



Little Thurrock Primary School

Newsletter



Self-help Solidarity Democracy Equality Equity Self-responsibility

Friday 1st and 8th March 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Demountable update

As you have no doubt seen the old demountable classroom has been demolished and the groundworks for the new demountable are well underway. The new demountable is scheduled to be delivered on Wednesday 13th March when there will be some additional vehicles on the school playground. This shouldn't inconvenience drop off in the mornings, but we will be closing our car park due to the large vehicles entering and exiting the site.

World Book Day activities

I want to say a big thank you to all of our children and families who participated in World Book Day by dressing up on Thursday, entering our wooden spoon character competition and coming back to school for 'Bedtime Stories' last night. The Bedtime Story event was a great success and we had in excess of 250 children returning to school to enjoy a story and have some hot chocolate and biscuits. I would like to thank all of the teachers and LSAs who stayed behind to supervise the children and tell stories. In particular I need to thank Mrs Storey our English lead and Mrs Joynes for organising all the events and to our wonderful LTSA volunteers who made hot chocolate for all of the children.

International Women's Day and Mothering Sunday

Today in assembly we talked about International Women's Day (which is on March 8th every year) and the struggle for gender equality. We discussed how in this country lots of progress has been made promoting the rights of women and girls, but that in some countries there is still a big difference in how different genders are treated. Sunday is Mothers' Day and I know many of the younger children have been making Mothers' Day cards to share. Thank you again to the LTSA for organising our Mothers' Day gift sale. I do hope that if you are celebrating mothers' day with someone special in your life be they your mother, or another significant person, that you have a wonderful time.

Ramadan

Finally, I know that many of our Muslim families will be fasting for Ramadan from next week. This is a very important time for Muslims around the world and we wish you a peaceful and wonderful month.

Ian Broyd
Headteacher

Contact details

Telephone: 01375 373586

Email: a.mail.ltp@osborne.coop

Website: www.littlethurrock.thurrock.sch.uk

Twitter: @LittleThurrock_

Upcoming events and dates.

(Please note the dates subject to change)

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 11 th & Thursday 14 th March | School Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| Monday 18 th March | Neurodiversity celebration week |
| Monday 18 th March | Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel |
| Tuesday 19 th March | History off the Page Workshop Year 3 - Egyptians |
| Friday 22 nd March | LTSA Easter competition |
| Tuesday 26 th March | History off the Page Workshop Year 1 – Great Fire of London |
| Thursday 28 th March | Bling your Bike Day |
| Monday 15 th April | Mental Health Awareness Week |
| Thursday 18 th April | Year 4 Swimming begins |
| Friday 19 th April | Thurrock SSP Event Netball Rally @ Basildon Sporting Village |
| Friday 26 th April | Thurrock SSP Event KS1 Tag Rugby @ Orsett Heath Academy |
| Friday 3 rd May | Thurrock SSP Event Girls Dynamo Cricket @ Orsett Cricket Club |
| Wednesday 8 th May | School Council visit to Piggs Corner |
| Friday 10 th May | Thurrock SSP Event Best of Dynamo Cricket @ Orsett Cricket Club |
| Week beginning 13 th May | Key Stage 2 SAT tests |
| Friday 17 th May | Thurrock SSP Y3/4 Rapid Fire Cricket @ Orsett Cricket Club |
| Thursday 23 rd May | Thurrock SSP Y3/4 Rapid Fire Cricket @ Orsett Cricket Club |
| Thursday 6 th June | Year 5 State of Matter workshop |
| Week beginning 10 th June | Phonic screening check for Year 1 |
| Tuesday 18 th June | Colchester Zoo Year 1 |
| Wednesday 19 th – 21 st June | Year 6 Residential Trip |

Friday Celebration Assembly

We celebrate a number of achievements in school, which you will find via Class Dojo. Here you will find out more about the learning that has taken place in the classroom each week.

Little Thurrock Way certificate which is awarded to children weekly.

| | Week ending 1st March 2024 | Week ending 8th March 2024 |
|-----|--|--|
| RED | Henrico | Alfie |
| RLR | Teddy | Pabasakara & Vladimir |
| RCW | Josh | Thomas |
| 1AS | Daisy | Liam |
| 1JO | Umayra | Kai |
| 1BA | Sofia | Arthur |
| 2AA | Raphie | Zumra |
| 2CD | Arthur | Luke |
| 2JD | Nya | Deividas |
| 3HM | Karina | Megan |
| 3MS | Sophia | Daisy |
| 3SM | Finnley | Oliver |
| 4RS | Lewis | Mena |
| 4NP | Isabelle | James |
| 4LB | Jasnoor | Melisa |
| 5EE | Alana | Oscar |
| 5SR | Manraj | Eithne J |
| 5LH | Elliot | Hajra |
| 6FD | Vlad | Caitlin |
| 6SZ | Eden | Paiton |
| 6AL | Freya | Lauren |

Attendance

We are continuing to celebrate and reward good attendance this year. Our new display in the hall will help to track this further. Extra play will be rewarded on a weekly basis as before. In addition to this, we will be holding a prize draw with the chance to win a £5 AMAZON voucher each week for those children with 100% attendance

| | Week ending 1st March 2024 | Week ending 8th March 2024 |
|-----|--|--|
| RED | 88.7 % | 94.8 % |
| RLR | 89.3 % | 91.3 % |
| RCW | 88.7 % | 92.4 % |
| 1AS | 92.1 % | 95.5 % |
| 1JO | 94.8 % | 100.0 % |
| 1BA | 95.5 % | 95.2 % |
| 2JD | 97.3 % | 96.3 % |
| 2AA | 89.0 % | 92.7 % |
| 2CD | 95.9 % | 91.0 % |
| 3HM | 95.3 % | 94.3 % |
| 3MS | 92.7 % | 96.0 % |
| 3SM | 97.8 % | 97.9 % |
| 4RS | 97.2 % | 98.6 % |
| 4NP | 97.9 % | 95.9 % |
| 4LB | 97.4 % | 98.7% |
| 5EE | 88.7 % | 87.6 % |
| 5SR | 97.3 % | 93.3 % |
| 5LH | 98.7 % | 96.0 % |
| 6FD | 93.8 % | 96.2 % |
| 6SZ | 96.6 % | 98.3 % |
| 6AL | 97.0 % | 94.7 % |

Welcome to Boom Reader

Boom Reader is used in all year groups to support communication between home and school in reading. Each child from Nursery through to Year 6 has their own reading journey captured in one place for both parents and teachers to share and use to support children's individual progress in reading.



Each week we will share and celebrate the class reading logs. The class in each phase with the most winning certificates will win a prize at the **end of Spring term**.



| Class | Week ending 1 st March 2024 | Week ending 8 th March 2024 |
|------------|--|--|
| Nursery AM | 14 | 18 |
| Nursery PM | 6 | 8 |
| RCW | 8 | 9 |
| RED | 6 | 9 |
| RLR | 8 | 7 |
| 1AS | 11 | 18 |
| 1BA | 7 | 14 |
| 1JO | 9 | 13 |
| 2AA | 14 | 16 |
| 2CD | 14 | 13 |
| 2JD | 10 | 15 |
| 3HM | 5 | 6 |
| 3MS | 9 | 13 |
| 3SM | 10 | 11 |
| 4LB | 11 | 13 |
| 4NP | 10 | 14 |
| 4RS | 18 | 16 |
| 5EE | 14 | 11 |
| 5LH | 21 | 25 |
| 5SR | 30 | 22 |
| 6AL | 9 | 4 |
| 6FD | 19 | 18 |
| 6SZ | 29 | 28 |

| <u>Winners</u> <u>01.03.24</u> |
|-----------------------------------|
| EYFS : Nursery AM |
| KS1 : 2AA & 2CD |
| LKS2 : 4RS |
| UKS2 : 5SR & 6SZ |

| <u>Winners</u> <u>08.03.24</u> |
|-----------------------------------|
| EYFS : Nursery AM |
| KS1 : 2CD |
| LKS2 : 4RS |
| UKS2 : 6SZ |



Week beginning 11th March 2024 - School Dinner Menu Week 3

Week 2

Week commencing - 6th Nov, 27th Nov, 18th Dec, 8th Jan, 29th Jan, 19th Feb, 11th Mar

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|--|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Monday | Quorn Hotpot | Meat Free Sausage Roll Herby Diced Potatos | Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling | Sweetcorn | Baked Beans | Frozen Yoghurt |
| Tuesday | Chilli Con Carne Rice | Vegetable & Bean Fajitas | Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling | Fresh Broccoli | Mixed Vegetables | Cocoa Sponge and Cocoa Sauce |
| Wednesday | Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes | Roast Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes | Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling | Fresh Cauliflower | Fresh Carrots | Fruit Jelly |
| Thursday | Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges | Tuna Pasta Bake | Jacket Potato with a choice of Filling | Green Beans | Baked Beans | Oat Cookie |
| Friday | Salmon Fingers with Chips | Vegetable fingers with Chips | Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling | Peas | Baked Beans | Banana Sponge |



Class Photograph Today

Children will come home today with their class photos. Please check your child's back / pack back so you can see. We really hope you like them.

All photos must be completed and returned to school by Monday 18th March 2024. If you have any questions or queries then please contact YEP Photographers on 01206 323601. Thank you.

School Breakfast Club – Available

Breakfast club is a fantastic way to prepare pupils for the start of the school day! Breakfast club is run by an experienced staff team and for just £3.00 a day, pupils can take part in a range of activities before school.

If you are interested in a breakfast club place, please call the office or speak to Mrs Mitra. on 01375 373 586.



Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

If your child is absent due to illness or an appointment please call the main office number on 01375 373586, select option 1, and leave a message for the Attendance Officer. Alternatively, please email:

attendance.ltp@osborne.coop

Unfortunately, if we do not receive a message or evidence for absences, the absence will be marked as unauthorised. Any medical / other appointments will need to be supported by evidence such as text messages, doctors note or letter. These can be produced to the front office.

If you need to take leave during school term time please complete a leave of absence form and send in to the front office. Please remember you must provide evidence with this form if you wish the Headteacher to consider special circumstances. Please allow at least two weeks' notice before the leave so we can process the form

Thank you for your support and understanding.



Little Thurrock Achiever Special Mention



Well Done to Esme in 6AL

Esme took part in the Essex Age Group Swimming Championships gala over the course of 2 weekends, at the Olympic pool in Stratford. Competing in 6 individual races and 1 relay where her team made the final.

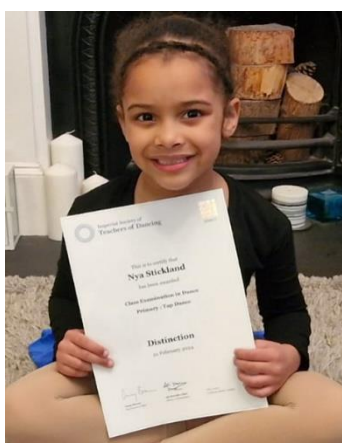
In between the Championships, Esme raced her first 200m in the butterfly, she won gold. Not only has she already qualified for next year's Essex Championships with her winning time, she has also qualified to compete in the South East Regional Championships this Summer. Esme currently holds the fastest 11yr old time for this race in Essex!



Well Done to Nicole in 6FD

Nicole has successfully completed stage 7 for swimming and now she is moving up to stage 8 swimming.

Well done and keep up the good work.



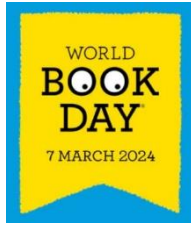
Well Done to Nya in 2JD

On Wednesday this week, Nya received her Tap-dancing certificate resulting from their exams taken in February.

She did amazing and was awarded with a distinction.
Well Done Nya – Keep up the good work.



World Book Day – Thursday 7th March



It was wonderful to see the children and adults celebrate **World Book Day at Little Thurrock Primary School** yesterday. We celebrated World Book Day in style!

Children across the whole school dressed up as their favourite book characters and brought in books to share. As part of the day, every class took part in a class swap, so that children had the chance to read with a partner from a different year group. We all had great fun sharing stories and discussing our favourite books.



In the evening we welcomed back the children to have **Bedtime Stories** with their teachers. Nearly 250 children returned to school in their PJs for hot chocolate and biscuits. Our wonderful LTSA provided and served the children these treats – Thank you!

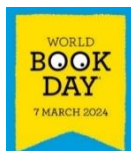
Mr Broyd and Mrs Joynes have been overwhelmed by the huge amount of entries to our **Book Character Wooden Spoon competition**. These will be displayed in our library and around the school. They were all fantastic!

It was very hard to judge but the winners were – Maya in Nursery, Max in RCW, Lacie in 2CD, Adam in 4NP and Jessica in 6FD. Well done to everyone who took part.



We hope the winners enjoy spending their £5 vouchers at the Book Fair coming to the school next week.

Thank you all for a wonderful World Book Day.





Little Thurrock Sports News



Back in the Autumn term, the Year 3&4 mixed football tournament was postponed due to adverse weather conditions.

The children were very disappointed not have been able to take part. Well, fast forward to Wednesday 28th February 2024 when we were able to finally take part in the event. Overseen by Chelsea Football Club at St Clere's school, this event was very well organised and the children did very well, coming together as a team and demonstrating the core values we promote within our Trust.

It was a very close group and narrowly missed out on going through to the semi-finals. A special mention needs to go out to Stanley (3HM) and Roman (4NP) who were both picked out by the Chelsea coaching team and invited to join their academy training. Well done to everyone who took part (Alice (4LB), Kaya (4LB), Connie (4NP), Stanley (3MS), Ahmed (3MS), Nathaniel (3MS), Erik (4LB), Roman (4NP) and Finn (4LB)) and we look forward to next year's event.





Battle of the Bands on Times Table Rock Stars



Our TTRS 'battles' will be back up and running tonight from 4pm. Let's see who can top each year group's leader board for the next few weeks. For the final week, the battle will close on Wednesday 27th March 2024 in order for certificates to be presented before the Easter break.

Mathletics Competition

On Wednesday 6th March 2024, a small group of Year 5 children went to the Gateway Academy to take part in the annual Mathletics competition, which is supported by Rotary Club of Grays, Thurrock. During the event, schools from across Thurrock are tasked to work through a range of questions, testing their mathematical and logical thinking skills and have no intervention from their adults. Overall, out of 18 schools we came 9th with a very respectable score of 149 points.



Well done to our 2024 Mathletics Team: Seanna (5EE), Saarah (5LH), Jack (5EE) and Ayaan (5SR)



That's all for this week!
TTRS start again today
SEN Panathlon at WES today



Communication at Little Thurrock

| Learning and behaviour Concerns | Pastoral Concerns | Concern relating to particular learning or physical needs | Issues relating to staff | Concerns & Queries relating to school administration |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please raise your concern with your child's class teacher in the first instance.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>(Pastoral care covers our support of your child's individual needs, their emotional wellbeing and helping them with any personal problems they may be experiencing at school.)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Where a concern is related to a special need and you feel an adjustment may be required to support successful learning e.g. issues related to ASD (autistic spectrum disorders), dyslexia or dyspraxia or physical disabilities</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please contact reception who will forward your concern to the most appropriate person.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> |
| <p>Please arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher to discuss the concerns further.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please raise your concern with your child's class teacher.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please raise your concern with your child's class teacher in the first instance.</p> | | |
| <p>Please arrange a meeting with the phase lead for your child:</p> <p>Mrs Farrow Year 6 Miss Dowsett Year 5 Mrs Storey Year 3+4 Mrs Smith Year 1+2 Mrs Wade Nursery and Reception.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> | <p>If you feel that the class teacher is unable to help for pastoral concerns, please contact our Pastoral Lead Mrs Fleming.</p> <p>Mrs Fleming works with all of the children for behavioural and pastoral support.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please arrange an appointment with our Assistant Head teacher and SENCO Mrs Wright.</p> | | <p>Please speak to Mrs Greenfield Support Manager</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please make an appointment to see our Deputy Head teacher Mrs Joynes if you remain concerned following the steps above.</p> | | | | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Please make an appointment to see our Head teacher Mr Broyd if you remain concerned after following the steps above.</p> | | | | |
| <p>Teachers are available after school for informal conversations and appointments can be made with all of the above by contacting the school office on 01375 373586 or emailing a.mail.ltp@osborne.coop</p> | | | | |
| <p>If you are writing to the school it is really helpful if you give us as much information about the background of your concern or complaint as possible, including who it involves, and what you would like the outcome to be.</p> | | | | |



STAR SPORTS MORNING CLUBS & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

AT LITTLE THURROCK PRIMARY SCHOOL

CLUBS START: MONDAY 8TH JANUARY

CLUBS FINISH: THURSDAY 28TH MARCH

The clubs will run for the full term and children can attend multiple clubs.

| | |
|--|---|
| MONDAY 25 spaces £66 – 11 weeks | Gymnastics after school club from the end of the school day till 4.30pm for children in: Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 |
| TUESDAY 20 spaces FREE – 11 weeks | Indoor Athletics morning club from 8am till the start of the school day (8.35am) for children in: Year 1 & Year 2 |
| TUESDAY 20 spaces FREE – 11 weeks | Tag-rugby after school club from the end of the school day till 4.30pm for children in: Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 |
| WEDNESDAY 20 spaces FREE – 11 weeks | Basketball morning club from 8am till the start of the school day (8.35am) for children in: Year 3, Year 4 & Year 5 |
| WEDNESDAY 20 spaces £66 – 11 weeks | Dodgeball & Multi Sports after school club (basketball, hockey, cricket, tennis and much more!) from the end of the school day till 4.30pm for children in: Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 |
| THURSDAY 40 spaces £66 – 11 weeks | Football after school club from the end of the school day till 4.30pm for children in: Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 |

The clubs have limited spaces; therefore, spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis with waiting lists if needed.

Parents/Carers please ensure children attending the after school clubs are collected at 4.30pm from the school office and children attending the morning clubs are dropped off at the school office at 8am then the Star Sports staff member will take the children to their classes at 8.35am. Children need suitable/comfortable sportswear for the clubs, tracksuit, trainers (football boots are allowed but not essential), water, any medication (asthma pump, EpiPen etc.) and please send detailed information of the medical condition to us for our records along with any other relevant information that you feel we need to know.

Please contact Mr Cole to book places and for more information: **07976756259**

Please **TEXT** us each child's name, year, class, school, the club(s) you're booking for and any medical/allergy info.

TRANSFER PAYMENTS TO: MR K COLE 20-79-73 40797049

Please put 'LT' and the name of your child as the payment reference AND text us each time you make a payment (state the payment reference you have used each time please). We no longer accept cheques. Thank you!

Please **DO NOT** contact the school office regarding the Star Sports clubs as they are run by Star Sports and the school office will not be able to take or accept bookings or payments. Thank you.

LIMITED SPACES, BOOK NOW!

| September 2023 | | | | | | | October 2023 | | | | | | | November 2023 | | | | | | | December 2023 | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| | | | | | | | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 2024 | | | | | | | February 2024 | | | | | | | March 2024 | | | | | | | April 2024 | | | | | | | |
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | |
| May 2024 | | | | | | | June 2024 | | | | | | | July 2024 | | | | | | | August 2024 | | | | | | | |
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|
| Autumn Term: | Monday 4 September 2023 – Wednesday 20 December 2023 <i>Half Term 23 October – 3 November</i> | 73 days |
| Spring Term: | Thursday 4 January 2024 – Thursday 28 March 2024 <i>Half Term 19 February - 23 February</i> | 56 days |
| Summer Term: | Monday 15 April 2024 – Tuesday 23 July 2024 (22-23 July twilight inset payback) <i>Half Term 27 May – 31 May, and May Bank Holiday - 6 May</i> | 66 days |
| | | - |
| | | 195 days |

| | |
|--|--|
| | School Holiday |
| | Additional autumn half term |
| | Inset days, schools closed to students |
| | Trust conference, schools closed to students |

| September 2024 | | | | | | | October 2024 | | | | | | | November 2024 | | | | | | | December 2024 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 30 | 31 | | | | | |
| January 2025 | | | | | | | February 2025 | | | | | | | March 2025 | | | | | | | April 2025 | | | | | | |
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May 2025 | | | | | | | June 2025 | | | | | | | July 2025 | | | | | | | August 2025 | | | | | | |
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| | | | | | | | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | |
|--|--|
| | School Holiday |
| | Additional autumn half term (some Thurrock schools only) |
| | Inset days, schools closed to students |
| | Trust conference, schools closed to students |
| | Bank Holidays |

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-18 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18

CONSENSUS

DAINGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app, it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £5.99 to an eye-watering £99. TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthday.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people; compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 103 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or post a photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-18s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS

National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10-15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying; most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place - but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved; maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online - perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site - share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it - if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive - even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past - take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Hogg is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of Tech to Save the Planet, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and columnist.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeupWednesday

Thurrock Community News



Re. Preventing Street Robbery and what to do if it happens

Dear Students, Parents and Carers, I am writing to you in my capacity as the Force lead for Robbery. Whilst we continue to see crime falling in Essex, we generally see a rise in Robbery at this time of the year. I wanted to use this opportunity to warn you of the potential risk and provide some crime prevention advice. Raising awareness will undoubtedly help to keep young people safe on their way to and from school

Advice to help young people stay safe from robbery:

By sharing and discussing the following crime prevention advice with your child, you can help towards preventing them from becoming a victim of robbery:

- Be aware of your surroundings when out.
- Try to avoid using your mobile phone in public or having valuables on display.
- Smartphones in particular are attractive to thieves – a more basic mobile phone will enable you to stay in touch but be less of a target.
- Make a note of the phone's 15-digit International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number. You can find the IMEI number by dialling *#06# on the device. This can be recorded on <https://www.immobilise.com/> website; this will help police recover it if it's ever stolen.
- Earphones can make you more vulnerable as you are less aware of your surroundings.
- Having conversations with young people about the safest route home, avoiding shortcuts, is a good idea.
- Don't confront a thief – it's not worth risking your own safety for possessions that can be replaced.

What to do when a robbery happens:

If a robbery happens then calling 999 on a friend or trusted adult's phone gives police the best chance to provide an immediate response. It also gives us the best opportunity to catch the suspects, recover stolen items, and most importantly ensure they are safe. If they have returned home, they can still report online www.essex.police.uk or call 101.

Give information anonymously to Fearless:

Fearless provides non-judgemental advice about crimes that affect young people. They also provide a safe place for young people to give information about crime 100% anonymously. If your child has witnessed a robbery, or knows of any information and they do not wish to speak to the police, they can speak to Fearless 100 % anonymously at www.fearless.org.

Get support after a crime:

Although following crime prevention advice can help reduce the chances of being robbed, it may still happen. It can be a frightening experience which can leave young people feeling worried and scared afterwards. If your child has experienced a crime, Victim Support are an independent charity with a specialist team who help young people cope with the impact and effects of crime, including advice and support for witnesses who may attend court.

They can speak to trained staff any time of day 0808 1689 111 or via the live chat function on their website. www.victimsupport.org.uk/children-and-young-people.

Essex is a safe place to live, work and visit, but we can all make it even safer if we take precautionary actions.

Kind Regards,
Superintendent Tim Tubbs

- ▶ If you don't want to talk to police – contact Fearless online, without giving your name, at:

www.fearless.org

- ▶ Memorise or keep a note of a parent/carer's phone number in a separate place in case of emergency.



YOU CAN HELP US PROTECT AND TRACK YOUR PHONE IF IT'S STOLEN.

HERE'S THREE THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- ▶ Your phone will have security features such as a passcode or fingerprint/face ID. Make sure you use it to protect access to your phone.

- ▶ Tracker apps can help locate your phone if it's lost or stolen. Ask a parent to show you how to set one up.

- ▶ Record the phone's IMEI number in a separate place at home. Find this by typing in: ***#06#**

You'll need to give this number to police if it's stolen.



A SMALL GUIDE ON HOW TO KEEP YOUR PHONE SAFE



KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PHONE SAFE

Getting a phone is really exciting. You can stay in touch with friends and find out more about the world.



AS POLICE OFFICERS, OUR JOB IS TO KEEP YOU SAFE

It's also our job to stop people who want to steal property like phones, cash, earphones and even expensive coats or trainers. You can help us do that by being careful where you use your phone and taking care of cash and other valuable items.

FOUR TIPS TO KEEP SAFE

- ▶ Keep your phone and valuables out of sight and in a safe place. Take care when you take them out especially near bus stops and train stations.
- ▶ Stay alert and remember earphones/headphones can distract you from being aware of someone approaching from behind you. Thieves can approach on mopeds, e-scooters and pedal cycles.

- ▶ Don't fight back, it's not worth the risk when a phone can be replaced.
- ▶ Tell us if someone robs you or tries to. It's important you get help straight away by dialling **999** using a friend or trusted adult's phone rather than contacting police when you get home. This gives us the best chance to catch the suspects, recover stolen items and make sure you're safe.



HUNGER FREE FUTURE

EASTER EGG APPEAL

WE WOULD LOVE TO PROVIDE THE FAMILIES WE SUPPORT WITH A SPECIAL TREAT THIS EASTER. WE ARE COLLECTING EASTER EGGS TO PUT SOME SMILES ON THE CHILDREN'S FACES.

CAN YOU HELP?



Thurrock Foodbank,
2-4 Chase Road, Corringham, Essex, SS17 7QH

Contact—katecollier@thurrock.foodbank.org.uk
Office—01375 416200


Website—www.thurrock.foodbank.org.uk
Registered Charity Number—297569

Opening hours—Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am—3pm

Thameside Family Hub

Manor Road, Grays, RM17 6EF
 Email: thamesidecc@thurrock.gov.uk Phone: 01375 387 894



 thurrock.gov.uk

What's on in March 2024

Mondays

| Start | End | Activity | Age groups | How to join in |
|---------|---------|---|-----------------|--|
| 8.30am | 12.00pm | Housing Advice for Council Tenants | | Book in advance 01375 413820 |
| 9:30am | 10:30am | Baby Rhyme Time | 0 to 12 Months | All welcome |
| 9.30am | 10.30am | Bring a Story to Life 4 th – The Three Billy Goats Gruff 11 th – Old Macdonald Had a Farm 18 th - The Three Little Pigs 25 th – The Very Hungry Caterpillar | 24 to 60 Months | All welcome |
| 11:00am | 12:00pm | Baby Massage | 0 to 12 Months | Book in advance |
| 2:00pm | 3:00pm | Stay and Play | 24 to 60 Months | All Welcome |

Tuesdays

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| 9:30am | 10:30am | Stay and Play | 12 to 24 Months | All Welcome |
| 10.00am | 12.00pm | STOP – Parenting Programme for Parents of Teenagers | | Referral only |
| 11:00am | 12:00pm | Fun with Books – 5 th March Fun with Sticking – 12 th March Fun with Mark Making – 19 th March Fun with Instruments – 26 th March | 12 to 60 Months | All Welcome |
| 2:00pm | 3:00pm | Sensory Play 5 th – 0 to 12 months 12 th – 12 to 24 months 19 th – 24 to 60 months 26 th – 0 to 12 months | | All Welcome |

Wednesdays

| | | | | |
|--------|---------|--|--|------------------------|
| 9:00am | 4:00pm | Midwife | Ante Natal | Book in advance |
| 9.00am | 11.00am | Children's Continence Advisor 6 th March | 18months + | Drop In |
| 9.30am | 10.30am | Parents 1 st Coffee Morning/Drop In 13 th March | This is an opportunity for you to meet other expectant mums in your area and get | All welcome |

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|--|---|------------------------|
| | | | information on local groups available to you. | |
| 10:30am | 11:30am | SEND - Just For You | 0 to 60 Months | All welcome |
| 11:00am | 12:00pm | Stay and Play 13th, 20th and 27th March | 0 to 12 Months | All welcome |
| 1.30pm | 2.30pm | Let's Talk to your Toddler | 12 to 24 Months | Book in advance |
| 1.30pm | 2.30pm | Fussy Eating 20th March | 12 to 60 Months | Book in advance |
| 4.00pm | 5.30pm | Young Carers | | Referral only |

Thursdays

| | | | | |
|--------|---------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 9:00am | 4:00pm | Midwife | Ante Natal | Book in advance |
| 9.30am | 11.00am | Chatterbox | 24 to 60 Months | Referral only |
| 1.30pm | 2.45pm | Baby Weighing Clinic– Drop In | 0 to 60 Months | All Welcome |
| 1.00pm | 3.00pm | Triple P Baby Parenting Programme | Ante-natal or parents with a child aged 0-12 months | Book in advance |

Fridays

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 9.00am | 1.00pm | Speech and Language Drop- In 1st March | | Referral Only |
| 9:00am | 1:00pm | Early Interaction Advice Sessions | 24 to 60 Months | Referral Only |
| 9.30am | 10.30am | Garden Group 1st March | 24 to 60 Months | All welcome |
| 10:00am | 12:30pm | Job Club – Supported Families Employment Adviser | | Book in advance 07776245301 |
| 10:00am | 4:00pm | Inclusion Visions - Substance Misuse and Support – Drop in | 18 + Years | Lorraine. G 07977 792 236 |
| 11.15am | 12.15pm | Let's Talk to Your Baby | 0 to 12 Months | Book in advance |
| 1.30pm | 2.30pm | Stay and Play | 0 to 12 Months | All welcome |

Brighter Futures – Family Hub Offer

Please use this link to see the Family Hub's offer and activity details –

www.thurrock.gov.uk/family-hub-activities

Please see the Thurrock website for details of each Family Hub and what is on offer each month and Face Book for information:

www.facebook.com/groups/thurrockchildrenscentres

Are you registered with the Family Hub? If not, you can do this online.

Visit: www.thurrock.gov.uk/family-hubs



FREE School Uniform

free for everyone,
no referral needed!

Events

Fridays

3 - 4.30pm

19th January
16th February
15th March
19th April
17th May
21st June



Saturdays

10 - 11.30am

20th January
17th February
16th March
20th April
18th May
22nd June



**Community Church Chadwell St Mary
Defoe Parade (enter from Brentwood Road)**

RM16 4QR

Save the planet 🌍, and your pennies 🪙! 🪙!

Hundreds of items in stock:

- Polo shirts
- Shirts & blouses
- Skirts
- Trousers
- Socks
- Pinafore dresses
- Jumpers & cardigans
- Blazers & ties
- PE kit incl football socks
- Plimsolls
- Black shoes
- Coats

Clean, good condition school uniform donations accepted when space allows. Please check our facebook page to see if we are currently collecting. Search facebook for "The 180 Project"

An event run by The 180 Project, part of Community Church
Registered charity no. 1062301. Tel: 01375 484 101

