

## **THURNHAM CE INFANT SCHOOL**

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Spring Terms 2019

Newsletter No 3

**“At Thurnham we learn to love and love to learn.”**

Dear Parents,

### **Safeguarding**

A reminder that Mrs Pateman, Miss Chastney and myself are Designated Safeguarding Leads and are available to talk to on any safeguarding matters.

### **Admissions**

I am pleased to report that Mrs Watson (Roseacre Headteacher) met with us to compare and check our admission lists to ensure the linked admissions process again goes smoothly.

Occasionally, parents can make small mistakes on their applications, such as forgetting to mention sibling link and we work together to ensure our knowledge of the families makes the process work well and hopefully sort out any innocent errors in advance.

If parents ever want to ask about our Admissions Policy please contact the office (or ask myself) or go to the link on the school website here:

<http://8863081.eiswordpress.uk/applying-to-thurnham>

### **Food At After School Clubs**

A growing number of children are missing part of their after school club as they are eating food that has been sent in for them.

Whilst I appreciate the children may be feeling hungry at the end of the school day and just before a club, we are increasingly having children with substantial additional food to eat before that club starts, sometimes taking them more time consuming the food than actually attending the club. Should any children feel hungry we are happy to let them have some of the fruit (from the 'fruit for schools' scheme) instead.

### **Administration Of Medicines**

I would like to remind parents that we can only administer medicines that are prescribed by a GP and are for four doses per day, in line with our school policy. The medicine will need to be delivered and collected from the school office in person each day it needs to be given during school hours. This is to protect the children in school in case of allergies etc.

### **Attendance Data**

In February, all parents should have received their child's attendance data for the mid-year point. Many parents do not realise the figure is arrived at by counting each morning, and each afternoon as separate sessions.

Obviously if a child has a high figure, as it is mid-year, excellent attendance for the rest of the year will bring the figure down substantially. A number of parents have commented to me that they are delighted to see how well their child is doing on attendance too.

A persistent absentee is any child with less than 90% attendance. At the time of writing, the Thurnham average attendance rate is 97.1%, similar to the same point last year. I would still like to improve upon that if possible.

### **Nature Club**

Mrs Chaudry has asked me to thank everyone for their donations to her Nature Club. The resources are much appreciated.

### Pupil Premium Funding Reminder

Even though all children can now have a free lunch, parents can still apply for the Pupil Premium funding that can support their child in school in a number of ways and is paid to the school to spend in supporting the pupil.

The criteria are that the pupil's family must be in receipt of one of the following benefits or qualify on one of these areas:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Child who is 'looked after' i.e. fostered or 'post looked after' i.e. adopted
- Forms are available from the office or apply online at:  
<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent>

### Comic Relief Non Uniform Day

Money is still coming in but so far we have raised in the region of £314.35 for Comic Relief. Thank you for your generosity.

### Easter Holiday

Remember, the last school day before this year's two week Easter holiday is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April. We return on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. A few final dates are below leading up to the end of term. A letter about the Easter Service tickets will be sent out shortly.

I look forward to continuing to work with you all to achieve the best for the children.

### Maths Day

Mrs Chaudry led a day of Maths related activities. You can find a report on it on the next few pages. Thank you to Mrs Chaudry and the staff making it so fun!

Mr C K James  
Headteacher

### Final Few Dates Reminder

Friday	29	March	Mum / Grandma / Female Relative Reading Afternoon (2:35pm)
Friday / Monday	29 / 1		Children Bring In Decorated Eggs (just for fun) - Details To Follow
Monday	1		9.15am Easter Performance 1 10:30am Easter Performance 2
Tuesday	2		9.15am Easter Performance 3 3:10pm Easter Walkabout
Friday	5		Last Day of Term 4 100% attendance stickers For Term 4
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> - Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April - School Holiday			
Tuesday	23	April	Start of Term 5
Monday	6	May	May Day Single Bank Holiday

## Maths Day 2019

Last week we all enjoyed Maths Day at Thurnham. The whole day was jam-packed with fun Maths activities, which included a building and measuring challenge, a Maths orienteering challenge and a 'Who wants to be a Mathillionaire' quiz. The children dressed up with their favourite numbers and some children even came as Maths based games like Sudoku!

Below are some of the children in action:



Purple Class were the winners of who could build the tallest tower made of Lego.



It was a very close competition in Year 1 as Mr Walker and Mrs Bodkin demonstrate. Here, the children only used newspaper and tape.

Rainbow Class were the winners of the Year R competition and they used junk modelling.



I would like to say a personal thank you for all your help in supporting these activities and especially for your very kind donations to the NSPCC of £286.05.

Mrs C Chaudry, Maths Leader