

THORN GROVE GAZETTE

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026



Happy Friday!

What a fantastic week it has been as we well and truly settle into the swing of TG school life, with our pupils showing incredible teamwork every step of the way! Out in the fresh air, our Year 6 team threw themselves into Forest School, taking on outdoor challenges that built both practical skills and strong bonds. Indoors, our younger learners were completely captivated by their superhero topic, bringing imagination and enthusiasm to their tasks. It has been another busy week, and we couldn't be prouder of the behaviour, work ethic and **collaboration** within our teams.

To top off a brilliant week, we officially selected our new Upper Key Stage 2 pupil leaders. We are so excited to see the impact they will make as they support us in promoting reading, languages, history, and computing across the school.

Have a great weekend, Miss Charlotte Brierley

Key Dates

- Wed 23rd Sept - EYFS Dental Visit
- Thu 24th Sept - Y6 NCMP Screening
- Mon 5th Oct - Y3 Forest Schools Day
- Tue 6th Oct - UKS2 Librarian Training
- Wed 7th Oct - Parents Evening 1
- Thurs 8th Oct - Parents Evening 2
- Mon 19th Oct - Y4 Forest Schools Day
- Wed 21st Oct - Individual School Photos

Star of the Week



Assembly Focus

This week, our children were treated to two exciting assemblies that brought the hall to life with sound, curiosity, and hands-on discovery.



First, the Front Row Music assembly demonstrated that picking up an instrument can support wellbeing, build lasting self-confidence, and offer a creative outlet in a fun and exciting way.



The excitement continued with a dynamic science showcase packed with live experiments and "wow" moments that proved just how fun science can be. The event served as a fantastic preview for our popular After-School Science Club.



Weekly Attendance

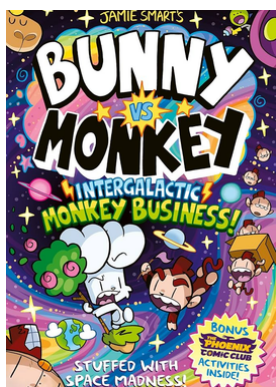
Together we nurture curious, respectful, aspirational individuals.

Y6 Forest School

North America had a fantastic time at forest school this week. They had a range of activities to choose from and it was wonderful to observe how well they **collaborated** with others and supported their peers in a number of ways. The children made wooden vehicles, wooden initial letters, friendship bracelets, den building and a whole host more. The mud kitchen and tree swing, as well as climbing trees were definitely the most popular things of the day- not forgetting the marshmallows and hot chocolate!!



Weekly Librarian Reads



Our recommended book is Bunny vs Monkey by Jamie Smart. There are lots of different stories, but our favourite is Bunny vs Monkey: Intergalactic Monkey Business. They are comic strip books and they have small chapters. The main event is always at the end of each story where you find out why they have the different titles. We really like these books because they are funny, and we like how the pictures tell the story too - Noah & Madison, Y5 Librarians

Spooktacular October Half-Term Holiday Clubs

(run by LSC) are now available to book.

Book via [this link](#) for a discounted rate of £99 per week (or £34 per day).

LSC HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

October Half-Term Holiday Clubs

Calling all little witches, wizards, ghosts, and ghouls! Get ready for a hauntingly good week filled with creepy crafts, scary science experiments, spooky sports, and thrilling team challenges and a frightfully fun Halloween party.

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October*

08:00 - 17:00

Reception - Year 6

From £27 per day

Book a full week for £99

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You Said, We Did!

A huge thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent parent survey.

There was so much for us to read, reflect on and, importantly, celebrate. We really appreciate the honesty and thought that went into your responses and comments.

One thing that really shone through was how strongly you feel that we value the whole child at Thorn Grove. It was lovely to hear that our focus on children's emotional wellbeing is recognised and valued by families. Your comments also highlighted the inclusive nature of our school and the strong sense of community that we have here. These are things that matter enormously to us, so it was wonderful to hear that you feel the same.

As well as celebrating what is going well, we also want to be clear about what we heard from you and what we are going to do as a result. So, in true 'You Said, We Did' style, here are some of the key themes.

You said... change can feel unsettling.

We know that Thorn Grove is entering a really significant period of change, with the new build and academisation both on the horizon. We completely understand that, alongside the excitement about what these changes will bring, there are also some understandable nerves and questions.

We did... We have made managing change and communication one of the key areas within our school development plan for 2026–2027. We know we need to work hard to keep you informed with regular, useful and meaningful updates. We don't want you to feel that you are hearing things second-hand or wondering what is happening behind the scenes.

Where we can, we will share progress, explain what is happening next and give you a sense of what the changes will mean for our children and families. We also feel strongly that the children need to be part of this journey too. Where appropriate, we will involve them, listen to their thoughts and make sure they understand and feel part of the exciting changes taking place at their school. There will be lots more to share as the year progresses, and we will keep you updated along the way.

You said... behaviour and relationships matter.

We also heard your feedback around our new approach to behaviour and the implementation of our Behaviour and Relationships Policy.

We did... The implementation has been successful, and we continue to monitor how the approach is working across school. A really important part of this is making sure we listen to both our children and our staff and use what they tell us to help us develop our practice further. This year, we have already started to focus particularly on the idea of connection.

We believe that positive relationships and a strong sense of connection are fundamental to supporting children with their behaviour. When children feel known, understood, valued and connected, we are in a much stronger position to help them manage challenges and make positive choices.

This will be an important area of our work throughout 2026–2027, and we will share more with you about this as the year goes on. And finally... thank you for helping us to keep moving forward. We really do value your feedback.