

# Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School Newsletter Friday 7th June, 2024



### Laying the foundations for a bright future

Website link: <u>www.htpfederation.co.uk</u>

#### A little note from Mrs FitzGerald...

Well, our 'Activities Week' has made for a very exciting start to the last half-term of this academic year ~ alongside the exhilaration of axe-throwing, archery and Lacrosse, the children have thoroughly relished their trip around the world!

I know you have been able to see all the learning and activities underway via dojo across the week and I am so glad lots of you were able to come in this afternoon to see some of the work they have undertaken, not least all the amazing artwork and sculpture the children have created. They have learnt such a lot!

Have a lovely weekend!

Warm regards, Mrs FitzGerald

NATIONAL CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT DATES		
Key Stage One	YEAR 1 Phonics Check	ADMINISTERED  Week beginning 10th June
Key Stage Two	YEAR 4 Multiplication Tables Check	ADMINISTERED  Week beginning 10th June

#### FREE SCHOOL MEALS ~ ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

With the current economic climate and continuing rises in costs to living, we wanted to remind families about accessing free school meals.

We strongly urge you to check, especially if your circumstances have changed or change unexpectedly and remember they are not just available if you are unemployed. The process is completely confidential and pupils entitled to and claiming free school meals are not identified in any way.

You can be reassured your child has access to a healthy, nutritious and tasty meal at lunchtime and is well nourished for an afternoon of learning.

In addition, the number of pupils registered will positively impact on school funding; in these tricky financial times this will provide much needed extra financial support to the school so please check and register, whether or not your child wishes to eat a school meal regularly.

**CHECK HERE: APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS** 



#### **HUNDON AND THURLOW PRIMARY FEDERATION**



### Laying the foundations for a bright future

Hundon CP School, North Street, Hundon, Suffolk, CO10 8EE Telephone: (01440) 786217 e-mail: admin@hundonschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S FitzGerald



Thurlow CE (VC) Primary School, Little Thurlow, Suffolk, CB9 7HY Telephone (01440) 783281

e-mail: admin@thurlowschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S FitzGerald

7th June 2024

#### Dear Parents and Carers

Within our Federation, we are continually seeking to improve our provision to ensure the children attending our two schools, Hundon and Thurlow, receive the very best educational experiences and secure the highest educational and welfare standards we can offer.

With this in mind, we would like to know how you feel about the school your child/ren attend. Gathering your views will help us to:

- Find what we are doing well and where we could do better;
- Decide which areas to prioritise when developing our strategic planning;
- Make sure we are meeting your needs and the needs of your child/ren.

We would very much appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey to help us make your school the very best it can be. It should only take you a few minutes to complete. We would prefer you to complete the survey online, here is the link: <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/XpqQ6v9nrb">https://forms.office.com/e/XpqQ6v9nrb</a> We will also include the link on Class Dojo.

If you would prefer to return a paper copy, please collect one from the school office.

Please complete the survey by Monday 17th June. Paper copies can be placed in the labelled box located by the school office. Please only complete one survey per family.

Look out for our response to your feedback and what we are doing as a result of it, in a newsletter early in the autumn term. Replies will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Your feedback is very important to us, so we do hope you will take a few minutes to complete the survey.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sharon FitzGerald

Headteacher

Dr S McKeogh Co-Chair of Governors Mr. J. Griffin

Co-Chair of Governors

## Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are changing from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices issued by DfE, the following changes will come into force for School Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

#### **National Threshold**

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

**Please note:** The DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance.

#### **First Offence**

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

## Second Offence (within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

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#### Per Parent\*, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent\*, for each child that was absent.

<u>For example</u>: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

#### \*Parent

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines "parent" as:

- All natural (biological) parents, whether they are married or not.
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person.
- Any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

#### **Third Offence and Any Further Offences**

(within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case could be presented straight to the Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in Criminal records and fines of up to £2,500

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court may show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Please check back regularly as additional dates added as and when activities / visits are confirmed!

Monday 10th June May to Friday 14th June ~ Year 1 Phonics & Year 4 Multiplication Checks

Monday 10th June ~ Cambridge Botanic Gardens ~ Bumblebees Class

Bumblebees Class, along with their sister class at Hundon, will be visiting the gardens linked to their 'The Scented Garden' theme.

Thursday 12th June ~ 'NO JOKE' Play at Haverhill Arts Centre ~ Hares Class

Hares Class, along with their sister class at Hundon, will be visiting the Arts Centre to watch a performance of the play, 'NO JOKE'.

Friday 14 June ~ Bumblebees Class Presentation at 9am

Parents, carers and 'special others' of children in Bumblebees Class are invited to join us

Monday 17th June to Thursday 20th June ~ BIKEABILITY for Hares Class

Tuesday 18th June ~ Felixstowe Beach Trip ~ Butterflies Class

Butterflies Class, along with their sister class at Hundon, will be visiting the gardens linked to their 'On The Beach' theme.

#### Thursday 27th June ~ THURLOW SPORTS AFTERNOON

Join us from lunchtime for a picnic lunch followed by our sports afternoon

Friday 28th June ~ Fitzwilliam Museum Visit ~ Otters Class

Otters Class, along with their sister class at Hundon, will be visiting the museum linked to their 'Ancient Civilisations' theme.

Thursday 4th July ~ Year 6 Leaver's Trip to Pleasurewood Hills

Thursday 4th July ~ Years 3, 4 & 5 Inter-School Day

Inter-school activities with our sister school, Hundon ~ more details to follow

(Wednesday 3rd July to Thursday 4th July ~ Linton Transition Days for Year 6)

(Monday 8th July to Wednesday 10th July ~ Stour Valley Transition Days for Year 6)

Friday 12th July ~ Annual School Reports distributed

#### MONDAY 15TH JULY ~ YEAR 6 LEAVER'S PRESENTATION at 2.30pm

Year 6 Parents, carers and 'special others' are invited to this special celebration presentation

(Wednesday 17th July to Friday 19th July ~ Unity School Transition Days for Year 6)

Wednesday 17th July and Thursday 18th July ~ 'MOVE UP' DAYS for all pupils

Friday 19th July ~ LAST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM