THORN GROVE GAZETTE

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2026

Happy Friday!

It has been a busy, rewarding, and action-packed half-term! We have welcomed several new faces to our school community - including new staff members, pupils, and families - and it has been wonderful to see how quickly everyone has settled in. Through great teamwork, shared enthusiasm, and fantastic support from our school families, our children have accomplished so much together.

As we reach the end of this half-term, a well-deserved rest awaits us all. I hope you enjoy quality time with loved ones, recharge your batteries, and stay safe over the holiday. Don't forget - we look forward to seeing many of you dressed up and ready to party at the Spooky Disco!

Wishing you all a happy, relaxing half-term.

Miss Charlotte Brierley

Key Dates

Fri 23rd Oct - Spooky Disco 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Mon 2nd Nov - INSET Day

Tues 3rd Nov - Pupils Return to School

Mon 9th Nov - Y5 Forest Schools Day

Tue 17th Nov - Y6 Whitworth Art Gallery Trip

Fri 4th Dec - Christmas Fair 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Wed 9th Dec - EYFS Nativity x2

Wed 16th Dec - Odd Socks Day

Star of the Week



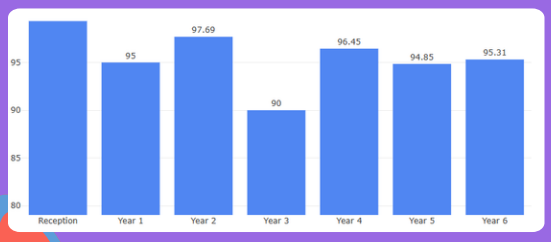
Assembly Focus

On Monday, our assembly focused on mutual respect, one of our core British values.

We looked at the inspiring example of Marcus Rashford, discussing how his respect for others - and the respect he has earned in return - has made a real difference in supporting families and strengthening communities across the country. Through his story, we explored how showing mutual respect can create positive change both in our school and in society as a whole.



Weekly Attendance



Together we nurture curious, respectful, aspirational individuals

ELS Book Bus Visit

This week we had our annual visit from the very exciting ELS Book Bus! Pupils from every year group, from the youngest to the oldest, were able to visit and choose books for their class to keep for the whole year. There was a huge range with most genres you can think of - the staff were really helpful and we loved helping the younger children choose. TG Librarians - Sofia, Anna, Noah & Madison






Early Years Stay & Play

This week was our first Stay and Play for the new academic year. Our focus was 'Fine Motor Control' . The Nursery children showcased their dough disco skills, whilst Reception used their magic wands to create letter shapes to support their letter formation. The parents and carers engaged with their children to explore lots of activities that help pre-writing. From twisting, patting and picking up small pieces, to rolling, pressing and pinching. Thank you to all the parents and carers for your continued support. we can't wait for the next one






Y4 Forest Schools Day

On Monday, Team South America had a lovely day outdoors, and the sun shone all day. Everyone enjoyed getting involved in a wide range of practical and creative activities. There was plenty to choose from, including wax dipping, whittling, making friendship bracelets and creating Halloween-inspired wooden creations, as well as much more. These activities gave everyone the chance to be creative, develop practical skills, work together and find out more about the natural world.
We finished the day with marshmallow toasting, which was a lovely way to share time together before bringing our outdoor learning activities to an end. We cannot wait for our next forest school session.





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Thorn Grove School Development Plan 2026

We are always looking for ways to make Thorn Grove even better, and our focus areas for this year's school development plan directly reflect that commitment.

📚 Curriculum & Teaching

- Speaking & Listening: Enhancing classroom discussion and parent partnerships to help all pupils become articulate, expressive communicators.
- Geography: Updating the curriculum with hands-on fieldwork and structured, enquiry-based learning.

🌟 Achievement & Success for Every Child

- Spelling: Adapting lessons to reduce cognitive load, making writing accessible and manageable for all pupils.
- Targeted Support: Using early intervention to identify individual strengths and remove learning barriers promptly.

🧒 Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

- Early Intervention: Implementing early screening in Nursery and Reception to build confidence and help every child reach a Good Level of Development (GLD).

🌍 Personal Development & Well-being

- Core Values: Embedding respect, kindness, and individual liberty into daily life to develop responsible community members.
- Careers & Ambition: Introducing diverse career pathways to inspire pupils, challenge stereotypes, and connect learning to future opportunities.

🤝 Attendance, Behaviour & Inclusion

- Consistent Behaviour Standards: Ensuring all staff use unified, positive language aligned with our Behaviour and Relationships Policy.

🛡️ Safeguarding and Leadership

- Safeguarding: Regular staff training to maintain a secure and safe environment for every child.
- New Facilities: Partnering with the DfE and Galliford Try for a seamless transition into our new sustainable school building without disrupting learning.
- Trust Integration: Joining our new Trust to strengthen central support while preserving our school's unique identity and high standards.

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Recycle 4 School – Collection Day: Thursday, 5th November 2026

We are taking part in Recycle 4 School, a free national programme that diverts unwanted clothing and shoes from landfill while raising funds for our school!

Collection Date: Thursday, 5th November 2026
Collection Time: 9:00 AM

What to do: Please bring your donated clothing and shoes in bags to school on the morning of 5th November only, ready for collection at 9am.

Thank you for helping us protect the environment and support our school community!





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