



Thursfield News



Friday 19th December Edition

Weekly Joke: Why do calculators make great friends? You can always count on them!

Headteachers Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of 2025 and prepare to break up for Christmas, we would like to share just how fabulous our festive final week has been here at Thursfield. The school has been full of joy, excitement and Christmas cheer, making it a truly magical way to end the year.

This week saw our first ever Nursery Nativity at school. The children were absolutely amazing and showed such confidence on the stage. It was a truly magical event that filled us all with pride and festive spirit.

Our Reception children enjoyed a wonderful trip to the theatre to see Dear Santa. Staff commented on their fabulous behaviour and superb audience participation throughout the performance. To make the experience even more special, our Little Explorers even got to meet Santa, which was a moment they will no doubt remember for a long time.

On Wednesday, we celebrated Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch. A huge thank you to the Aspens staff, who prepared a delicious festive feast that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

After school on Wednesday, the PTFA Christmas Disco took place, and everyone had a super time. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time to run this wonderful event.

Yesterday, we held our Christmas Community Party, organised by Year 6, who did a fantastic job spreading festive cheer and joy to others at this special time of year. We finished our Christmas celebrations with the Year 5/6 singalong and PTFA tombola, which was the perfect end to such a magical week.

We would like to thank our pupils, staff, families and volunteers for making this festive season so special. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2026.

Wishing you all a lovely, restful weekend.
Mrs Bradbury



Reception Trip - Dear Santa



On Tuesday, Reception visited the Gatehouse Theatre in Stafford to watch Dear Santa. What a magical experience it was! The children were fantastic, and it was a wonderful interactive show. We even had the chance to meet Santa afterwards, which made the day extra special.

Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day!



This week, we celebrated our Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day, and both the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the day. It was lovely to see everyone in their festive Christmas jumpers! A special thank you to our kitchen team for cooking up a storm —the Christmas lunch was incredible, as always! It was truly a fabulous day at Thursfield!

Key Dates

22nd December- 4th January - Christmas Break

JANUARY

- Monday 5th:** Children Return to school
- Tuesday 6th:** Year 6 Boosters Start
- Monday 12th:** Year 5/6 Football League
- Monday 19th:** Year 4 Multiplication Test Meeting 3:30pm and 5:30pm
- Monday 19th:** PTFA Meeting @2pm
- Tuesday 20th:** 1/2R Special Person Lunch
- Wednesday 21st:** 1M Special Person Lunch
- Thursday 22nd:** 1/2T Special Person Lunch
- Friday 23rd:** SEND Coffee Morning @9am
- Monday 26th:** Year 5/6 Football League
- Tuesday 27th:** 3H Special Person Lunch
- Wednesday 28th:** 3/4R Special Person Lunch
- Thursday 29th:** 4W Special Person Lunch

FEBRUARY

- Monday 2nd:** Y5/6 Visit to Manchester Science Industry Museum
- Tuesday 3rd:** 5P Special Person Lunch
- Wednesday 4th:** 5/6K Special Person Lunch
- Wednesday 4th:** Year 1 Phonics Workshop 9am
- Thursday 5th:** 5/6BA - Special Person Lunch
- Monday 9th:** Year 6 Fundraising Event
- Monday 9th:** 5/6 Football League
- Monday 9th:** Parents E-Safety Meeting @5:30pm
- Tuesday 10th:** Reception Special Person Lunch

Job Opportunity



We currently have a job vacancy to join Team Thursfield. We are seeking a Wraparound Play Worker, required Monday to Thursday, 3:30pm-6:05pm. This is a great opportunity to become part of our supportive and friendly team. For further details and to apply, please visit the MyNewTerm website. Closing date 9th January 2026

Community Party



Thank you to all our grandparents and local community members who joined us for our community party on Thursday. A special thank you to our Year 6 children, who did a wonderful job organising and running the event. It was lovely to come together and celebrate as a community.

Extreme Reading Competition



The Reading Council is launching an Extreme Reading Competition for the Christmas holiday!

How to enter:

Send a photo of yourself reading in a fun, unusual, or creative place to the school office.

Judging:

Winners will be chosen by the Reading Council (with Miss Brookes present).

Deadline:

January 9th — late entries will not be judged.

Get creative and show us your extreme reading!

Reading Awards!



Well done to this term's Reading Award winners. Congratulations — we hope you enjoy your reading book prizes! Remember to keep on reading at least three times a week to be in with a chance of being pulled out of the draw next term



Our Next Curriculum Block

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



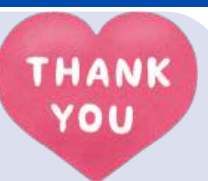
Winter Weather

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.



Thank You!

All the staff members of Team Thursfield would like to say a heartfelt thank you to our families for the very kind Christmas cards and generous gifts. Your thoughtfulness and continued support are truly appreciated and mean a great deal to us all. We are incredibly grateful for your kindness and wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.



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 19th December

Children return:-
Monday 5th January



IMPORTANT Year 6 Boosters!

Thank you to all our Year 6 parents who attended the SATs information sharing event. Your continued support during this important time is greatly appreciated and plays a vital role in helping your children feel confident and prepared. As a reminder, booster classes will commence on Tuesday 6th January at 8:00am and will run every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until the week before SATs in May. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and support.



Reception Applications

For Staffordshire Reception applications (starting September 2026), the main application deadline is 15 January 2026. Please note that Nursery parents will still need to apply via their local council's website. If you need any help with the application process, please contact the school office — we'll be happy to assist. Thank you.

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!

★★★★★

Attendance 100%

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

Golden Book Winners

Theme:-

RB -	Y3H-
RSB-	Y3/4R -
Y1P-	Y4W -
Y1/2R -	Y5P -
Y1/2T -	Y5/6B -
	Y5/6O -

Well done!

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

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 SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping our roads safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

- TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS**
Making 'greater' journeys with children is a great way to help them stop safely. However, ensuring responsible behaviour and having road safety conversations as they prepare to leave independently. Add hazard perception activities to the starting activities - which may have a green number plate - and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others. Remind them that their parents' report must always be the best role model.
- BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN**
Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light-coloured, reflective clothing when it's dark, wear reflective clothing or accessories such as reflective bands or jacket.
- EYES UP**
Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to consistently check for traffic and practice looking - checking the road before crossing - looking right, left and then right again.
- LIMIT DISTRACTIONS**
Where possible, devices that parents should keep away from children while out and about their roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must not avoid playing with toys or being distracted by them. If a child needs to use a mobile phone, they should be supervised by an adult. There's a time for that once they're safely parked.
- SLOW DOWN**
Discuss the importance of walking instead of crossing immediately. It can be hard to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a fall. For example, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and always walk. They should avoid crossing the road. They should avoid crossing and may not be able to see a car or bus. If traffic seems to be going away, it could still be approaching very quickly.
- STOP BEFORE THE KERB**
Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb - not right at the edge of it. Stopping before they get to the kerb gives them time to think about crossing, whether getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's a gap, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.
- CROSS SAFELY**
Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pedestrian crossings. They should use the outside edge of the road, where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near parked cars, bushes in the road, or obstacles that block their view. Encourage them to use their eyes and ears together to make sure they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together to make sure they can see and be seen. Sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.
- PARKED VEHICLES**
Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way. Ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of the road, where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Check for any parked cars, bushes in the road, or obstacles that block their view. Encourage them to use their eyes and ears together to make sure they can see and be seen. Sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.
- REVERSING VEHICLES**
Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle. It's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for engine sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?
- WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE**
When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing. They should be in a clear view of the road in both directions. This means they can see any cars or buses that are approaching. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert
There's a year-on-year national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviour - whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking. It's called the National Road Safety Week. It runs from 1st to 7th November each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>

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 19th January 2026

@ 2pm in the school hall



Thank you to Kleo, Lily, Jake and Hudson for helping at the Kidsgrove Rotary Santa Run last night. Together, we raised £481 — an amazing achievement! Thank you so much for your support.
From the PTFA



PTFA Newsletter

Autumn term 2025

AT A GLANCE

- Pumpkin Patch
- Nursery combined
- Christmas Celebrations

This term we have raised £2430.46



Our autumn/winter term of 2025 has drawn to a close but what a beginning to 2025/2026 we're having here at Thursfield. We have held some fantastic events so far & have loved having Nursery along to them all. We have held our yearly AGM where our fantastic Chairs & Secretary agreed to stay on for a further year, new members were appointed and we have seen an increase in our events support.

We were extremely lucky to have received a staggering £1060 from the Scarecrow event & a huge thanks to Claire for her organisation of this and to everyone who took part. We can't wait to see next years theme!

This term we have seen the start of our year 6 fundraising events to raise money for their leavers hoodies, the PTFA donated the seed funding for these events by purchasing everything for the first stall that was held a few weeks back. The year 6's are raring to go and it's great to see such enthusiasm from them. Please do keep supporting them throughout the upcoming months.

We held our fantastic and ever so popular Pumpkin Patch for Halloween! A huge thank you to all that donated and supported us in being able to purchase hundreds of Pumpkins for the children. A special thanks to Stoke Lions & Kidsgrove Rotary who both gave a generous donation. This year saw the first "Haunted Room of Gloom" for our older years and we think it was a great addition to the day, huge thank you to Stage Management Services for your support with the effects. Our Pumpkin patch raised a fantastic £640!



We have enjoyed our Christmas activities throughout the last 2 weeks of term, we enjoyed Christmas dinner together & we have specifically enjoyed the Disco. This is always a huge hit for our Children and its great to be able to invite Nursery in for a Christmas Party too. This is always one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, this year raising an incredible £1454.20, so thank you to everyone who came and to those of you that offered your support. A special little snow fall to end the disco got everyone ready for the real stuff! A huge thank you to everyone who also donated for our toy appeal, there will be some really happy children in the community on Christmas morning thanks to your generosity.



There have also been many firsts this term, it was the first time we took the PTFA to an outside event at Kidsgrove scout hut for their Christmas Fayre & what a day this was. It was great to see so many of you come along and support us on the day. We even had items been sold online which raised even more for us. A brilliant total of £187.64 was made just from this event. We have then been given the fantastic opportunity to accompany the big man himself on his tour around the community collecting as we go. A total for this will be shared in the new year but it was a great night & enjoyable for all. A huge thanks to everyone who supported on the walk and to Kidsgrove Rotary for inviting us along with them.



What have we spent it on?

We have purchased a new sofa that is in the hall way by the office, this is the start of a very exciting reading area for the children to relax and feel comfortable while they are having their reading session. We have also purchased a lot of new reading books, a huge £2000 was spent on these and the plastic wallets that each child should be bringing those books home in to keep them protected. It's been our biggest purchase to date & we can't thank everyone enough for your support in helping us be able to provide these for the Children.

This term saw the integration of Nursery to Team Thursfield, which meant lots of new toy purchases for them, from wooden play kitchens and tuff trays to chunky crayons and flower bulbs for the outside area, we have supported them to add more resources to the ever growing area for the children & will continue to do so as we move into next year.

Getting Christmassy has been a big target this year for us & we think we have smashed it! It all started with the advent calendars and thanks to a wonderful donation from Mrs Bathew's husband we were able to provide one to each child. Through the fantastic donation of our wonderful 15ft Christmas tree by a local member of the community, a few Dad's to carry it & a Dad to create a stand to hold it in we have been able to have a warm welcoming tree for all to see. We concentrated on getting some handmade decorations added to the hall by our wonderful children and decorated trees where ever we could fit one. The wonderful Mr Speakman donated his time and artistic skills to bring some fantastic murals to the windows. The trip to see the Little Mermaid was accompanied by our normal drinks and snacks for the children. We have provided the table decorations for the Christmas Dinner day and were able to give each child a candy cane favour too. Finally on our last day we have been lucky enough to welcome not only Santa but the Grinch to Thursfield to deliver each child a small gift from ourselves. A big thank you to Biddulph Rotary Santa for joining us!



What's next?

As Christmas is around the corner naturally we are already thinking about next term and even the summer term! With more events already in the pipeline we can't wait to share all the excitement with you. If you do want to get involved more or can just offer that hour or so at an event please do reach out to one of us and we would be more than happy to match you up with something suitable. Our next meeting is on Monday 19th January at 2pm in the school hall, it would be great to see you. We can't do these events without the great support of our teaching staff, families, carers and supportive community, our heartfelt thanks as always.

Future Events:

Monday 19th January: PTFA Meeting @2pm



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Thursfield PTFA

