thakeham Reporters

In Franklin, the topic they are learning about this term is when the Anglo-Saxons took over Britain and when the Vikings defeated the Anglo-Saxons and ruled Britain. The books they are reading are Viking Boy and Beowulf.

In Marley, the topic they are learning about is the Roman Empire and their class book is the Romans on the Rampage they were also learning about circus Maximous (a stadium) and they were also looking at chariot racing and the Roman invasions.

In Wonder, the topic is about Antarctica and last week they went on a trip to Antarctica to meet and learn about the polar bears and their class book is Scott: the Diary.

In Beatles, the topic they are learning about is about Wonder of the World, which is about the environment (recycling, animals) and looking after wildlife; also their class book is the Tin Forest.

Oh, and on Tuesday, it snowed!

by Charlie and Daniel

## Dates for Your Diary

- **15<sup>th</sup> January:** deadline date to apply for a September 2024 Reception place
- **18<sup>th</sup> January:** Census Day
- **12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February:** Half Term
- **22<sup>nd</sup> February:** Parents Evening
- **27<sup>th</sup> February:** Parents Evening
- **6<sup>th</sup> March:** Class Photos
- **7<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day
- **15<sup>th</sup> March:** Red Nose Day
- **28<sup>th</sup> March:** FoTS Easter Fun/End of term
- **29<sup>th</sup> March-12<sup>th</sup> April:** Spring Break
- **15<sup>th</sup> April:** Summer term starts

### Inset Days 2023/2024

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024



Apply online at:  
[westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](https://westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)

# Was your child born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020?

If so they are eligible to start school  
in September 2024

## Apply online!

It's simple, convenient and time-saving.  
If your application is received after the deadline,  
your chance of securing a place at one of your  
preference schools could be seriously affected.

You can apply online from  
**Monday 2 October 2023.**  
If you would like further advice or  
information, phone: **03330 142 903.**

**Deadline: Monday 15 January 2024**

Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex libraries.





For every child that eats a school lunch on census day, the school receives government funding, every child counts!



**Chartwells**  
So much more than Fantastic food

# **CENSUS DAY!**

**18TH JANUARY 2024**

## **MENU**

**Beef Pasta Bolognese or  
Vegetarian Meatless Balls in  
Tomato Sauce with Rice**

-

**Peas or Salad**

-

**Chocolate Brownie**

If you want to try a bit of each, or enjoy a taster pot and you are in Reception, Year 1 or 2, booking the meal is still free and counts towards your school funding, so lets come together to support your school.

**PLEASE BOOK YOUR MEAL ON PARENTPAY, BY 4/01/24.  
\*SPECIAL DIETS WILL RECEIVE THEIR SIGNED OFF MENU.**



# WRITING FOR CHILDREN

THEN & NOW

BY JILL ATKINS



ILLUSTRATED  
BY LIAM RUZ

FRIDAY  
2ND FEBRUARY 2024  
2.30PM

STORRINGTON & DISTRICT  
MUSEUM,  
THE OLD SCHOOL,  
SCHOOL LANE,  
STORRINGTON,  
RH20 4LL

MEMBERS  
£6

NON-MEMBERS  
£8



PAY AT THE DOOR

Writing for Children – Then and Now by Jill Atkins  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 2.30 p.m. at Storrington Museum,  
The Old School, School Lane, Storrington, RH20 4LL

Jill Atkins has been writing for children for thirty years. Her talk is about her life as a writer, how writing for children differs from writing for adults – and it isn't easier! The talk is about getting published; the successes, the failures and the processes – editing, illustration. Her books range from historical fiction to workbooks on spelling and phonics, from fiction to non-fiction, from teenage novels to early readers.

**Then** - Jill began telling stories to her two younger brothers when she was quite a young girl. Later, while she was teaching infants, she realised that the 'reading books' the children in her class were reading were very dull so she decided to write her own. Whilst not published, these were a useful tool in the classroom!! Having escaped from teaching, she ran a B&B establishment with her husband and this gave her more time to write. The breakthrough came with her first children's book: *Cooking with Rabbit!*

**Now** - Two hundred books later, Jill is still writing.  
Venue: Old School, School Lane, Storrington RH20 4LL.  
Members £6. Non-Members £8. All welcome



# Pulborough Pop-In



Parents/carers are welcome to come and join us in a relaxed and safe environment to chat about anything and everything!

Make friends, learn about the community, the schools, things to do in and around the area for families, natter about work and where to go on holiday!

Tea, coffee and biscuits available.  
Pre-schoolers are welcome.



## WHEN AND WHERE?

Every Wednesday (during term-time)

From 9am - 11am

@ Pulborough Library

£1 suggested donation

For more information, please contact  
Isla Moran 075 226 89948  
[isla@pdcca.org.uk](mailto:isla@pdcca.org.uk)

