



Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School Newsletter

Friday 1st December, 2023



Laying the foundations for a bright future

Website link: www.htpfederation.co.uk

A little note from Mrs FitzGerald...

Wow! Another super week!! We really enjoyed our Christingle Service at St Peter's on Wednesday, the children did a great job and it was lovely that so many of you were able to join us.

There are a mere 24 days to Christmas now! We have the Reception and Key Stage One Nativity 'Prickly Hay' next week to look forward to and then our Christmas Lunch combined with Christmas Jumper Day a highlight, before finishing with a flourish and our 'Carols on the Playground' followed by 'Well Dressed Wednesday'! Please check the diary dates in this newsletter for times and details.

The weather has turned colder so it is very important that our children have their warm coats and, dare I say it, there has been the mention of the 's' word and so a reminder about our severe weather planning.....

We recognise it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and our pupils can continue to learn. We will make every effort to prepare for severe weather and endeavour to remain open. School closure will be considered should safe access become a concern and/or the provision afforded the children be compromised due to the number of staff able to attend school safely. We will share information on this, as early as possible, on Class Dojo, ParentMail and Facebook as well as via the local authority's school closure page and local radio.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Warmest regards, Mrs FitzGerald

Drama Club Performance of 'Ralph the Reindeer'

Friday 8th December at 9am

On Friday 8th December the children in Drama Club will be performing 'Ralph the Reindeer' as part of our Celebration Presentation. Parents of children in Drama Club are invited to attend.

SEVERE WEATHER

Every effort will be made to keep the school open in severe weather. The school would only close if it is no longer safe for staff and pupils to travel to school and be on site.

We recognise that it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Therefore, we will make every effort to prepare for severe weather.

Information about school closure will be posted:

- **Class Dojo**
- **ParentMail**
- **Via the Suffolk County Council website: <http://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk>**
- **Facebook**
- **Local radio**

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE

We wanted to draw your attention to worries highlighted to us recently by a small number of concerned members of our school family and local community related to the parking at the start and end of the school day.

We know it is very challenging to park around the school site but none of us want a child attending our setting to become a road traffic accident statistic.

Please ensure you **park safely**, avoid blocking access to drives / gates / buildings and ensure it is safe to exit and enter your vehicle ~ we have received a number of worrying reports of 'near misses' involving passengers, including children.

When parking ensure there are gaps left so passing cars can in fact pass and make certain the front of school is accessible ~ emergency services such as an ambulance or fire engine need a clear and quick route to the school for obvious reasons.

Please remember the school car park is primarily for school staff and visitors such as specialist services and therapists attending to work with our pupils. We have sufficient spaces for school staff, two disabled parking bays and capacity for the council allocated taxis and our wrap-around childcare provider vehicle only. Please avoid using the car park for routine dropping off / collecting / turning etc... unless you have express permission from Mrs Sanders due to specific circumstances.

Please remember you can park at the village hall and St Peters Church and take the short walks from either location to and from the school site.

Thank you for your support in this important matter.

AS BEFORE: THURLOW SCHOOL CHILDREN WANTED!

Cowlinge Parish Church is holding a 'Carol's by Candlelight' service this year and they would love to have some children from our school (and Wickhambrook) to join the service to sing the first verse of 'Away in a Manager' from the front of the church during the service.

The service is taking place on Sunday 17th December at 5pm. Children from all year groups are welcome. If your child would like to come and sing please contact Claire Harris, Rebecca and Verity's Mum.

AS BEFORE ~ PIANO / KEYBOARD LESSONS ~

We facilitate piano/keyboard lessons here at Thurlow with our piano teacher Mrs Billie Farr. These take place in the school day and are available to children who are 7 years and over. For further information please contact Billie directly at farrb756@gmail.com

A concession may be available for pupils who qualify for Pupil Premium funding, please speak to the School Office for information regarding this.



going to camp with friends

Play super gun games with friends



or go shopping at the school shop

Having Halloween and Christmas parties is really fun!

doing fun activities like making bird feeders and decorating biscuits

Warning NO Acrobatics!



Rainbows

Come to Rainbows 'it's great' holding all kinds of visitors like meeting birds, unusual animals and learning sign language.

Going on the Remembrance Day Parade

Making for decorations.



Girls only

1st Kedington Rainbows meets on: Tuesday at: 4:30 - 5:30 at: Kedington Community Centre for more information search 'Rainbows' at girlguiding.org.uk or speak to Verity's mum

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Others will follow but I know lots of you will want to get these onto the calendar as soon as possible. The team and I are continuing to add to our schedule with special days, visitors and trips, including some additional 'share' opportunities - we will keep you posted!

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Monday 4th December - Bumblebees Class Visit to the Wonder Dome

To enhance their 'Moon Zoom' theme the children are visiting a mobile planetarium to experience an immersive day of space-themed activities.

Thursday 7th December - AM & PM Performances of our Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity

Performances will be 9.30am and 2pm with 2 tickets per family allocated for each performance and donations welcomed (at the end) in support of our music performance license costs

Friday 8th December - Drama Club Performance of 'Ralph the Reindeer' in Celebration Presentation at 9am

Parents of children in Drama Club are invited to attend.

Thursday 14th December - Christmas Jumper Day & our Christmas Lunch Day at school

Tuesday 19th December - Carols on the Playground at 2.30pm

Join us on the playground (weather permitting) for carols, old and new!

Wednesday 20th December - 'WELL DRESSED WEDNESDAY' End of term parties & party clothes!

Wednesday 20th December - LAST DAY OF THE AUTUMN TERM

SPRING TERM 2024

Wednesday 3rd January - PD DAY

Thursday 4th January - FIRST DAY OF THE SPRING TERM FOR THE CHILDREN



Family Action West Suffolk Neurodevelopment Support Service

Do you have a
neurodivergent child?

NEW Parent and Carer Drop In

- Meet other parents' and carers
- Chat to our friendly Family Support Workers

First Wednesday of the month, 10:30am - 12:00pm
First Drop In: Wed 3rd Jan 2024

No need to book
Free tea and coffee available

- 01284 636 655
- wsuffolk@family-action.org.uk
- Clements Community Centre
Leiston Road
Haverhill

www.family-action.org.uk

Registered as a Charity in England & Wales no: 264713.



HUNDON AND THURLOW PRIMARY FEDERATION

Laying the foundations for a bright future

Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School



Parents and Carers of 3 and 4 year old children, have you applied for a full-time school place for your child?

If you have a child born between **1st September 2019** and **31st August 2020** you must apply for a place by midnight on Monday **15th January 2024**.

Applications should be made online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

Choosing the right primary school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will have to make. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about our school and what learning is like as part of a village community, in light of Reception admissions for September 2024 or otherwise, please visit our school website:

<https://www.htpfederation.co.uk/index.php/thurlow>

Explore our website, visit our class pages and contact our School Office via email at admin@thurlowschool.co.uk or by telephone on 01440 783281 so we can contact you with further details as soon as we can.

NB: You must make an application for a full-time place even if your child is already attending a nursery class in an infant or primary school or a Children's Centre next to a school site. Please note that a place for your child at your catchment school is not guaranteed.



Festive Fun Run

Festive Fun Run – Sunday, 10 December

Grab your tinsel and jolliest attire and participate in the St Nio's Festive Fun Run on Sunday, 10 December, at Culford School.

Run, jog or walk 2.5k or 5k and make a difference to the lives of those in need while enjoying a fun and festive atmosphere with family and friends.

You'll receive a Santa hat and bespoke medal, and a chance to enjoy the Christmas village, with hot drinks and festive treats available to buy.

Visit our website to sign up, or email events@stnh.org.uk with any enquiries.




At St Nicholas Hospice Care, we rely on the community to raise vital funds to continue caring for patients and their families.

£10 could help pay for a nutritious meal for a patient on our ward.

£25 could help purchase art therapy materials for children receiving specialist bereavement support.

£50 could help people to receive Hospice care at home by ensuring our Community Nurses have a full tank of petrol.



4  *years of caring*
St Nicholas
Hospice Care
A Registered Charity No. 287773



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**