



Laying the foundations for a bright future

Website link: www.htpfederation.co.uk

A little note from Mrs FitzGerald...



Welcome back everybody!! Here we are in 2025 and the spring term - a rather chilly spring term I must say! We all need those warm coats, hats and gloves at the moment!

Firstly, a huge thank you to all the children and parents for your lovely Christmas cards and gifts - we very much appreciate your kindness and generosity!!

These first few days have literally flown by! The children are settling back into school well and returning to routines with ease. They are also enjoying opportunities to catch-up with their friends, share holiday news, and festive stories.

We are very excited about our fabulous learning themes for this term, which prioritise knowledge and skills within the humanities subjects particularly. Butterflies Class are undertaking the history-based theme 'LONG AGO' and Bumblebees Class will be exploring the history related theme 'MAGNIFICENT MONARCHS.'

Otters Class will be embarking on their theme '1066' which also has a history focus whilst Hares Class are exploring 'FROZEN KINGDOMS'.

You will find more information about what your child is learning in their class newsletter which their Class Teacher will be sending home shortly.

We all hope you all had the best time possible over the winter holiday. The team and I are very much looking forward to working with you again this term 😊

My best regards, Mrs FitzGerald

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

SCHOOL MEALS ~ SPRING TERM 2024 ~ FIRST HALF

The cost of a school meal in Years 3 to 6 is £2.60 (a week is £13.00.) **School meals MUST be paid for in advance.** Payment is required online where a minimum of five meals must be purchased at any one time. The cost of the first half of the Spring term is £75.40. Here is the link for payment: [Pay for school meals - Suffolk County Council](#)

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER: ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AT THURLOW

Across our school, for various reasons and circumstances, or perhaps related to learning need, difficulty or challenge, there are individuals in receipt of additional input.

This input can take a variety of forms. It may include an individualised timetable, particular adaptations to the school day, a personalised plan as well as the use of specific programmes and various interventions linked to defined areas of learning such as social development, early reading, an aspect of Maths etc...

This additional support may include directed learning support, work with one of our ELSA's (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants,) one-to-one input as part of an intervention and small group work.

Additionally, the school supports families in making referrals for the identification of neurodevelopmental conditions and, where appropriate, applying for assessments for Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs) as well as supporting families to access external specialist services and support agencies including School Nursing, Family Support Services, Young Carers and Children's Social Care.

As parents or carers, you need to know this is available to children who may be in vulnerable or difficult circumstances and you need to know this work is currently taking place. As parents and carers, I am sure you can understand it would not be appropriate to share more information than this for reasons related to privacy and confidentiality - children and their parents and carers should not know private and personal information about another child or family and what is or isn't in place to support them just as it would not be right to share private and personal information relating to your child or circumstances.

I share this information as I want to ensure there are no misunderstandings about what is or isn't happening or is or isn't being done in school for individuals.

If there is anything that you feel we are not aware of related to your child or their class it is, of course, your child's Class Teacher you need to speak to in the first instance. The easiest and quickest way is via our learning platform, Class Dojo. Our teaching team is very conscientious and will endeavour to respond within working hours, that is between 8am and 6pm (at the latest,) Monday to Friday or on the next working day.

If any parent has concerns regarding additional support at Thurlow or any other matter then I encourage you to make an appointment to see me.

Best regards, Mrs FitzGerald

MORNING SPORTS CLUB AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Morning Sports Club has resumed. These sessions start from 8am and cost a nominal cost of £2, which must be paid for in advance.

Our after-school club starts on **Wednesday 15th January**, running until 4.15pm and again at a nominal cost of £2 per session. In both instances please pay for your sessions using this link: [Online Payment Link](#)

SWIMMING

Just a reminder that our children in Years 4 and 5 will be swimming at the Abbeycroft Leisure Centre in Haverhill in the new year. Parents with children in Otters Class and Hares Class you should have seen recent communications via ParentMail and Dojo with more details.

STAFF BRIEFING

On a Wednesday morning, we have a short staff briefing at 8.20am to share anything pertinent about the day / week. This meeting includes all staff and means the School Office may be unmanned for a short amount of time. Please be patient, a member of staff will return!

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE

We are sending this message to remind parents and carers of the importance of driving and parking safely around the school site. It is vital due care and attention for our school, our neighbours and other drivers is given.

We know it is very challenging to park around the school site but none of us want a child attending our setting to be a road traffic accident statistic. Please ensure when parking there are gaps left to ensure passing cars can in fact pass and ensure the front of school is accessible - this is with the emergency services in mind.

Please remember you can park at the village hall or the church and take the short walks from either location to and from the school site. **The school car park is for staff and visitors only.**

Thank you for your support in this important matter.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS ~ SPRING TERM 2025

Other dates will follow but I know lots of you will want to get these onto the calendar as soon as possible. The team and I will be adding to our schedule of special days, visitors and trips, including some additional 'share' opportunities - keep checking this list!

Friday 17th January ~ Otters Class Family Celebration Presentation at 9am

Parents of children in Otters Class only are invited.

Friday 24th January ~ Butterflies Class Family Celebration Presentation at 9am

Parents of children in Butterflies Class only are invited.

Friday 31st January ~ Hares Class Family Celebration Presentation at 9am

Parents of children in Hares Class only are invited.

Monday 3rd February to Friday 7th February ~ National Storytelling Week

There will be lots of storytelling learning and activities underway across the school this week.

Tuesday 11th February ~ Safer Internet Day ~ more details to follow

Friday 14th February ~ Bumblebees Class Family Celebration Presentation at 9am

Parents of children in Bumblebees Class only are invited.

FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY ~ END OF HALF-TERM

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 17th February ~ Friday 21st February

Thursday 27th February ~ Bumblebees Class Trip to Audley End House

Thursday 6th March ~ World Book Day ~ more details to follow

Monday 17th March to Friday 21st March ~ British Science Week ~ more details to follow

Friday 4th April ~ LAST DAY OF THE SPRING TERM

Spring Holiday ~ Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025