

Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School Newsletter Friday 10th March, 2023



Laying the foundations for a bright future

Website link: www.htpfederation.co.uk

A little note from Mrs FitzGerald...

Wow, this term is disappearing at a rapid rate! I am so impressed with the efforts the children are putting into their learning. Before we know it, Easter will be here and the spring term will be ending!

The children have continued to work hard this week, undertaking some assessment activities in their classes. The outcomes of these will contribute to the 'whole picture' of how they are progressing, something which will be shared at our parent consultation meetings scheduled for Tuesday 21st March.

We are looking forward to British Science Week next week as well as World Poetry Day the week after!

Fingers crossed for some warmer weather ~ this week has been rather chilly!! Enjoy the weekend!

Warmest regards, Mrs FitzGerald

A note from Mrs Schwager!

Dear Parents and Children,

Since joining the Hundon and Thurlow Federation back in 2014, I have been lucky enough to work at both schools and have loved every minute of it! Thurlow has been my home for the last three years and as was the case at Hundon, it has been incredibly rewarding.

I will leave with some amazing memories of the children across both schools and my wonderful colleagues that I get to call friends. It has been a real pleasure to work for the Federation for the past 8 years and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here.

Having spent the last 20 years teaching, predominately working in Early Years and Key Stage One and, taking on the role as Early Years Lead across the Federation in more recent years, I now feel the time is right for me to move onto pastures new and start a new chapter in my career. I will continue to work within Education, as it is my passion, but taking on an Early Years Advisory role within Suffolk County Council.

Hundon and Thurlow will always hold a very special place in my heart and I will miss you all.

Thank you for making me feel so welcome and for all support you have given me to help teach your wonderful children in Butterflies Class most recently, as well as leading Acorn Class for 6 years!

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Schwager

STAFFING UPDATE

With this news in mind, I know you, along with myself and the Federation Team will wish Mrs Schwager the very best as she moves on from our Federation.

We are also saying a fond farewell to our Federation Bursar, Mrs Price, who has been with our sister school, Hundon, for close to 22 years, having started at the same time as her son who is now 26!

Whilst we are currently considering various options for the maintenance of the Federation's financial responsibilities, Mrs Sanders and Mrs Mitson will continue to provide their excellent administration support at both our schools and we will be recruiting to strengthen the Federation's administration team.

Mrs Schwager is advancing to a highly coveted (and rarely available) role within the Local Authority. It means many more settings and the children therein will benefit from her knowledge and expertise. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Read-Graves, who recently joined the Federation team with specialisms in Early Years and Key Stage One, to take over Butterflies Class Teacher responsibilities at Thurlow, working alongside Mrs Schwager for the remainder of the spring term to ensure a smooth transition for the children.

In my last staffing update, I shared we were interviewing for our new Federation Sports Instructor and I am pleased to share with you that we have appointed Miss Rachel Jeffs to the post. Miss Jeffs has a wealth of experience in sports development, fitness, PE instruction and sports coaching, including overseeing the achievement of the School Games Mark to primary and secondary schools as the Suffolk School Games Organiser for our locality previously. Whilst Miss Jeffs will be starting with us shortly, the children's high quality learning in PE will continue with Class Teachers maintaining the provision.

In order to maintain and enhance our teaching and learning provision we are continuing to recruit to add expertise and capacity to both teaching and learning support teams.

If you have any concerns or worries regarding this or any other matter please come and see me, my door is always open. Mrs F

SEVERE WEATHER

Every effort will be made to keep the school open in severe weather. The school would only close if it is no longer safe for staff and pupils to travel to school and be on site.

We recognise that it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Therefore, we will make every effort to prepare for severe weather.

Information about school closure will be posted:

- On Class Dojo
- On local radio
- Via the Suffolk County Council website: http://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk/
- Via our Facebook page
- On ParentMail

Parent Consultation Meetings ~ Reception to Year 6

These are taking place on **Tuesday 21st March** with appointments available from 1:30pm. Parents are requested to sign up for appointments on their child's 'sign up' sheet. These will be **available from Tuesday 7th March** at the front of school.

Appointments are 10 minutes in length and focus on your child's learning and progress since the start of the year, following on from those offered in the Autumn Term and their Pupil Progress Checks in December.

Please support your fellow parents and your child's Class Teacher by being mindful of the time ~ many thanks for your support with this!

	YEAR 2		
Key Stage One	Reading and Maths Assessments (Y2) Teacher Assessed Writing (Y2) Teacher Assessed Science (Y2)	ADMINISTERED IN MAY	
	VEAD 1	ADMINISTERED	
	YEAR 1 Phonics Check	Week beginning 12th June	
Key Stage Tw o	YEAR 4 Multiplication Tables Check	ADMINISTERED Week beginning 12th June	
	YEAR 6 KEY STAGE TWO ASSESSMENTS Tuesday 9th May ~ English Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling (GPS) & Spelling Wednesday 10th May ~ English Reading Paper Thursday 11th May ~ Maths Paper 1 (arithmetic) & Paper 2 (Reasoning) Friday 12th May ~ Maths Paper 3 Reasoning	ADMINISTERED Week beginning 8th May	

We will be scheduling information sessions for parents as well as additional workshops / 'booster' sessions for the children in the coming weeks as necessary.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Please check back regularly as additional dates added as and when activities / visits are confirmed!

SPRING TERM 2 ~ 2023

Monday 13th March to Friday 17th March ~ British Science Week

There will be a 'share' opportunity linked to Science Week on the Friday afternoon in the form of an exhibition ~ more details to follow

Friday 17th March ~ Science Exhibition ~ 'share' afternoon ~ more details will follow

Friday 17th March ~ PTA Mothers & Special Others Gift Stall ~ see included flyer

Tuesday 21st March ~ WORLD POETRY DAY

Tuesday 21st March ~ Parent Consultations

An opportunity to follow-up with your child's Class Teacher on their academic and personal progress, following on from those in the Autumn Term and their Pupil Progress Check in December.

Wednesday 23rd March ~ WORLD POETRY DAY

Thursday 30th March ~ Our EASTER SERVICE at St Peter's Church at 2.15pm

Friday 31st March ~ END OF HALF-TERM





EASTER SPORTS CAMPS

0

SAMUEL WARD SPORTS DOME, HAVERHILL

FOOTBALL FUN CAMP	Dates: 5th, 6th, 12th & 13th April	9am - 3.30pm	£15.00
INFLATABLE FUN CAMP	Dates: 3rd, 4th, 11th & 12th April	9am - 3.30pm	£15.00
MEGA SPORTS CAMP	Dates: 4th April	9am - 3.30pm	£15.00
NERF & LASER	Dates: 3rd & 11th April	9am - 3.30pm	£15.00

*Early drop off available from 8.30am £3.00

BOOK ONLINE WWW.PRESTIGESPORTSDEVELOPMENT.COM

Mothers & Special Others

Gift stall Friday 17th March

We will be holding our annual Mother's Day and Special Others Stall on Friday 17th March

As previously if your child would like to participate they need to provide a donation in the form of a small gift and £2.00 in a named envelope. This gift could be a small set of toiletries, (unused & packaged,) other cosmetics, bubble bath, a box of chocolates, a jar of sweets, cups, mugs and so on. No alcohol or alcoholic chocolates please.

The children will then have the opportunity to choose a gift on Friday 17th March in school, have it wrapped by our PTA volunteers and will bring it home ready for Mother's Day.

Please note: both a gift AND £2 are required for your child to take part.

Donations for this event will be accepted as of Monday 13th March but will need to be in school by Wednesday 15th March at the latest.

If you can spare a couple of hours on Friday 17th March to assist with running the stall and help wrap gifts please speak with a member of the PTA.

RECYCLE IT!

WE WANT YOUR OLD CLOTHES, TOYS AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

We provide the bags for you to fill.
Collection is Thursday 30th March
Please leave your bags at Thurlow Village
Hall by 9.30am on the day only

SCHOOL TERM DATES: NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 ~ 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4th September to Wednesday 20th December

Monday 4th September & Tuesday 5th September 2022: non-pupil days (PD Days)

Autumn Half-Term ~ Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October

Christmas Holiday

Thursday 21st December 2023 to Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Spring Term 2024

Wednesday 3rd January to Thursday 28th March

Wednesday 3rd January 2024: non-pupil day (PD Day)

Spring Half-Term ~ Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024

Spring Holiday

Friday 29th March to Thursday 11th April 2024 Monday 6th May 2024: early May Bank Holiday

Summer Term 2024

Friday 12th April to Friday 19th July

Friday 12th April 2024: non-pupil day (PD Day) Monday 15th April 2024: non-pupil day (PD Day)

Summer Half-Term ~ Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

End of Term ~ Friday 19th July 2024