



# Thursfield News



## Friday 16th January Edition

**Weekly Joke:** What did the school pupils do when their shoelaces got tangled together? Went on a class trip!

### Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by sharing how positive the start to this term has been across the school. It has been wonderful to see pupils return with such enthusiasm, excellent attitudes to learning, and a clear sense of pride in our school community.

This week, children across the school have completed a science learning block, during which they have engaged in a wide range of investigations. Their work has spanned biology, chemistry and physics, allowing pupils to develop both their scientific knowledge and practical enquiry skills. Staff have been impressed by the curiosity shown by pupils and their willingness to ask questions, test ideas and reflect thoughtfully on their findings.

Reading continues to be a whole-school priority this year, and we are delighted to share the establishment of our new eBooks provision, which is already supporting pupils' engagement and enjoyment of reading. All children have now been assigned a fluency reading book following a placement assessment, ensuring that texts are closely matched to individual reading needs. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to Miss Brookes and Miss Bathew for their excellent leadership and organisation in driving this work forward.

We kindly ask for your continued support at home by listening to your child read a minimum of three times per week. Regular reading practice has a significant impact on fluency, confidence and comprehension, and your support makes a real difference.

Thursday and Friday, we welcomed colleagues from the Trust as part of a school improvement visit. This was a collaborative opportunity to look across the school at our teaching, curriculum and inclusive practices, ensuring we continue to provide the best possible education for all pupils. Trust colleagues were extremely positive and commented particularly on how smart, respectful and well-mannered our pupils are—something we are all very proud of.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We look forward to another successful and exciting term ahead.

Wishing you all a lovely, restful weekend.  
Mrs Bradbury



### Year 6 Booster Sessions

Just a reminder that sessions run every **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 8:00 AM.**



### Year 5/6 Football League



Well done to our Year 5/6 football team, who played brilliantly during their football match on Monday!

### SEND Coffee Morning



**Friday 23rd January @9am.**

All parents & carers of children with SEND are welcome - whatever their age or stage.

There will be a 'Dyslexia' focus during the meeting.

Come for support, advice, or just a cuppa and a friendly chat. We'd love to see you and welcome you into our SEND community!

### Key Dates

## JANUARY

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>:** Year 4 Multiplication Test Meeting 3:30pm and 5:30pm

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>:** PTFA Meeting @2pm

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>:** 1/2R Special Person Lunch

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>:** 1M Special Person Lunch

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>:** 1/2T Special Person Lunch

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> -** SEND Coffee Morning @9am

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup>:** Year 5/6 Football League

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>:** 3H Special Person Lunch

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>:** 3/4R Special Person Lunch

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>:** 4W Special Person Lunch

## FEBRUARY

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Y5/6 Visit to Manchester Science Industry Museum

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>:** 5P Special Person Lunch

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>:** 5/6K Special Person Lunch

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>:** Year 1 Phonics Workshop 9am

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>:** 5/6BA - Special Person Lunch

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>:** Year 6 Fundraising Event

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>:** 5/6 Football League

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>:** Parents E-Safety Meeting @5:30pm

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>:** Reception Special Person Lunch

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>:** Safer Internet Day

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>:** Year 5/6 Classes Parents evening

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>:** Young Voices

**16<sup>th</sup> February - 20<sup>th</sup> February- Half Term**

### Year 4 Times Table Test Parent Meeting

Year 4 pupils will be taking part in a Multiplication check in June. The purpose of the check is to determine whether pupils can fluently recall their times tables up to 12.

We are holding a meeting on **Monday 19th January at 3:30pm and 5:30pm** where we will be sharing more information and ways you can support your child. We hope you can attend one of these times.

Thank you for your continued support

### YEAR 1 PHONICS PARENT WORKSHOP

We are excited to invite you to a Year 1 Phonics Workshop on:

**Wednesday, 4th February at 9:00 AM**

This workshop is a great opportunity to:

- Learn about the Phonics Screening Check your child will complete in the summer.
- Discover ways to support your child's phonics learning at home.
- See how phonics is taught in the classroom with your child.

There will also be plenty of time for any questions you may have.

We look forward to seeing you there!



### Special Person Lunch

Please be aware that our Special Person Lunches take place over the next few weeks. Please book via Arbor.

**e-safety parent workshop**

We are pleased to invite you to our ESafety Parent Workshop on **Monday, 9th February, at 5:30 PM.**

This session will provide valuable resources and tips to help you keep your children safe online at home. We'll cover:

- Managing screen time effectively.
- Guidance on how to talk to your child about online safety.

We hope you can join us to learn more about how to support your child's digital wellbeing.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Our Next Curriculum Block**

For the next two weeks, the curriculum block for Years 1-6 will be **R.E.**



**Winter Weather**

Please can all children ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the winter weather. Coats must be worn to school. Please bring hats, scarfs and gloves to wear.



**Children's Wellbeing**

This week, Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner for England, has published a new guide offering practical support and advice for children, families and professionals. The guide highlights key issues affecting children today and provides clear, helpful guidance to support their wellbeing and development. We encourage parents and carers to click on the online link to read the report in full and access the advice available.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

**Parking**

We have received a number of reports this week of dangerous parking outside school — cars mounting the kerb and ignoring pedestrian safety.

This creates a serious risk for our children and families. Please park with care in surrounding streets and watch out for pupils at drop-off and pick-up.

**Vehicles parked unsafely will be reported to parking enforcement.**



**Reviewed Policies**

The policies reviewed at our recent Governors' meeting are now available on the school website. These include key policies relating to teaching and learning, early years, safeguarding, and health and safety. Some policies have also been updated with additional information specific to nursery and wraparound provision.



**School Dates**

**School closes for Christmas:-**  
Friday 13th February

**Children return:-**  
Monday 23rd February



**Peanut Allergy**

Please be aware that we have a child at Thursfield with a peanut allergy. For this reason, please do not bring in any food items containing peanuts. Thank you for your cooperation.



**Water Bottles**

Please ensure that all children bring a water bottle to school each day. We are currently using a large number of plastic cups, which is not environmentally friendly and also incurs unnecessary costs—funds that could be better used elsewhere. Thank you for your support.



**Nursery Places**

We currently have a small number of places available for 3-4-year-olds in our nursery. Please collect a Nursery Information Pack from the school office for further details.



**Class of the week!**

★★★★★

**Golden Book Winners**

Theme:- Design and Technology

**RB - Oliver T.**  
**RSB- Archie E.**  
**Y1P- Ernie A.**  
**Y1/2R - James T.**  
**Y1/2T - Zayus H.**

**Y3H- Lilianna H.**  
**Y3/4R - Freddie J.**  
**Y4W - Willow P.**  
**Y5P - George S.**  
**Y5/6B - Albert P.**  
**Y5/6O - Jemima R.**

*Well done!*

**Attendance 100%**

Well done to Year \_\_\_ Class for achieving 100% attendance last week!

**Facebook Page**

Thursfield has a Facebook page. The purpose of the page is to provide parents with a window in to the school day. To join search Thursfield Primary School.



**ARBOR**

Please remember to update your personal details in Arbor if there are any changes. It is essential that we have multiple contact details for each child to ensure smooth communication. Additionally, you can adjust your photo permissions through Arbor at any time.



**Good To Be Green Winner**



**House Points**

**Bridgewater - 1059**  
**Wedgwood - 855**  
**Doulton - 817**  
**Moorcroft - 690**

**GO TEAM!**



**PLEASE DONATE TO OUR FOOD BANK**

As we approach a time of year that can be financially challenging for many, we want to make sure that all parents and staff at Thursfield have access to the support they need. Our on-site food bank is here to help, and we need your support to keep it stocked!

We're asking for donations of non-perishable items such as:

- Tinned goods (e.g., beans, soups, vegetables)
- Packets (e.g., pasta, rice, cereals)
- Toiletries (e.g., soap, toothpaste, toilet roll)
- Biscuits & snacks

Your generous contributions can make a big difference to those who may be struggling this season. Any donation, big or small, is greatly appreciated! Please drop any donations off at reception.

Thank you for your kindness and support. Together, we can help make a difference.



**10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators**

**ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY**

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect. But the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

- START EARLY CONVERSATIONS**  
Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using mobile phones, tablets, computers, and social media. Use age-appropriate language and respond to requests for help. It's never too early to start. Encourage children to ask for help if they're unsure. Talk about what to do if they receive a message or email that makes them feel uncomfortable, scared, or worried. Encourage them to report any concerns to a trusted adult.
- PROMOTE SAFER SHARING**  
Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied and shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be accessed by others. Talk about what to do if they receive a message or email that makes them feel uncomfortable, scared, or worried. Encourage them to report any concerns to a trusted adult.
- ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE**  
Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or social media. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and encourage children to recognize when it's time to take a break. Encourage them to use their devices for positive, healthy balance and awareness of their screen time.
- CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS**  
When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and calm. Listen to their story with care. Keep your attention focused on their story and support. They shouldn't feel embarrassed or judged. Encourage them to speak openly. They're more likely to feel supported through ongoing, active conversations, and to look for help in future.
- STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT**  
With emerging technologies like AI, cloning and deepfakes, it's more important than ever to stay updated on how children use their devices. Stay informed about the latest trends in technology. Stay up to date on what they use and let them know how to stay safe. Encourage them to share up-to-date information and help you stay current on emerging risks and trends.
- TEACH CRITICAL THINKING**  
Talk to children about how to recognize unreliable information or extreme content. Help them understand the difference between what they see and what is true. Encourage them to ask questions and think critically. Help them understand the importance of being a responsible digital citizen.
- SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES**  
Involve children in conversations about online safety. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter content and restrict app usage. Encourage them to report any concerns to a trusted adult.
- LEAD BY EXAMPLE**  
Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what healthy, positive, and responsible use of technology looks like. Lead by example. Encourage them to report any concerns to a trusted adult.
- EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER**  
Show children how to use privacy tools on their devices. Encourage them to explore privacy settings together. Encourage them to report any concerns to a trusted adult.
- KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP**  
Familiarize yourself with local and national organizations that support children and young people. Encourage them to report any concerns to a trusted adult.

Meet Our Expert  
The National College for Digital Literacy for education. The National College has implemented the digital literacy requirements to support young people in their learning and development. Our focus is on digital literacy, digital skills, digital citizenship, and digital safety. We aim to reduce risk and build a culture of engagement.

Wake Up Wednesday  
The National College



# PTFA

## Upcoming Events...



## PTFA MEETING

Join us for a chat all things PTFA and share some exciting ideas of fundraising for our children in 2026!

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026

@ 2pm in the school hall



## Future Events:

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January: PTFA Meeting @2pm