



Thursfield News



Friday 6th March Edition

Weekly Joke: Why did the student throw her watch out of the school window? She wanted the time to fly.

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, Thursfield proudly embraced the National Year of Reading alongside our World Book Day celebrations. Reading plays such an important role in our school community and it was wonderful to see the enthusiasm from pupils and staff as we celebrated the joy of books and storytelling together.

Throughout the week it has been delightful to hear stories being shared in the corridors and to see children immersed in writing their own stories in the classroom. Reading truly unlocks the curriculum for our pupils and plays such an important part in helping them gain their Thursfield ticket to anywhere, opening doors to imagination, knowledge and opportunity.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped make our World Book Day celebrations such a success. Special thanks to Miss Brookes, Miss Bathew and Miss Williams for organising the fantastic range of events, including the author visits. We are also very grateful to our Reading Councillors and Reading Ambassadors for overseeing the book swap, and to Mrs Price and Arabella for their generous donations of books to support this. Thank you to the PTFA for organising the sponsored read and book sale, and to all our parents for supporting the children with their wonderful costumes and creative story jars. Finally, thank you to all our staff for fully embracing the dress-up theme and helping to create such a fun and memorable day for the children.

I wish everyone a lovely weekend ahead and encourage you all to spend some time being lost in a good book. After all, as this year's message reminds us: "If you're into it, read into it!"

Wishing you all a lovely, restful weekend.
Mrs Bradbury



Nursery Places - September Intake

We currently have a small number of places available for 3-4-year-olds in our Nursery for September 2026.

If you are interested or would like further information, please collect a Nursery Information Pack from the school office. We would be delighted to welcome you to our Nursery community!

Parents Evening

Bookings are now open on Arbor for parents and carers of pupils in Reception through to Year 5P to schedule a parent consultation appointment on **Wednesday 25th March**.

Please log in to Arbor to select your preferred time slot. We encourage all families to book early to secure a convenient appointment time.

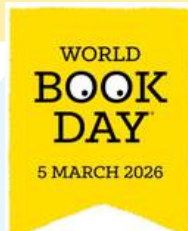
Thank you for your support—we look forward to seeing you there!

Mothers Day Workshops

Reception:- Tuesday 10th March @ 9:00am

KS1:- Wednesday 11th March at 2pm

We can't wait to see you there!



World Book Day



This week, our school was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated World Book Day! The corridors were filled with colour and creativity as pupils and staff arrived dressed as their favourite book characters.

During the week, we were also lucky to welcome two visiting authors who shared their stories and inspired our pupils with their love of reading and writing.

On Thursday, we enjoyed a range of activities including listening to stories, taking part in a book swap, and showcasing our creativity in the Story Jar Competition. The jars were fantastic, and it was very hard to choose the winners!

Well done to everyone who helped make the celebration so special.



Year 3/4 Dodgeball Tournament

A huge well done to our amazing Year 3/4 dodgeball team who took part in the competition last Friday!

You were absolutely incredible, showing great skill, determination, and fantastic teamwork. We are so proud of how you played together, supported each other, and gave it your all. You represented our school brilliantly—what a fantastic achievement! Keep up the great work, and we can't wait to see you in action again soon!

Key Dates

MARCH

- Monday 9th:** PTFA Mother's Day Secret Room
- Monday 9th:** 5/6 Football Match
- Tuesday 10th:** EYFS Mother's Day Workshop @9am
- Tuesday 10th:** Usbourne Book Sale
- Tuesday 10th:** Netball League
- Wednesday 11th:** KS1 Mothers Day Workshop @2pm
- Wednesday 11th:** Usbourne Book Sale
- Tuesday 17th:** KS1 Trip to Chester Zoo
- Thursday 19th:** Trust TT Rockstars Competition
- Thursday 19th:** Year 6 First Aid Training
- Friday 20th:** Comic Relief
- Monday 23rd:** Year 6 Fundraiser Event
- Monday 23rd:** Year 6 Bikeability - all week
- Wednesday 25th:** Parents Evening (Not 5/6 Classes)
- Wednesday 25th:** Year 5 Kings Taster Day
- Thursday 26th:** Year 3/4 Easter Performance
- Thursday 26th:** Easter Bonnett PTFA Event

30th March - 12th April - Easter Break
INSET Day - 13th April - Children return on the 14th April

APRIL

- Monday 20th:** PTFA Meeting @2pm
- Monday 27th:** Year 6 Fundraising Event
- Thursday 30th:** SEND Coffee Morning



Our Next Curriculum Block

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



Books Usborne - Book Sale

Next week there will be an Usborne book shop in the hall. You will be able to purchase books on-
Tuesday 10th - 3:30-4:00pm
Wednesday 11th - 3:30-4:00pm

PTFA Easter Bonnet Competition

Please keep an eye out for information regarding the PTFA Easter Bonnet Competition being held on **Thursday 26th March.**



Class of the week!

Year 3/4 for practising their Easter Performance



Attendance **100%**

Well done to Miss Bathew's Class for achieving 100% attendance last week!

Golden Book Winners

Theme:-Reading

RB - Penelope W.
RSB - Archie E.
Y1P - Tilly H.
Y1/2R - Brianny M.
Y1/2T - Noa P.

Y3H - Leah-Rose M.
Y3/4R - Oliver M.
Y4W - Brock M.
Y5P - Alfie G.B.
Y5/6B - Daniel J.
Y5/6O - Bella R.

Well done!

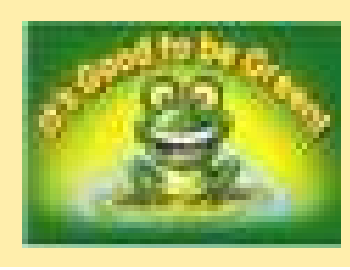
Lunchtime Award



Erin G.
 Penelope W.
 Dominic S.
 Reggie B.

Good To Be Green Winner

EYFS/KS1- Oliver T.
 LKS2 - Alisha M.
 UPKS2 - Evie T.



House Points



Bridgewater - 1488
Wedgwood - 1260
Doulton - 1160
Moorcroft - 1083

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

- 1. VALUE ALL READING**
When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Just down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.
- 2. WIDEN THE SELECTION**
Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a bookshop, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.
- 3. GIFT A BOOK**
One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.
- 4. CONNECT WITH AUTHORS**
Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using live resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.
- 5. BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE**
Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of the topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.
- 6. TALK BOOKS**
There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.
- 7. RECOMMENDATIONS**
As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.
- 8. GO DIGITAL**
With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, transcripts, and track their reading books with resources like Polydora and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.
- 9. RECONNECT**
There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Trust of Reading's 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.
- 10. LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. If it's a comic, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert
 Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

STEAM OUT FAMILY STEAM DAYS

Join the St John Fisher Catholic College Robotics Team, CyberByte, for a morning of free, family friendly, hands on STEAM activities.

Each session will include:

- A range of family friendly activities
- A chance to enter our design a robot competition
- A chance to learn more about our robot

Each activity takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and adult support may be needed.

Attend all 4/6 sessions to receive a prize and a certificate.

@ Newcastle Under Lyme Library from 10:30-12:30

Read it • Think it • Make it

Dinosaurs and Fossils
 28th February 2026

Castles and Sieges
 28th March 2026

Space and Aliens
 25th April 2026

Robots and Mechanisms
 23rd May 2026

Electricity and Power
 27th June 2026

Animals and Nature
 25th July 2026

THURSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER

Monday 23rd March

Raising money for our Leavers Hoodies!

CANDY FLOSS FOR SALE!

Straight after school - 3:20pm

Only £1.50 Each!

Treat yourself & help our Year 6 Leavers!

Thank you for your support!

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.

School Website

Please visit our website for information regarding school policies including mobile phones and attendance. You will also find information regarding our curriculum.

Have a Lovely Weekend!



PTFA

Upcoming Events...



Thank You Emerge Care and Therapeutic Solutions



for supporting the children of

Thursfield Primary School



Your generous contribution has provided a wonderful selection of new reading books that will inspire and encourage our pupils in their literacy development.



Thursfield Primary School PTFA
Charity Number: 1103044
Email: Thursfieldptfa@gmail.com
Tel: 01782 512301



To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the PTFA at Thursfield Primary School to kindly ask for your support for our upcoming Summer Fair, taking place on Saturday 13th June.

We are currently seeking donations of any kind to help make our event a success. This could include raffle prizes, gift vouchers, products, services, or any items suitable for our stalls and fundraising activities. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a meaningful difference to our school community.

The funds raised will go directly towards supporting projects, resources, and experiences that benefit our pupils. As a registered charity (Charity Number: 1103044), we are committed to enhancing the educational opportunities and environment for our children.

In appreciation of your generosity, all supporting businesses will be acknowledged on our social media platforms and in the school newsletter. We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support we receive from our local community.

Thank you very much for considering supporting our local school.

Kind regards,

Danielle Simm
Chair, PTFA