



# Thursfield News



## Friday 27th September Edition

**Our Weekly Affirmation:** 'My heart is open to helpfulness from myself and from others.'

### Headteachers Message

Dear Parents and carers,

It's been a busy and productive week here at Thursfield. In our 'Ticket to Anywhere' curriculum, children have started their science block, developing critical thinking and curiosity. Units include seasonal change, changes in matter and the circulatory system.

This afternoon our Year 6 pupils returned from a fantastic week at the residential. From team-building activities to outdoor adventures, it was a wonderful opportunity for them to challenge themselves, grow in confidence and create lasting memories. A huge thank you to the staff who accompanied them and made this experience so special.

As always, we continue to focus on embedding our core values throughout our curriculum and daily school life. We encourage our pupils to practice these values both in and out of the classroom. With these principles guiding us, we are confident in nurturing well-rounded, thoughtful and empowered young people.

Warm regards,  
Mrs Bradbury



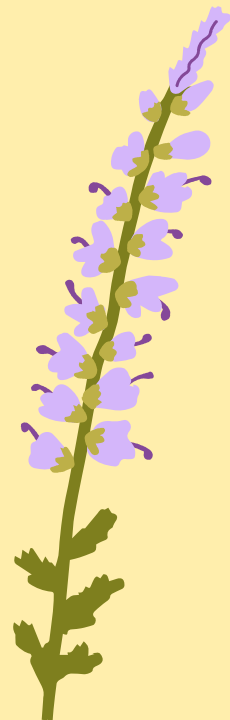
### TT ROCKSTAR'S LAUNCH DAY

To relaunch The Times Tables Rockstars, we will be holding a Rockstar day on **Wednesday 2nd October.**

Children are encouraged to **dress up as a rock star on the day** and will complete lots of exciting math challenges linked to Times tables and number bonds. The focus of Times Tables Rock Stars is to: - Support children to learn their times tables and the associated division facts - Increase the speed of multiplication recall - Improve accuracy of multiplication recall

### HELPING HEATHER FUNDRAISER

The Royal Oak, Harriseahead,  
Saturday 28th September 2024



From 10am

- Raffle
- Tombola
- Cake stall
- Bric A Brac
- Face Painting
- Nearly New stall
- Plus much more

### KEY DATES

- 2nd October:** TT Rockstar's Day
- 2nd October:** Reception Special Person Lunch
- 3rd October:** 1/2R Special Person Lunch
- 8th October:** 1M Special Person Lunch
- 9th October:** 1/2B special Person Lunch
- 10th October:** Harvest Assembly- Lower school
- 10th October:** 'Hello Yellow Day'
- Half Term :-** Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November
- Inset Day:-** Monday 4th November
- Christmas Break:-** Monday 23 December - Friday 3 January



## WEAR IT YELLOW FOR YOUNG MINDS' MENTAL HEALTH



### THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER

**£1 Donation**

All funds will be donated to the charity.



To help raise awareness around Mental Health. We are also asking the whole of Thursfield to create at home the following...

THIS THURSDAY JOIN US IN SAYING **#HelloYellow**

- A poster for Early Years
- A poem for KS1 & KS2
- A winner will be selected from each key stage & will receive a goodie bag.



### YEARLY PLANNER

Look out for an email containing our new 'Thursfield Yearly Planner' this will share any important key dates for 2024/25



## P.E. TIMETABLE

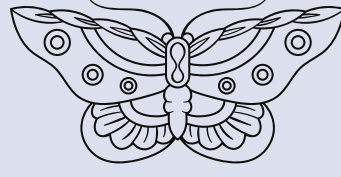
Please come to school in your PE kits on your allocated PE day.

**Reception** - Wednesday  
**Year 1/2** - Tuesday  
**Year 3/4** - Thursday  
**Year 5/6** - Friday



## TEMPORARY TATTOOS

A reminder that pupils should not bring or wear temporary tattoos to school. We kindly ask for your support in ensuring that all children adhere to our school uniform policy.



## HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES &

### HEALTHY SNACKS

As a school we promote healthy snacks and lunches. Please ensure that your child is bringing a healthy snack to school please.



All snacks and lunches are ordered via Arbor.

## CLASS OF THE WEEK!

**Year 3 TA - Mrs Tapp and Mr Austin:-**

For their excellent work in mathematics and science.



## GOLDEN BOOK WINNERS

Theme- School Values (Courage and kindness)

**RB** - Ralph T  
**RKT** - Blake A  
**Y1M** - Ellouise D  
**Y1/2R** - Tilly G  
**Y1/2B** - Milo T

**Y3TA** - Ruari R  
**Y3/4R** - Ada J  
**Y4W** - Fin E  
**Y5P** - Bradley H  
**Y5/6O** - Maggie H  
**Y5/6B** - Imogen H

## ATTENDANCE

Well done to 4W

100%

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.

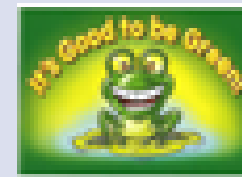


## SCHOOL WEBSITE

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

## GOOD TO BE GREEN WINNER

**BRIDGET G**



## HOUSE POINTS

**BRIDGEWATER** -  
**DOULTON** -  
**MOORCROFT** -  
**WEDGWOOD** -

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# INSTAGRAM

Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

follow

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ADDICTION

Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important - in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when dimly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

### UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only share the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

### GOING LIVE

Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

### INFLUENCER CULTURE

Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products wholeheartedly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of content.

### PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

### EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM

Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many 'likes' as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being unfriended; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### AVOID GOING PUBLIC

If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

### USE MODERATORS

Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called 'Moderators', meaning that creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform. It's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

### HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE

Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can view or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they don't need it.

### FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

### MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

### BALANCE YOUR TIME

Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's 'Teen Accounts' afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day. Talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



# STARTING SCHOOL IN 2025?

VISIT US FOR ONE OF OUR OPEN EVENTS

# THURSFIELD'S OPEN EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER @ 5:30**

**SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER @ 10:00 - 11:00**

**WEDNESDAY 8TH JANUARY @ 9:15**

Thursfield Primary School,  
 Chapel Lane, Harseahead, ST7 4JL  
[www.thursfield.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.thursfield.staffs.sch.uk)  
 Contact to book your place:  
 01782 512301  
[office@thursfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thursfield.staffs.sch.uk)

# PTFA

Please find our PTFA's Facebook Page



## Thursfield PTFA Fundraising group >

Public group · 309 members

Manage

Invite

## Pumpkins!

The PTFA are looking for companies or/& individuals that would be able to donate towards our pumpkin patch.

In return we would be happy to advertise your business via our school newsletter.

Any donation no matter what the size would be much appreciated.

Thank you



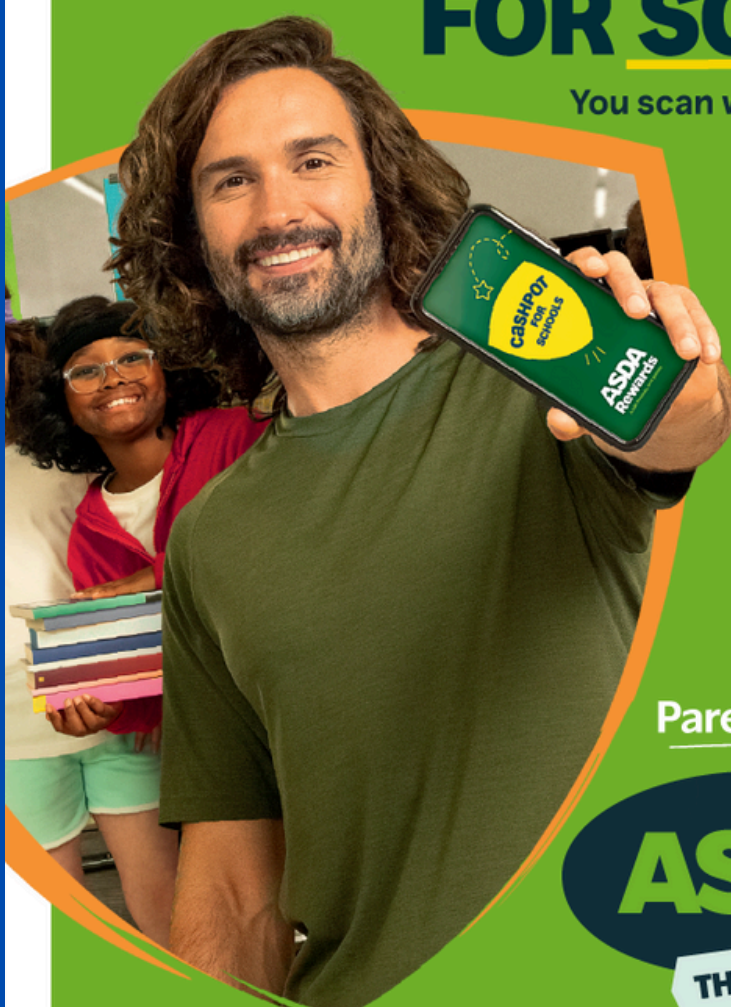
## Upcoming Events...

Every time you shop with Asda Rewards from 2nd September to 30th November, we will donate 0.5% of your total spend to a primary school of your choice. Plus, Asda will pop £1 into your school's Cashpot every time someone opts in.

Even more, Asda will get your school started with a further £50. To redeem this, make sure to shop & scan and remind your school to sign up with Parentkind.

### INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

You scan we donate ££s



CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Only with ASDA Rewards  
Download and opt-in today

Parentkind

ASDA

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT

Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt-in required. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072833. Full T&Cs at [asda.com/cashpotforschools](https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools). Rewards T&Cs at [asda.com/rewards/terms](https://www.asda.com/rewards/terms). Ends 30.11.24

## Wreath making class

Monday 25th November 2024

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Step into a professional florist making class the festive season with a delightful hands-on experience at our Fantastic Christmas Wreath-Making Workshop! This enchanting event invites you to craft your very own holiday wreath from scratch, perfect for adorning your front door with a touch of personalized Christmas cheer. Refreshments included.

**£40 per person** *Adults Only*

£10 non-refundable deposit

CONTACT:  
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