

THIS WEEK:  
Welcome  
Awards  
FoTS  
Inclusion  
Time2shine!  
Dates

Issue 2  
27/9/24

*Be one of the BEST! Be Thakeham!*

# Newsletter

Headteacher: Mr Will McDonald  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Emma Hopkins  
SENCO: Mrs Bex Stender  
Operations Manager: Mrs Georgina Ritchie

Thakeham Primary School  
[www.thakehamps.co.uk](http://www.thakehamps.co.uk)  
[office@thakehamps.co.uk](mailto:office@thakehamps.co.uk)  
01903 740 176

This edition's front cover picture:

*A wonderful image of a proud Pollie showing off her expertly constructed bag. Pollie worked on this as a DT project along with the rest of Franklin Class. You can see the bags on display in our corridor by the library.*

# At Thakeham we CARE



## Welcome

Happy Friday to you all!

These past two weeks have been busy, the work continues on our wonderful new area of the school, the finish line is within touching distance now!

Year 6 have been visiting secondary school open events and taking part in Bikeability. Marley class enjoyed a trip to hear the Worthing Symphony Orchestra and our Beatles class continues to settle in well.

Our new FoTS committee have been busy arranging some fantastic events. Halloween Disco tickets are available to buy in person with cash at the office or you can pay directly to the FoTS bank account – more details can be found in the FoTS section of the Newsletter.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October is our Harvest Festival celebration and you can now bring any food items/toiletries to our main entrance corridor everyday until Tues 1<sup>st</sup> October. Many thanks in advance for your continued support.

Best wishes from the Thakeham Family.

***If there has been any change to when you gave consent for the school to administer school kept medicine, please notify the school office as soon as possible. Many thanks.***



## Awards this Week

This year, we have moved away from using the Super Learning Hero Awards because they do not match our new school systems and values. The children helped us choose the new awards. They decided to base them on our 3Rs (Ready, Respectful, Responsible). The pupils who achieve an Honours Award will be invited to a special Awards Ceremony in the summer term.

This week's weekly awards go to the following pupils:

Ready to Learn Award	Respect Award	Responsible Award	Headteacher Award	Honours Award
Tommy (Wonder) Olive (Franklin) Kiva (Franklin)	Jack (Wonder) Jayden (Marley)	Harley (Marley)		



# At Thakeham we CARE

## Friends of Thakeham Primary School (FoTS)



HI ALL, VIKKI, SAM AND JESS HERE. YOUR NEW FOTS TEAM. WE ARE VERY EXCITED TO WORK ALONGSIDE THE SCHOOL, TO CREATE FUN EVENTS AND RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SMALL BUT BRILLIANT SCHOOL. WE ALREADY HAVE SOME BIG PLANS UNDERWAY FOR THIS TERM, STARTING WITH OUR HALLOWEEN DISCO. MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY TOMFOOLERY, WHO MOST OF YOU WILL KNOW! LEADING UP TO THIS WILL BE A SWEETS & BAKES SALE, SO YOU CAN GET YOUR SPOOKY BAKE ON! 🧛🏻‍♀️🍰

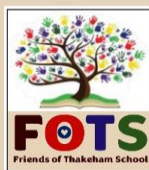
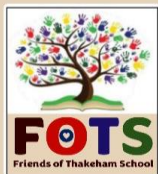
WHEELS ARE ALSO ALREADY IN MOTION IN ARRANGING SOME REALLY FUN CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR THE CHILDREN AND PARENTS, INCLUDING A CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT, AND A CHRISTMAS FAYRE. MORE DETAILS ON THIS WILL COME IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER AND OUR FOTS FACEBOOK PAGE.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WILLING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP OUT AT EVENTS ETC, SO PLEASE GET IN TOUCH IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY. OUR CONTACT DETAILS ARE BELOW, OR CATCH US ON THE PLAYGROUND.

WE ALSO HAVE A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE, WHERE DETAILS OF EVENTS AND MORE INFO OF PROJECTS WE ARE HELPING FUND FOR THE SCHOOL WILL BE. SO PLEASE GIVE US A FOLLOW.

HOPEFULLY WE WILL SEE LOTS OF SPOOKY GHOSTS AND GHOULS AT THE DISCO! 🧛🏻‍♀️🎵

CONTACT US:  
EMAIL: [FOTS@THAKEHAMS.CO.UK](mailto:FOTS@THAKEHAMS.CO.UK)  
FB: FRIENDS OF THAKEHAM SCHOOL



Acct name: Friends of Thakeham School  
Sort code: 30-99-93  
Acct no: 03933842

The background of the poster is a dark, stylized illustration of a haunted house with a witch flying on a broomstick to the left. The house has several windows and a large, glowing jack-o'-lantern in the foreground. The overall theme is Halloween.

WITH THE AMAZING  
TOMFOOLERY®  
PROVIDING MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

# Halloween

PLEASE COME IN FANCY DRESS

DRINKS AND SNACKS INCLUDED

## Disco

Friday 25th October  
5pm-6.30pm

Tickets £5

PLEASE PAY AT THE OFFICE BEFORE END OF THE DAY ON THE 4TH OCTOBER

A small version of the FOTS logo is located in the bottom left corner of the poster.

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## Inclusion Newsletter

Dear Families,

In school over the past few weeks we have been introducing and establishing new classroom routines in each class. Routines are really important for a number of reasons both in school and at home. Here are a few things they do:

- Help children feel in control of their environment and know what to expect
- Provide opportunities for children to learn new skills in a safe and familiar setting
- Help children cope with changes in their lives such as illness, family circumstances and growing up/ changing
- Help children to eat and rest well
- Help families keep life calmer and more organised
- Develop positive relationships with parents/ siblings

Routines are simple and easy to create. You could use a family calendar, drawings, short notes or timetables depending on the age of your family to help establish clear routines at home that everyone can follow.

Best wishes, Mrs Stender

# At Thakeham we CARE



## Attendance

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 this academic year to date are:

Beatles Class: **98%**

Wonder Class: **98%**

Marley Class: **97%**

Franklin Class: **97%**

Well done everyone!



# At Thakeham we CARE



## Time to Shine!

If there's anything you would like us to celebrate, please email (with photographs attached) [office@thakehamps.co.uk](mailto:office@thakehamps.co.uk).

Congratulations to Lucy who won the Summer Reading Challenge 'Marvellous Makers' Hunt the Character. She won out of 150 entries and won a new book to add to her growing collection!



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# At Thakeham we CARE

## Dates for Your Diary

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Oct: Harvest Festival service – collection at 3:00pm from St Mary’s Church, Thakeham**

**Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct: Individual school photos / Census Day**

**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Oct: Franklin class trip to Chichester Planetarium**

**Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Oct: Wonder class trip to the Brighton Toy Museum**

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Oct: Halloween School Disco organised by FoTS – tickets available from the office or pay online.**

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Oct-Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov – Half Term**

## Dates with more info to follow nearer the time:

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents’ Evening**

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parents’ Evening**

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Nov – Children in Need Day**

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Nov – whole school flu clinic**

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Dec: Beatles Nativity Play**

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Dec: FoTS Christmas Fayre**

**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: Whole School Nativity**

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec: End of term**

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec-Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan: Winter break**

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan: Start of Spring term**

At Thakeham we CARE



Have a nice Weekend

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105 amazing pupils  
16 inspiring adults  
149 years established  
4 fun-filled classrooms  
1 nurturing school

At Thakeham we CARE

CARE  
courage  
ambition  
respect  
enjoyment



# Join today!

Thakeham Primary School

## Looking for a school place?

Thakeham is unique in the area. Why? We offer a Small School setting but with BIG school facilities and opportunities. Our small size means we really do know each of our 105 pupils. We can nurture them in a way a large school cannot. Our pupils feel safe; they are happy; and they are celebrated for who they are! Our outcomes are well above the National Average in all areas from Early Years through to Year 6. **In short... our pupils are the BEST and achieve the BEST!**

*"My favourite thing about Thakeham is that it is a community. I know every adult will help me, I have so many friends and I know everyone cares." Quote from a current Year 6 pupil.*

*"Pupils and parents recognise the kind and nurturing nature of this school. Pupils feel included and welcome. Staff expertly identify pupils who need support. Behaviour is positive. Developing pupil leadership is given a high priority. Thakeham continues to be a good school." Ofsted 2024.*



Tel:

01903  
740176

**Be THAKEHAM!**  
**Be one of the BEST!**

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



# Was your child born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021?

If so they are eligible to start school  
in September 2025

## 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 7 October 2024.**  
If you would like further advice or  
information, phone: **03330 142 903.**

**Deadline: Wednesday 15 January 2025**

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





# West Sussex SENDIAS Service

Is your child starting primary school or transferring to junior or secondary school in September 2025?

Do you think, for whatever reason, you may struggle with the Admissions process?

## Secondary School

Online applications open:  
Monday 2 September 2024.

Deadline for applying for a secondary school place for your child is:  
Thursday 31 October 2024.

## Primary School (inc. infant/junior)

Online applications open:  
Monday 7 October 2024.

Deadline for applying for a school place for your child is:

Wednesday 15 January 2025.

For more information on the admissions process:  
[www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)

If so, the West Sussex SENDIAS Service can:

- explain the admissions process to you
- help you to make an informed decision about your child's schools of preference
- help you to fill in the online application form.

Please contact the SENDIAS Service:

Helpline: 0330 222 8555

Email: [send.ias@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:send.ias@westsussex.gov.uk)

[www.westsussexsendias.org](http://www.westsussexsendias.org)





## How to apply

If your child's date of birth is between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 it is now time to apply for their school place. You need to apply online by visiting [westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](https://westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)

Please be aware that the email address which you provide will be shared with your preference schools and allocated school, as parents and schools increasingly communicate electronically.

If you do not have access to the internet, free access to apply for a school place is available in all West Sussex libraries.

The website provides information needed for completing your application, including details of all the schools in West Sussex, your catchment school and important information for parents. Please read it carefully before making your application.

There are some benefits to applying online and we strongly advise all parents to do so. However, if you really can't access the internet you can obtain a paper form by calling **03330 142 903**.

Please note, you must provide a valid email address with your application in order to receive the outcome of your school offer.

Apply online at:

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

## You must apply on time

It is very important that you apply before the closing date of **Wednesday 15 January 2025**.

If your application is received after the closing date of **Wednesday 15 January 2025** your chance of securing a place at one of your preference schools could be seriously affected.

Applications received after the closing date of **Wednesday 15 January 2025** are late applications and will only be considered after all those that were received on time.

It is your responsibility as a parent to ensure that your application is received by the Pupil Admission Team on time.



## Your preferences

We advise all parents to think very carefully about their three preferences and to use them wisely.

School places are allocated according to the published oversubscription criteria for that school. This can include criteria such as whether you live in the catchment area, whether there are siblings already at the school and the distance you live from the school.

Please be realistic in your preferences. You have a higher priority for local schools. If you chose an oversubscribed school, the further away you live the less likely you are to be offered a place.

Please note that personal circumstances, such as child care arrangements, are not part of the oversubscription criteria for any school and will not be taken into consideration.

Finally, we always advise parents to include their catchment school as one of their three preferences.

## Admissions – key dates

### Monday 7 October 2024

#### Online applications open.

You must provide an email address to apply. You can apply online for your child's school place by visiting [westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](https://westsussex.gov.uk/admissions).

Schools will have their prospectuses available and will have arranged open events.

### Wednesday 15 January 2025

#### National closing date for starting school applications.

You must submit your completed application by this date. Failure to do so will affect the priority attached to your application.

### Wednesday 16 April 2025

#### National offer day.

Applicants will be notified which school their child is offered by email, where an email address is supplied.

## Making an online application

To make an application using the online system you will need:

- an email address; and
- create an account on Parent Portal if you do not already have an account.

Your Username will be your email address.

Your password must adhere to the following rules. It must:

- be at least 8 characters long;
- have at least one character that is UPPERCASE;
- have at least one character that is lowercase;
- have at least one special character (such as: \* ! \$); and
- have at least one number.

To apply for a school place please visit [westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](https://westsussex.gov.uk/admissions) or call **03330 142 903**.

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



## Starting school in September 2025

Deadline:  
**Wednesday 15 January 2025**



Stay in touch

- West Sussex Matters
- @WSCCNews
- wscvideo



# Little Sips BIG ADVENTURES

Dear parent/guardian,

As you may be aware your child's school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised\* cost.

If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at [www.coolmilk.com/register](http://www.coolmilk.com/register). Your child(ren) will continue to receive free milk whilst under the age of 5 and Cool Milk will get in touch with further information by email shortly before their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.

For children who are already over 5, it's not too late – our scheme is flexible! As well as being able to register and make payment straight away, you can join and cancel the scheme at any time. We offer yearly, termly and half termly payment periods and a recurring payment option to give you one less thing to remember.

If you already have an online Cool Milk account for a sibling, you can manage your account, make payment and add extra children by logging in at [www.coolmilk.com/parents](http://www.coolmilk.com/parents).

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](http://www.coolmilk.com/contact) or give us a call on the number listed below – we're here to help!

Kind regards,

*Cool Milk*

☎: 0800 321 3248

🌐: [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



SCAN TO REGISTER

\*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DHSC via the Nursery Milk Scheme. Milk for over-5s is subsidised by Defra via the School Milk Scheme.





# THE DANCE HUT

Classes for children and adults of all ages and abilities

- ★ Ballet ★ Tap ★ Theatrecraft ★ Adult classes ★
- ★ Contemporary ★ Boyz-only ★ Pre school ★
- ★ Musical Theatre ★ Street Jazz ★

Regular exam and performance opportunities

We aim to instil a love of Music, Dance and Theatre in a nurturing, happy and safe environment

Highly experienced and fully qualified teachers

100% exam pass rate



For more information or to book a free taster class please contact:

[www.thedancehut.co.uk](http://www.thedancehut.co.uk)  
[hello@thedancehut.co.uk](mailto:hello@thedancehut.co.uk)  
07712730333  
[facebook.com/Dancehut](https://facebook.com/Dancehut)

All staff hold full enhanced DBS & First Aid certificates

Over 250 students







## Adult & Child Classes

Sundays at Steyning Grammar School,  
Storrington  
6-12months  
12-24months  
24months +

We are pleased to offer a FREE introductory lesson to all new bookings

For more information please contact us at [swimsafeschool@btinternet.com](mailto:swimsafeschool@btinternet.com)



## Swim Safe School

Providing a range of swimming lessons to suit all ages and abilities.

Small Groups (maximum of 3 swimmers)

Private Lessons

Adult & Baby/Child Classes

**Swim Safe School would love to offer A FREE INTRODUCTORY SWIMMING LESSON**

Our lessons are run at the Steyning Grammar School term time on Sunday's from 0900

Contact us  
[Swimsafeschool@btinternet.com](mailto:Swimsafeschool@btinternet.com) 07539 952135

[www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries) West Sussex Libraries @WSCCLibraries

## Construction Club

Get creative. Get imaginative.

Get building!

Suitable for children aged 6+ years  
FREE weekly drop-in sessions

Parents and carers are asked to remain with their child during this activity



Every Saturday  
1.30 - 3.00pm



Storrington Library  
Ryecroft Lane, Storrington RH20 4PA  
01903 839050





# NRG JUNIORS NETBALL CLUB

We are recruiting new players in our Junior sections - age 7 and above

Come along to Worthing College on a Saturday morning for a FREE training session with our experienced coaches and join in the fun!

Email [admin@nrgnetball.co.uk](mailto:admin@nrgnetball.co.uk) for further details



## Strength and Motion Fitness Classes



Thakeham Village Hall

**Mondays**

Yoga 1245-1355

Gentle Weights 1400-1455

Relaxation 1500-1530

**Tuesdays**

Yogalates 1030-1130

**Thursdays**

Pilates 0920-1015

Pilates 1020-1115 (term time only)

**Fridays**

Yoga 700-800

Thakeham Primary School

**Mondays**

Yogalates 1800-1900

Laurie Apted Building Southwater

**Fridays**

Pilates 1100-1200

For more details contact Sarah

Tel: 07878 366950 Email: [sarahpasby@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahpasby@btinternet.com)



## FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

# SOCCER SCHOOL



Fun, engaging, inclusive, safe football activity for boys and girls of all abilities, during the school holidays. Book now by either scanning the QR code or using the below website and specific course code.

[chelseafcfootballdevelopment.com](http://chelseafcfootballdevelopment.com)  
course code: SS-STCFC-X-37

Area	Venue	Activity Dates
Sussex Steyning	Steyning Town Football Club	Thursday 31st October Friday 1st November
Timings	Ages	Cost
Start - 9.30am Finish - 3.00pm	5-12 Years Old	£48 Full Course