



# Thursfield News

## Friday 8th November Edition



*Our Weekly Affirmation: 'I Am Safe and Cared For'*

### Headteachers Message

Dear Parents and carers,  
I hope you all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable half-term break! It has been wonderful to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and energy. As we move into this half of the term, we have lots of exciting events and learning opportunities planned and we are eager to support each student in their growth and development.

This week pupils commenced their Design and Technology curriculum work. Different year groups are gaining the subject specific knowledge to think creatively and solve problems linked to structures, mechanics and electronics. We look forward to seeing the innovative work that each class produces.

On Tuesday, Year 3 visited City Central Mosque (Stoke-on-Trent) as part of their Religious Education curriculum. During the visit, the children had the opportunity to learn more about the Islamic faith and develop a respectful appreciation for different cultures and beliefs. Our thanks go to the mosque and their community for welcoming Thursfield pupils. Year 4 pupils will complete this visit next week.

Thank you, as always for your continued support and involvement in our school community. We look forward to a productive and joyful term ahead

Warm regards,  
Mrs Bradbury



### REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Monday 11th November at 11 o'clock we will take part in the two minutes silence to commemorate Remembrance day.

If your child attends a uniformed group e.g. Beavers, Rainbows, Brownies, cubs they are welcome to come to school in their group uniform on this Monday.



### CROSS COUNTRY - UPDATE



Congratulations to both the Girls and Boys teams who both placed first in the recent cross country competition. A special mention to Theo who was first overall for the boys, Theah who placed first for the girls and Evie who placed second for the girls. What an amazing season the team had- Well done You should all be so proud!



### KEY DATES



- Tuesday 12th:** Trip to City Central Mosque
- Tuesday 12th:** Odd Socks Day - Anti-Bullying Week
- Friday 15th:** Children in Need
- Monday 25th:** PTF A Wreath Making Class @ 6:30pm- 8:30pm
- Wednesday 27th:** EYFS Trip to Apple Tree Town
- Christmas Break:-** Monday 23 December - Friday 3 January
- Monday 6th January:** INSET DAY

### The Importance of Reading at Home



## 20 is Plenty!

Children who read for 20 minutes a day....

- Will have a world of imagination & creativity opened to them.
- Will improve critical thinking skills.
- Will have a broad vocabulary.
- Will be exposed to 1.8 million words a year.
- Will have better general knowledge.
- Will improve communication skills.
- Will have reduced stress levels.
- Will improve their test results.
- Will learn how to develop empathy.



BBC Children in Need exists to change the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

### Thursfield have organised two events to help raise money for this amazing charity:-

**Wednesday, 13th November:**

Our School Council will be hosting a Pudsey Cookie Bake Sale! Cookies will be available for 50p each—don't miss out on this delicious way to support a great cause!

**Friday, 15th November:**

Come to school dressed in PJs, Non-Uniform, Fancy Dress, or Pudsey-themed clothing and accessories! If possible, please bring a £1 donation to help us raise funds for charity.

*This will be a cash only event. All proceeds will go directly to the BBC Children in Need Charity!  
Thank you for your support!*

### Volunteer Readers!



Do you have a passion for reading and a little extra time to make a difference in a child's life? We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our school community as Reading Buddies.

If you're interested in joining us as a reading volunteer, please contact **Mrs Bennett** or register your interest via the **school office**. We would love to have you as part of our school family!

### ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Odd Socks Day - Tuesday 12th November





## CLUBS



Exciting opportunities await—sign up for our school clubs today! We offer a fantastic range of clubs for all interests, from sports and arts to science and coding. School clubs are a great way for students to explore new hobbies, build skills, make friends, and have loads of fun!

Spaces are limited, so be sure to sign up soon! For more information on available clubs and schedules, please check with the school office or visit our website. Let's make this term a memorable one by getting involved!

## PARKING REMINDER

A gentle reminder to please be respectful to our local neighbours when parking around the school area. Please do not block driveways.



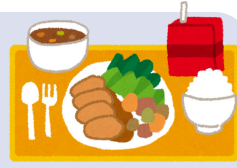
## OPAL UPDATES

Please can all children bring in a pair of wellies or old trainers

## WATER BOTTLES

Please can all children bring a water bottle to school as we are currently providing too many of the single use plastic cups.

## NEW LUNCH MENU!



Our delicious new menu launched last week, and it's already a hit! Our Pupils and staff alike have given glowing reviews, and the meals look absolutely fantastic. This is the perfect time to encourage your child to enjoy our freshly prepared, nutritious lunches at school. Don't miss out—come and see what everyone's raving about!

## 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.

## YOUNG VOICES



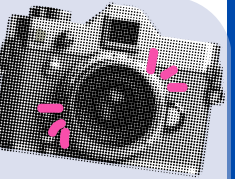
Young voices 25th February 2025 at the CO-OP Live Manchester- If your child in in Years 4, 5 and 6 and they would like to be part of Thursfield's Young voices choir 2025- then audience tickets for parents and optional T-shirts for pupils are available on Arbor via the school shop.

You do not have to attend the weekly choir club. The experience is truly memorable and a highlight of the school year.



Orders must be made by Monday 21st October..

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



Your child's photograph proofs were sent out this week. If you would like a copy of your child's photograph these need to be ordered by **9am on 18th November.**

## CLASS OF THE WEEK!

We are so proud of all the children for their fantastic return to school! After the break, it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, resilience, and readiness to dive back into learning.

We're looking forward to an exciting term ahead filled with new learning adventures, activities, and memorable moments.



## GOLDEN BOOK WINNERS

Theme-

RB -

RKT -

Y1M -

Y1/2R -

Y1/2B -

Y3TA -

Y3/4R -

Y4W -

Y5P -

Y5/6O -

Y5/6B -

## ATTENDANCE

Well done to 3/4R

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

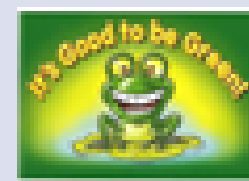
Please visit our website for information regarding school policies including mobile phones and attendance. You will also find information regarding our curriculum.

## ARBOR

Please ensure that we have your child's latest contact information including medical information on Arbor. If not please access the App and update.

## GOOD TO BE

### GREEN WINNER



## HOUSE POINTS

DOULTON - 405

MOORCROFT - 400

BRIDGEWATER - 377

WEDGWOOD - 320

LET'S GO!

**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. **Adults Only**

**£40 per person**  
£10 non-refundable deposit

CONTACT:  
FARZANAA ON 07597433455  
OR CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
01782 512301

THURSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL  
1A CHAPEL LN.  
HARRISEAHEAD,  
STOKE-ON-TRENT  
S77 4JL

**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, Harriseahead, S17 4JL  
www.thursfield.staffs.sch.uk  
Contact to book your place:  
01782 512301  
office@thursfield.staffs.sch.uk

**ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s**  
10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children - and has been essential for education during the pandemic - it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

- USE DEVICES TOGETHER**  
This lets you monitor and control what your child is doing. The device has to be used in a supervised space where you can see what they are doing. It's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and explain them whenever they have access to the device when they go.
- ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any devices (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and explain them whenever they have access to the device when they go.
- MANAGE SCREEN TIME**  
This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which balances screen time with other activities.
- TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE**  
Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them on how to be safe online. Use clear, simple language to help them understand the risks of online activities. The same rules that you've set for them in the real world apply to the online world. Let them see you modelling your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE**  
Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to limit the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you modelling your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.
- PARENT CODE: \*\*\*\*\***
- BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES**  
If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a credit or debit card), you should block in-app purchases from app stores, as well as in-app purchases that will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while using the device.
- CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES**  
There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.
- INVOLVE THE FAMILY**  
If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be stricter - and it's usually just to be good. Involve your child in setting up the device and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.
- IF IN DOUBT, ASK**  
The easiest way to find out what your child is doing is to ask them. If you're unsure if an app or website is safe for your child, ask for help from a trusted adult. If you're unsure if an app or website is safe for your child, ask for help from a trusted adult.
- SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY**  
Physical and creative activities are important for children's development. Encourage your child to engage in these activities. Support creative and active play. Encourage your child to engage in these activities. Support creative and active play.

Meet Our Expert  
Accelerating Moulden is a professional development and training specialist based in London. She has been working in primary and early years education, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 15 years.

National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday