

Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School Newsletter Friday 16th September, 2022



Laying the foundations for a bright future

Website link: www.htpfederation.co.uk



Head Teacher's Special Mention Awards

- Butterflies Class ~Sebastian Buck
 - ~ Otters Class ~ Tilly Andrews
 - ~ Hares Class ~ Charlotte Minifie

A little note from Mrs FitzGerald...

A busy week has passed here at school and the children are settling well, showing positive learning attitudes and behaviour ~ great job everyone!

We are glad lots of you were able to attend our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions this week. We hope these, alongside the Class Newsletters, have provided you with information on what your child is learning at school and dispels some of the mystery of what a 'typical' day is like. Armed with this knowledge and the regular updates from the Teaching Teams on Class Dojo we hope you will be able to better unpick the "I can't remember" and "I've forgotten" responses parents frequently tell us you get when you ask "What did you learn at school today?"

In response to parental feedback from our recent survey, we have made some changes to the format of this weekly newsletter, including the font, text colour and backgrounds. We have also identified dates for forthcoming events for the autumn term to support parents with arranging their work commitments etc...

Any feedback on these adjustments as well as any other suggestions are most welcome, please come along to our Parent Forum scheduled for Wednesday 28th September, straight after drop-off, it would be lovely to see you!

Best regards, Mrs FitzGerald

REMINDER ~ As was announced last weekend and much publicised subsequently, the official date of the State Funeral is MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER and the school will be closed as a mark of respect.

Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School will reopen on Tuesday 20th September.

BREAKFAST CLUB REMINDER!

Please remember the format of this club has changed and as a result, breakfast is no longer provided. It is really important the children have breakfast before they come to school so they have a full tummy and are ready for the rigours of a day full of learning!

TRIPS / VISITS / CHARITY EVENTS

We are aware families may be feeling the impact of the much publicised 'cost of living' crisis and experiencing varying degrees of economic hardship. It is with this in mind that we will be undertaking to have one 'optional extra' enhancing trip / visit linked to the children's learning rather than one per term this academic year whilst families navigate this time of financial uncertainty.

Our curriculum will be no less rich or engaging with this adjustment, our teaching teams will, ensure our themes and learning remain engrossing, exciting and immersive!

Additionally, we have reviewed the charity events with which we will engage and share here, in advance, the contributions parents may choose to support with us at school:

Friday 30th September ~ Non-uniform Day for Macmillan ~ £1 donation

Monday 16th October to Wednesday 19th October ~ Food donations for Haverhill Food Bank

Friday 18th November ~ Children in Need Day (non-uniform) ~ £1 donation

Thursday 15th December ~ Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children ~ $\pounds 1$ donation

NB: Participation and contributions are voluntary.

REMINDER: FOR YOUR INFORMATION

On a Wednesday morning, we have a short staff briefing at 8.30am to share anything pertinent about the day / week. This meeting includes <u>all staff</u> and means the School Office may be unmanned for a short amount of time. If you are reporting an absence or need to speak to a member of staff please telephone before 8.30am and waiting at the office, please be patient, a member of staff will return!



SCHOOL MEAL REMINDER

The cost of a school meal in Years 3 to 6 is £2.30 (a week is £11.50.) **School meals MUST be paid for in advance**. Payment is required online where a minimum of five meals must be purchased at any one time. The cost of the first half of the Autumn term is £80.50.

Data Collection Forms

Please return these to the school office as a matter of urgency. With safeguarding in mind, it is vital we have a minimum of two emergency contact numbers for all pupils in order that we can make contact with a responsible adult should a safeguarding and/or welfare concern arise. Many thanks in advance.

REMINDER!

Please be sure to name all uniform, particularly ties, jumpers and cardigans. This helps us ensure misplaced items can be returned quickly ~ thank you for your support in this matter.

NON-UNIFORM DAY IN SUPPORT OF MACMILLAN FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

Rather than our usual cake sale, which we appreciate can be quite costly; we will be inviting the children to attend school in non-uniform on this day at the cost of £1.00. Funds raised will be donated to this important charity. During the day, the children will have the opportunity to decorate and eat a cake provided by the school.

PARENT FORUM ~ Wednesday 28th September, straight after drop-off.

I am hoping to re-establish our Parent Forum and to this end, the next session will be on Monday 26th September, straight after drop off in the morning. This is an informal group, which typically meets termly. Every parent / carer with a child enrolled at the school is automatically a member and can come along.

The purpose of Parent Forum is to support parents in being involved in their child's school life. We share information on developments in school, these are linked to learning as well as the learning environment, we consult on policy and it is an opportunity for parents to raise issues and give their views.

YOUTH SPORT TRUST

Please find attached a link to the latest magazine from the Youth Sports Trust. It has lots of good ideas, hints and tips for getting active! Also, don't forget Wednesday 21st September is NATIONAL FITNESS DAY!

https://ystcms.youthsporttrust.org/media/okhfijjl/together-august-2022.pdf

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Others will follow but I know lots of you will want to get these onto the calendar as soon as possible. The team and I are continuing to add to our schedule with special days, visitors and trips, including some additional 'share' opportunities ~ we will keep you posted!

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Wednesday 21st September to Friday 23rd September

YEAR 5 & 6 KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL TRIP
Years 2 to 4 Arts & Humanities Focused Activities

Wednesday 28th September ~ PARENT FORUM

Come along straight after drop-off, have a cup of coffee and tell us how we are doing!

Friday 30th September ~ Non-uniform Day in support of Macmillan

AUTUMN TERM 2022 continued...

Thursday 6th October ~ National Poetry Day

There will be lots of poetry-focused learning across the school today. At 2:15pm in the afternoon, we are hosting 'share' sessions and parents and carers are invited to attend. Join your child and share their learning as part of this day.

Friday 7th October ~ Hares Class Family Celebration Presentation at 2.45pm

Parents of children in Hares Class <u>only</u> are invited.

Friday 14th October ~ Otters Class Family Celebration Presentation at 2.45pm

Parents of children in Otters Class <u>only</u> are invited.

Thursday 20th October ~ HARVEST SERVICE at the church (TBC)

FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER ~ END OF HALF-TERM HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 24th October ~ Friday 28th October

Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November
PARLIAMENT LEARNING WEEK including School Council Elections

Monday 7th November to Thursday 10th November ~ PARENT CONSULTATIONS

(Individual Class Teachers will confirm specific days and times available via Class Dojo)

Find out how your child is doing in class with their academic targets.

Friday 4th November ~ Celebration Presentation including introduction of School Council Representatives at 2.45pm Parents of elected School Council Representatives <u>only</u> are invited.

Tuesday 15th November ~ PROSPECTIVE PARENTS OPEN MORNING ~ 9.15am until 12pm

Friday 11th November ~ REMEMBRANCE DAY

Monday 14th November - World Kindness Day, coinciding with the start of anti-bullying week and concluding with Friday 18th November - Children in Need Day

Friday 25th November ~ Butterflies Class Family Celebration Presentation at 2.45pm

Parents of children in Butterflies Class <u>only</u> are invited.

Thursday 1st December ~ CHRISTINGLE SERVICE at the church (TBC)

Wednesday 14th December ~ Christmas Jumper Day (TBC)

Friday 16th December ~ 'FANCY FRIDAY' ~ end of term parties (& party clothes!)

Friday 16th December ~ LAST DAY OF THE AUTUMN TERM