



Thursfield News



Friday 27th February Edition

Weekly Joke: Why did the teacher wear sunglasses? Because his students were so bright!

Dear Parents and Carers,

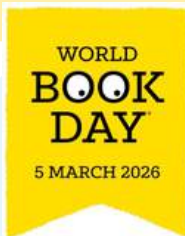
Headteacher's Message

I hope you all had a wonderful and restful half term break. It has been a pleasure welcoming everyone back for the start of Spring 2. The recent sunshine, along with the lighter mornings and evenings, has certainly lifted spirits and brought a renewed sense of energy to our school community.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day and all the exciting activities planned around it. This year, we are delighted to be working with Hayley from Usborne, who is leading a sponsored read and organising a book fair over the coming weeks. A huge thank you to our PTFA for coordinating this opportunity. We are incredibly excited about the prospect of raising funds to stock our library with a wide range of wonderful new books that will inspire and engage all of our children.

Next week promises to be especially inspiring, as we welcome two visiting authors to school. On Thursday, I am particularly looking forward to spending the day celebrating reading with the children—sharing stories, discovering new characters, and truly losing ourselves in the power and joy of books. Reading opens doors to imagination, knowledge and empathy, and it is always a delight to see our pupils embracing that magic.

Wishing you all a lovely, restful weekend.
Mrs Bradbury



World Book Day and Book Week Information

Special Author Visits

We are delighted to welcome two authors to school during Book Week:

- Monday 2nd March - Ashley Thorpe (whole school assembly and workshop for Year 5/6)
- Wednesday 4th March - Tilly Matthews (whole school assembly and workshop for Year 3/4)

These sessions will give children the opportunity to hear from real authors, learn how stories are created, and ask questions about writing and books

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

On World Book Day, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character

Book Week Competitions

Children can also take part in two exciting competitions during the week:

- Classroom Door Competition - Each class will decorate their classroom door based on a book.
- At-Home Creative Challenge - "Story Jars" - Children are invited to create a 'Story Jar' at home, filled with story ideas, characters, settings or plot prompts. These should be brought into school on Monday 2nd March for judging.

Prizes will be awarded for creativity and originality! World Book Day 2026

Key Dates

MARCH

- Monday 2nd:** Ashley Thorpe - Author Visit
- Monday 2nd:** Reading Sponsored Event
- Wednesday 4th:** Tilly Matthews - Author Visit
- Thursday 5th:** World Book Day
- Friday 6th:** Year 3/4 Dodgeball Competition
- 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



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!



Break Menu

We're pleased to share that our new breacktime menu is now available! Please take a look at the options on offer and remember to place your orders via Arbor.

Thank you for your continued support!



World Book Day - Book Swap

To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March, the Reading Council have organised a special book swap for all children.

Children are invited to bring in up to five books to swap during the day. **Please ensure that any books brought in are age-appropriate for your child's current year group**, so that we have a good range of books available for each age group.

We look forward to a fantastic day of reading and sharing stories!

Our Next Curriculum Block

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



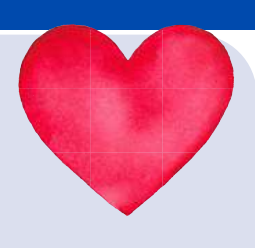
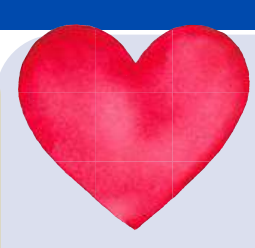
Winter Weather

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.



Mothers Day Workshops

Reception:- Tuesday 10th March @ 9:00am
 KS1:- Wednesday 11th March at 2pm
 We can't wait to see you there!



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 Easter:-
 Friday 20th March

Children return:-
 Tuesday 14th April



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 - September Intake

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



Class of the week!

Year 4 for work on their Fractions!

★★★★★

Golden Book Winners

Theme:- PSHE and British Values Focus

RB - Rueben G.
RSB - Arianna D.
Y1P - Olivia F.
Y1/2R - Rome J.
Y1/2T - Amber P.

Y3H - Pagan H.
Y3/4R - Alexia C.
Y4W - Leo B.
Y5P - Summer B.
Y5/6B - Georgia P.
Y5/6O - Georgia W.

Well done!

Attendance 100%

Well done to 1/2TT & 4H 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.

School Website

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

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

KS1- Rome
 LKS2 - Mia
 UPKS2 - Kasper

House Points

Bridgewater - 1398
Wedgwood - 1190
Doulton - 1106
Moorcroft - 1016

GO TEAM

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
	Castles and Sieges
	Space and Aliens
	Robots and Mechanisms
	Electricity and Power
	Animals and Nature

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, allowing users to send text and voice messages, share multimedia, make video calls, and chat in groups. With end-to-end encryption, only the sender and receiver can view messages. This may offer privacy, but it also comes with risks that parents and educators need to be aware of.

13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- GROUP CHAT PRESSURES:** Group chats can be used to spread rumors, cyberbullying, and inappropriate content. Children may feel pressured to share information or engage in risky behavior.
- SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS:** Scammers are increasingly using WhatsApp to target young users with phishing attempts, fake giveaways, and requests for personal information.
- DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES:** WhatsApp offers features like disappearing messages and hidden messages, which can be used to hide inappropriate content or evidence of cyberbullying.
- UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING:** WhatsApp users can share their location with contacts, which can be used to track their movements. Unwanted contact and location sharing can also occur through group chats.
- COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT:** WhatsApp includes ads and AI-generated content, which can be used to target children with inappropriate marketing or misinformation.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER:** Help young users check who can see their profile photos, status, and location. Activate the "Visible to My Contacts" setting and set group chats to "My Contacts Only".
- TEACH HOW TO SPOT SCAMS:** Encourage users to avoid clicking on suspicious links, especially if they receive messages from unknown contacts. Encourage users to report suspicious messages to WhatsApp.
- BE OPEN ABOUT HIDDEN CHATS:** Discuss why children and young people might use hidden messages and disappearing messages. Encourage users to be open about their hidden chats and disappearing messages.
- TALK ABOUT ADVERTISING AND AI:** Explain that advertising and AI-generated content are used to target children with inappropriate marketing or misinformation. Encourage users to report suspicious ads and AI-generated content.

Meet Our Expert: Dr. Sarah...
 @wake_up_weds @wakeupwednesday



PTFA

Upcoming Events...



We've just purchased these frames for the children to use during their playtimes and lunchtimes as part of OPAL. Thank you so much for your donations and continued support — it really does make a difference for our children!



Do you have any old construction toys at home that your children no longer play with? If so, we would love them to be donated to the school. Thank you for your support!



Can anyone help us make something like this? If you're able to, please get in touch! We're happy to cover the cost of materials — we just need someone who can put it together. We'd really appreciate your support!



Future Events:

Monday 9th March: PTFA Mother's Day Secret Room