



Newsletter

It has been a real pleasure to welcome everyone back to school this September and to feel Tillingbourne alive again with the energy, laughter and learning. The start of a new academic year always brings with it a sense of fresh beginnings and exciting possibilities, and this year is no exception. Our mission statement – love learning, find your strengths and talents, achieve more than you thought possible – captures the aspiration we hold for every child, and it is wonderful to see this already taking shape in the first few weeks of term.



A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Year 3 children and their families. Starting at a new school is a big step, but our Year 3s have shown remarkable confidence, resilience and enthusiasm as they have settled into life at Tillingbourne. We were delighted to see so many families at the coffee morning on Wednesday; it was a lovely opportunity to meet, talk and strengthen the partnerships that are so vital to your children's success.

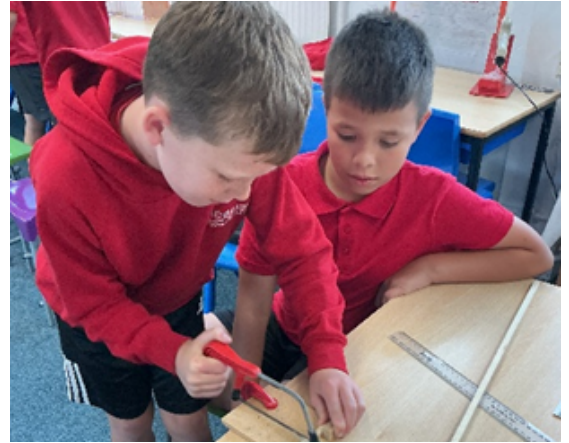
As the autumn term moves forward, we are also preparing for our Harvest celebrations. This is a time of gratitude and giving, and once again we are supporting Chilworth and Bramley Foodbanks with donations from our generous families. The collection is already underway, and every contribution – big or small – makes a real difference to those in need within our local community. Please do send in what you can to help us make this a truly meaningful harvest.

Another exciting development this term has been the election of our new pupil leaders. From House Captains to Eco Champions, Well-being Ambassadors, Digital Leaders, School Council members and a host of other important roles, our children are stepping forward to take on responsibilities that give them a voice and a platform to lead change within our school. These roles embody one of our three core rights as a Rights Respecting School – the right to be heard – and we are proud to see so many children embracing this responsibility with enthusiasm and a real sense of purpose.

As we begin this new school year together, there is so much to look forward to. With the commitment and creativity of our staff, the energy and talents of our children, and the ongoing support of our families, I have no doubt that we will achieve more than we ever thought possible.

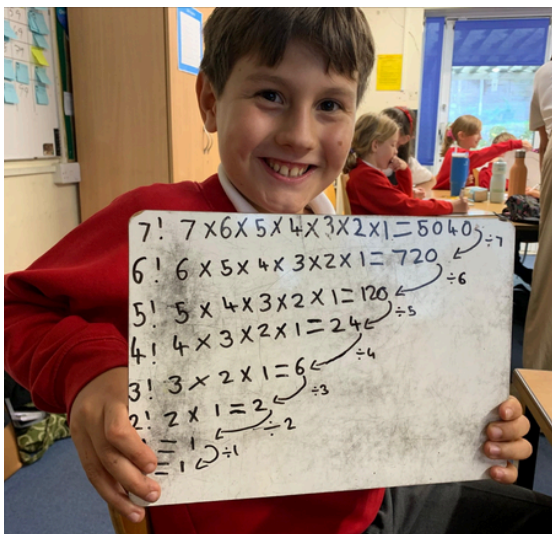
Year 6 Building Anderson Shelters

Year 6 have been busy developing their Design and Technology skills in preparation for creating model Anderson shelters. Pupils have been learning how to safely use a range of tools, including bench hooks, clamps, saws and glue guns, to cut, shape and secure materials. They also practised joining techniques such as butt joints and mitre joints, gaining confidence in working with wood. This exciting project has not only strengthened their practical skills but also deepened their understanding of the structures used during World War II.



Aim High Maths Challenge

On Monday 29th September, 11 children from years 5 and 6 attended a maths day at Chandler School along with two other schools. It was an exciting day. When we first entered the room, we were presented with some extremely advanced questions and asked to think of strategies to help us solve them. A highlight of the day was learning a new operation – factorial. This was new to all of us and we were told most students don't learn this till A Level! We used this to help us solve a puzzle called Four 4's where we had to make all the numbers from 1 to 100 using any operation but only the digits 4, 4, 4 and 4. Between us we managed a lot of them! We wrapped up the day with great memories and a new operation in mind!



Henry – Year 6

Online safety

Now more than ever, ensuring our children are safe online is one of the most important responsibilities we share as parents and educators. The online world offers incredible opportunities for learning, creativity and connection – but it also brings risks that can sometimes feel overwhelming. Supporting children to navigate the digital world with confidence and security is an essential part of helping them grow and thrive.



We are fortunate to have access to excellent advice from Daniel Sykes, Cyber Protect Officer at Surrey Police, who recently spoke at a safeguarding meeting with local schools. He is an engaging presenter and has created free training sessions for parents, packed with practical advice that is easy to put into practice at home. The sessions – The Digital Dilemma: Keeping Children Safe Online – cover a range of important topics, including:

- Email & Mobile Phones – spotting scams and protecting children from common online tricks.
- Social Media & Chatrooms – understanding risks linked to social engineering, disinformation, AI, privacy and account compromises.
- Gaming – recognising potential dangers, monitoring use and setting safe boundaries.
- Password Mastery & Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) – simple steps for securing accounts to keep your family safe.

We would encourage all parents to take part in this valuable training. It will give you the tools and confidence to support your child in making safe, responsible choices online.

👉 Click the link below to find out more and book a free session: The Digital Dilemma – Keeping Children Safe Online

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/the-digital-dilemma-keeping-children-safe-online-3386699=1*za3ajt*_up*MQ..*_ga*MTExMDYOMzY2Ni4xNzUxMjgyMDk3*_ga_TQVES5V6SH*cze3NTEyODlwOTcckbzEkZzAkdDE3NTEyODlwOTckajYwJGwwJGgw

forest School

Another year starts with our new year 3 classes beginning to explore our Tillingbourne woods. 3PW have enjoyed pond dipping and learning how to play Eagle Eyes and Bat & Moth! They have also been very busy at woodland crafts creating amazing God's eyes and Hapa Zoma flags. Meanwhile, our year 5 children have been learning how to use a Kelly kettle safely and making nettle tea from our woodland nettles and mint tea from our garden grown mint 😊. They have also been helping look after our woodland by removing litter and cutting back nettles and brambles from our pathways.



Cookery

All year groups have been busy in the cookery room this term. Year 3 have been getting used to our equipment and have been making simple Honey Cakes, while year 4 have been learning about how the climate affects what people have traditionally eaten and have been making Mexican guacamole and tomato salsa. Those not cooking were creating a yummy food pyramid with their favourite foods from Mexico and the UK. Year 5 and 6 have been harvesting blackberries which have been used in Blackberry cookies for year 5 and in eggless World War2 style blackberry and apple cakes with year 6. The year 6 children have been learning about the impact of World War 2 on the country's diet with rationing, Dig for Victory and Hedgerow Harvest campaign which began in 1943.



Sporting Success - Congratulations Harry!

We are always proud to celebrate the achievements of our pupils outside of school, and this month we are delighted to share some fantastic news about Harry in Year 5. At Farncombe Cricket Club's recent awards evening, Harry was honoured with not one, but two awards: "Under 9s Player of the Year" and the coveted "Player's Player", voted for by his teammates.



This was Harry's first full season playing competitive cricket against other local teams, and he even stepped up to play in several hard-ball matches with the full cricket kit. His coaches and teammates were clearly impressed with his performance, commitment and attitude – but most importantly, Harry himself has really enjoyed the experience.

Winning both awards was a huge surprise for him, and he was rightly very proud to receive such recognition. We look forward to celebrating with him in school as he brings in his trophies to show his teachers and classmates.

Well done, Harry – a brilliant achievement that reflects not only your talent but also your sportsmanship and love of the game.

Hockey Morning at Urnfield

Tillingbourne pupils had a fantastic morning of hockey on Tormead's brand-new astroturf at the Urnfield Sports Ground. The event was a wonderful opportunity for the children to develop their dribbling and passing skills, supported by expert coaching from Tormead School and Guildford Hockey Club.

A highlight of the day was the chance to meet Olympian Nick Page, who represented Ireland at the Paris 2024 Games. His presence inspired pupils and added a special touch to an already exciting and enriching experience.



Year 3 - Stone Age to Iron Age Workshop

Early in September, Year 3 took part in a fascinating day of workshops led by Chertsey Museum to support their history topic, Stone Age to Iron Age. The children were able to explore a wide range of artefacts and activities that brought the period to life. Throughout the day, pupils tried their hand at creating cave art, investigated different types of stone tools, and examined examples of clothing and shoes from the time. They also enjoyed handling Bronze Age tools, solving puzzles with mystery objects, having a go at wattle weaving, and studying animal bones and footprints. It was a hands-on, engaging experience that helped the children build their understanding of life in prehistoric Britain – sparking plenty of curiosity and questions along the way!



Upcoming Events

Autumn term 2025

- 13th October – Year 4 parent consultations
- 14th October – Year 6 Parent consultations
- 20th October – Year 3 parent consultations
- 21st October – Year 5 Parent consultations
- 23rd October – Maths open morning – Parents invited into school
- 23rd October – PTA event – Halloween disco
- 24th October – INSET day – School closed
- 27th October – 31st October – Half term
- 7th November – Year 6 Diwali performance
- 4th December – PTA event – Christmas Market
- 5th December – PTA event – Christmas fair
- 16th December – Christmas play – Years 5 and 3
- 17th December – Christmas play – Years 6 and 4
- 19th December – Last day of term – start of the Christmas holidays



FOR MORE VISIT: www.tillingbourne.surrey.sch.uk