

All Things Thurlby

Dear Parents

Another year has flown by and wow what a year we have had with incredible achievements from individuals and successes as a school. Looking back, to the start of the year, and seeing how much the children have developed and grown is amazing and rewarding. We have enjoyed so many exciting trips and visits/visitors this year from Rockingham Castle, Hunstanton Beach, the Space Centre, a fire engine visit, fieldwork in the local community, the residential, to visits from; a rap artist, a police officer, Roots to Food and also developing our gardens with the help of our Chair of Governors Dr Jagger and our other trusted volunteers, for whom we are so grateful to, PTFA events, church services, charity events and theme days. All these events above could not happen without the staff's hard-work, enthusiasm and dedication and the support from you as parents and the PTFA. We value the relationships we have with you - our parents. We thank you for encouraging your children to be the best they can be, being responsible for the decisions they make and the actions they take and encouraging them to become independent.

We are extremely proud to inform you that we have, for another year running, performed extremely well in our EYFS, end of key stage 1 and key stage 2 results and are above National average in the core subjects. We will provide more information, in the Autumn term, once the official statistical release is given to schools.



We would like to all wish all our staff, and children, that are moving on to pastures new, a fond farewell and we wish all our wonderful Year 6 children every success in their new adventures at secondary school! We wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all in September- don't forget school starts back on Wednesday 6th September. We look forward to seeing you then.

Staffing Additions

We have now appointed a new Pastoral Lead. Mrs O'Loughlin, who has recently achieved certification for being an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) Lead and a Youth Mental Health First Aider, has always wanted to join the Pastoral Team. Since Covid-19, she has sought to enhance her own professional development gaining certification in many pastoral courses. We cannot wait for Mrs O'Loughlin to start in this role, alongside her Assistant Guinea Pigs, in September.

We have appointed a new Administrative Assistant, Mrs Tams, who will support Mrs Pengelly, in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Mrs Burton will remain in Thurlby, as Procurement and Premises Administrator, on Mondays and Thursdays as she will be working for the central team for Keystone Academy Trust on the other days.

We have also appointed an EYFS TA, Miss Hickman, who has a wealth of experience working in EYFS. She will work with Mrs Dubell 5 days a week.

We are pleased to announce that Miss Ayliff will continue to work with us next year as an Enhanced Support TA in EYFS.

Mrs Finch

Year 6

It has been a very busy week for our Year 6 children as they have counted down their last days at Thurlby Academy.

Tuesday night saw the culmination of weeks of hard work by our Year 6 children and staff with the presentation to parents of the production 'Dazzle!'.

It was a runaway success with the children excelling themselves in their singing and acting. The children should all be very proud of themselves!



The children all headed over to Spalding for a game of bowling on Wednesday which was great fun.





A special treat was organised and paid for by Mrs Sewell today.



PTFA

Thank you to all our children and families for supporting the PTFA and our school this year. We would like to say a massive thank you to our PTFA members who have worked tirelessly throughout the year organising and helping at events. We are extremely grateful to you all and couldn't afford so many of the educational and supplementary resources for our children without your hard work and commitment.

If you would like to know more about becoming a member of the PTFA then please do come along to the AGM in September to hear more about what this involves. Details below:

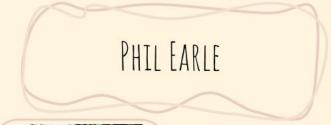
Thurlby PTFA AGM Monday 11th September 2023 Lawrance Park Social Room 7.30pm



Governors and Volunteers

We would also like to say a very big thank you to our local governing body and our volunteers who give up their time on a regular basis to support our school and children. The work each and every one of you do is so helpful and valuable to us and we really do appreciate you all very much! We hope you enjoy a well-earned rest during the summer holidays.

Author of the Week









Children's Award winner at the Books Are My Bag awards, 2021 When Phil was younger, he had no desire to be a writer and, instead, wanted to be a footballer! When he realised this wasn't to be, he worked in a book shop and it was here he realised his passion for children's literature.

Phil believes that there is a story out there for every child. His own books are full of adventure, and are predominantly set in the war and include animal companions.

Phil Earle says:

If you like Emma Carroll or M.G. Leonard, you'll love these books!

Read. It doesn't matter what you read. Comics, magazines, poems, novels, it doesn't matter. Read with your eyes but with your ears too. Let others tell you stories. It's still reading if you listen... most of all, enjoy your stories. The only reason to read is for pleasure. It's that simple.



Mrs K Finch Headteacher Adult Mental Health First Aider



Upcoming Calendar Dates

Tuesday 29th August -Monday 4th September -Tuesday 5th September -**Wednesday 6th September -**Monday 11th September -Friday 6th October - Last day to order hot meals for first week back Training Day Training Day Start of Autumn Term 1 2023

PTFA AGM - Lawrance Park Hall @ 7.30pm Flu immunisations

Summer activities

The BIG Day Out for Little Kids is coming to both Newark and Sleaford this summer holidays as part of their summer tour, visiting Sleaford on the 12th August and Newark on the 31st. The event is specifically designed for children under the age of 10, with all of the activities included in the entry price. Activities include high energy inflatables, role play areas, under 5's area, baby zone, activity arena, sumo suits, giant inflatable games and more!

This year Funtopia is holding an Autism Friendly Session at the start of the event to allow neurodiverse children and families the chance to enjoy the event as well, in a much quieter session with the addition of sensory activities! More details on these sessions can be found on our FB page www.facebook.com/funtopiauk





Promoting Reading for Pleasure at home



Introduction

There is strong evidence linking reading for pleasure and educational outcomes but the benefits of reading for pleasure go beyond this and stretch throughout a person's life. Reading increases our understanding of our own identity, improves empathy and gives us an insight into the world view of others.

We have put this poster together to help you promote reading for pleasure at home.

Reading Role Models

We need to make sure that the children see us reading. Many children see their parent on their phone and just assume that they are playing a game as that is what they would use the phone for. Not understanding that we may be reading. Similarly with kindles, children may think it is just a tablet.

The more they see the adults around them read, the more they will consider doing it themselves. Show them that it is fun!

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Bedtime Stories

Due to time restraints, many families miss out on bedtime stories but the benefits are huge! Reading to your child for just 10 minutes a day/night can improve their vocabulary, encourage them to read independently and can also improve parent/child relationships. This is not just a KS1 issue. Older children love a bedtime story too (even if they won't always admit it!)

Bedtime stories can be whatever you and your child want to read together!(Extra tip - Do the voices! You can have a good giggle together at your brilliant/miserable attempts at doing various accents...)



If you don't feel confident reading aloud there is always the CBeebies bedtime story, but do this as a family activity rather than the children on their own, then you can talk about the story together afterwards.

Book Talk

Sometimes, children will just want to sit and listen to a book because they are so engrossed in the story. This is completely fine, there is no need to quiz them after every chapter that you read.



But sometimes informal book talk can be a fantastic way to discuss what has been read. Picture books lend themselves well to informal book talk because children want to explore and discuss the pictures, which often tell us so much more than the words.

- Make links/connections Do the characters/settings remind you of anyone/anywhere? Have you been in a similar situation? Have you learnt about this from TV/School?
- Make predictions Can you guess what the story is about?
 What will happen next?
- Discuss/introduce vocabulary If there is a tricky word, can you explain what it means?
- Discuss emotions How does the story make you feel?
 Some children find it hard to articulate their feelings, so if it is modelled for them by adults it can help them understand their own feelings.

Allow Their Choices

We need to allow children to read what they want to (within reason). Some children may find comfort in re-reading a book. There is nothing wrong with this at all. As adults we re-watch films many times and notice new things with each viewing, the same applies with books.

Comics, graphic novels and audiobooks are all valid reading materials and shouldn't be looked down upon. The same goes for the popular authors like Walliams and Kinney (Diary of a Wimpy Kid).

Imagine that books are like food... Comfort reads are not nutritional but we still love them (just in moderation). Harder richer texts are delicious, but too many can make us feel a little overwhelmed and needing of something easier occasionally.

If you do feel that your child is 'stuck' on a particular author or genre and you need book recommendations, speak to your child's class teacher or check out these reading tube maps that may help. https://tinyurl.com/reading-tubemap

