

Thriplow C of E Primary School

Newsletter: 13th September 2024



We have had a very full week in school. The children are settling in their new classes and we are all very much enjoying being back together in school.

A huge, huge thank you to you all for your patience with various glitches using MCAS this term so far. It seems we sort one problem out and another arises! We are getting there though! Mrs Sandford has asked that you please get in touch with the office if you have any problems at all as she is really keen to iron out individual problems with the system.

Parents' Consultations will take place for children in Year 1-6 on the 24th September and 26th September. The sign up will go live on MCAS at midday on Monday 16th September.

Our Year 6 children are very much enjoying being at the 'top' of the school and are looking forward to carrying out their Year 6 responsibilities. See further down for a full list. Johanna, Leo, Josh and Lily led our first School Council meeting of the school year today. Otto, Izzy, Emilia, Hamish and Maddie are our class representatives this term. We are currently finalising which charities we will be supporting as a school. The school council children have come up with the charities and are voting for them. On the subject of charities, we are holding our MacMillan Coffee Morning slightly later, in October this year. Please make sure you have this change of date in your diaries.

Year 5 (and some year 6) have been superstars during Bikeability this week. The people who were leading the training commented on how well-behaved, hard-working and determined the children had been!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Best Wishes,

Lucy How



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Useful dates!

1 st October	Harvest Festival in church – 9.15
23 rd October	Individual and sibling photos
24 th and 26 th September	Parent Consultations (for Years 1-6)
3 rd October	NSPCC workshops for Year 2, 5 and 6
10 th October	MacMillan Coffee Morning
14 th October	Year 5/6 netball
23 rd October	Year 5/6 girls football tournament
Week Beginning 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
26 th November	Dragonflies Class Trip
29 th November	Decoration Day
4 th December	Key Stage 2 Cross Country
10 th December	Nativity Dress Rehearsal (morning – time TBC)
11 th December	Nativity Performance – 2.30pm
12 th December	Nativity Performance – 6pm
13 th December	Festive Friday
17 th December	KS2 Concert (afternoon – time TBC)
18 th December	Christingles (children will need an orange)
18 th December	Christmas lunch
20 th December	Carol Service in church – 2.30
21 st January	Young Voices
Week Beginning 3 rd February	RSE week

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Term Dates

Autumn 2024		
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 25th October</i>
	Half Term	28th October – 1 st November
	Term Ends	Friday 20th December
Spring 2025		
	Term Begins	Monday 6th January
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 14th February</i>
	Half Term	17th-21 st February
	Term Ends	Friday 4 th April
Summer 2025		
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 22nd April</i>
	Term Begins	Wednesday 23rd April
	May Day	Monday 6th May
	Half Term	26th May – 30th May
	<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Monday 2nd June</i>
	Term Ends	Wednesday 23 rd July



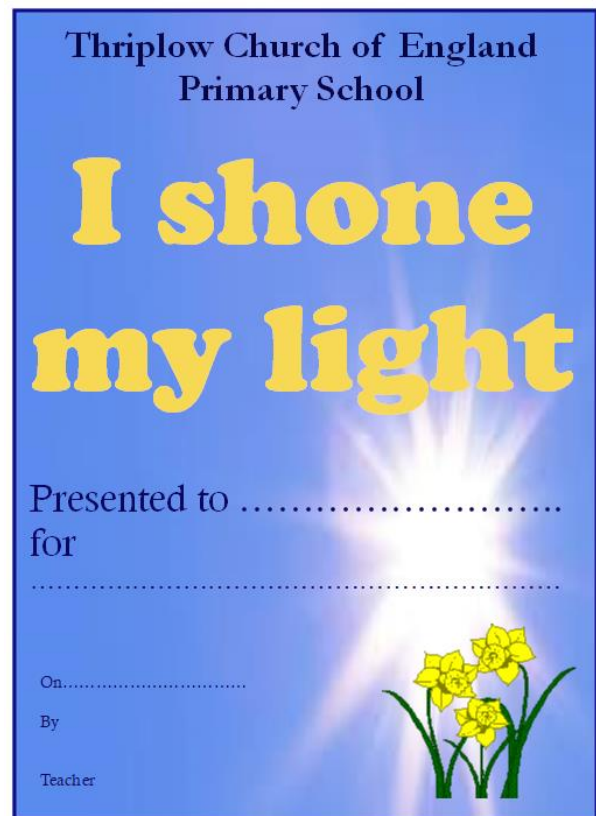
Happy Birthday to Ellie, Oisín, and Otto who have celebrated their birthdays this week!



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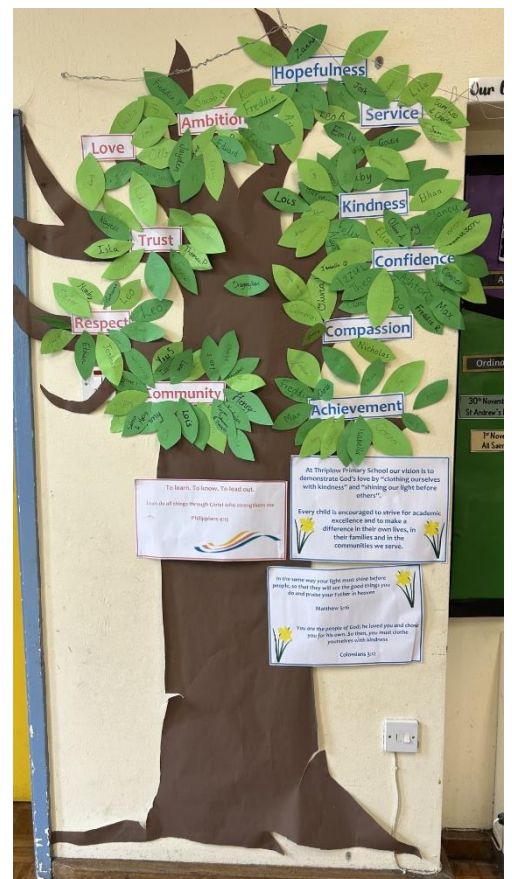
Our certificate winners this week are: -

- Oliver (Year 1)
- Olivia (Year 1)
- Lucian (Year 2)
- Lila (Year 3)
- Kyan (Year 3)
- Hamish (Year 4)
- Jess (Year 5)
- Johanna (Year 6)
- Dylan (Year 6)



The following children were
added to the 'Vision and Values'
tree for living out our Thriplow
and DEMAT values.

- Joey (Community)
- Olivia (Kindness)
- Ruby (Community)
- Harrison (Confidence)



Shine your light before others

Year 6 Jobs

2024-2025



Ambassador	Johanna
Ambassador	Leo
Bacon House Captain	Esme
Barenton House Captain	Jacob
Bassett House Captain	Aliyah
Bury House Captain	Tom
Charity	Josh/Lily
Collective Worship	Joey
Ants Class	Isabella and Alice
Sport	Dylan
Eco	Bea
Playground	Guy
Library	Olivia and Oisin

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Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For Example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 Consecutive days of Term Time Leave

Penalty notice fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

10 Sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10- week period

Penalty notice fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance 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 Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's court. Magistrates fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

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

Local Authority DO NOT accept the following as exceptional circumstances:

- My work do not allow me to take holidays during the school summer holiday period, even if they provide a letter
- My child needs a holiday at quieter times due to needs
- Our holiday has been gifted and paid for and did not have a choice of dates
- My child has good or 100% attendance
- I will report my child being poorly - schools are expected to carry out home visits, if a holiday is suspected, school will report to the local authority for a penalty notice fine

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HOUSE POINTS

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	51	64
Barenton	75	86
Bassett	74	97
Bury	67	76

Well done **Barenton**!

Safeguarding at Thriplow

Lucy How and Melissa Hardege are the designated safeguarding leads at Thriplow School.

If you have a concern about a child, please come and speak to or email either of us. Alternatively please speak to any member of staff who will be able to pass on information.

If you feel that a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection>

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Helping children and young people with MANAGING DEVICE STRESS AND ANXIETY

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The internet and advances in the capability of digital devices have afforded us arguably the fastest period of technological and social evolution in living memory: creating opportunities for us to interact with people anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day. It's also, however, blurred safety boundaries and added new stresses for young people, who are often less aware of the hidden hazards. With almost half of 10–15-year-olds experiencing bullying online and algorithms pushing content in front of our children every day, it's important to know how to address some of these challenges.

LIVING ONLINE

The internet is awash with sophisticated algorithms that learn from our online behaviour and try to predict our wants and needs. That's very helpful in some respects, but it can make the online world difficult for children and young people to negotiate. Content can be brought to them at any time – it may not always be appropriate, and children may not have the ability or the support to deal with it.

PUSHY NOTIFICATIONS

Content is also directed at us through notifications from our apps: letting us know we have a new message or social post to read, for example. While that's useful in some circumstances, it conditions us to keep going back online (and is designed to do so) and can be a near-constant demand on your child's attention. As such alerts become more common, are we experiencing an 'attack of the pings'?

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

There are now so many ways we can communicate online in real time (like instant messaging apps) or with a delay (such as on social media) that it's possible to be constantly in conversation. Young people often prefer quickfire exchanges of text – but using fewer words can cause distressing miscommunications through the lack of non-verbal cues like facial expressions or tone of voice.

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY

As devices allow access to immediate external help in challenging situations, it's a concern that children may not be developing the inner confidence to work things out for themselves. Likewise, group membership is hugely important to young people – both in digital and 'real' life – and being excluded from online conversations can cause damaging feelings of loneliness and isolation.

DISGUISED DISTRESS

Children often haven't yet developed the emotional resources to deal with many of the setbacks of everyday life, so identifying when it's specifically something online that's worried them can be tricky. A certain level of stress is a normal response to a problem: it spurs us into action to keep ourselves safe. If the stress is excessive, though, it can feel overwhelming and potentially lead to anxiety or depression.

ANTI-SOCIAL SOCIALS

Social media can bring people together in hugely positive ways. Sadly, it does also have a darker side, including 'flame war' arguments which can escalate quickly and have hurtful consequences. With so many people looking on, 'group shaming' situations are also common – while there are continual opportunities for young people to compare themselves negatively with other social media users.

Advice for Parents & Carers

LEARN THE BASICS

It's impossible to keep up with every online change or every new app. The best option is to make yourself aware of the fundamentals of how the internet operates, so you can help your child to grasp how – and why – content reaches them. Devices and the digital world can be confusing, so learning to understand them better will give you the confidence to talk to your child about them.

TALK IT OUT

If a child mentions a comment that's been directed at them in a text chat or on social media, it may sound minor but can actually have a much bigger effect than we realise. In our evolved brains, any perceived threat can get internalised while our body reacts as if we were in physical danger – raising stress levels. It's always worth encouraging your child to get any concerns out in the open.

PUSH DISTRACTIONS AWAY

Notifications to our phones and tablets can be helpful, but they sometimes make one wonder who's really in charge: the person or the device? Checking our phone as soon as it goes off is an easy habit to fall into – especially for young people. Try switching off non-essential alerts on your devices and encourage your child to do the same: you should both feel less triggered and more in control.

LOOK FOR THE SIGNS

This is tricky – and may depend on the child's age – but any sudden change in behaviour is worth looking out for. If your child seems to be checking their phone or tablet more, doesn't want to be parted from them, or appears unusually secretive, anxious or withdrawn, it could be a sign that something is amiss in relation to their device – and, possibly, that they're in need of extra support.

KEEP CHECKING IN

Healthy emotional regulation balances three systems: threat, drive and grounding. Down the various rabbit holes of the internet, however, that balance can easily slip away – so it's important to help your child manage their emotions when they're online. Check in with them regularly when they're on their device, and remember that 'distraction' and 'relaxation' aren't always the same thing.

BE KIND: UNWIND

Be kind to yourselves as parents and carers. Remember that we're all in the same boat, trying to safely guide our children through this complex, fast-moving digital environment. Getting into the habit of having natural, relaxed conversations with your child about their online life (and yours) can level the playing field and make it far easier for them to open up to you about any concerns.

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Breakfast Club at Ladybird



Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am

Early Starters from 8:30

September 2024
Please book sessions required for Breakfast Club
in order to guarantee your child's place.
Adhoc sessions may still be available, numbers
permitting, but we do ask for 24 hours' notice.
This also applies to cancellations.
ladybirdplaygrouphriplow@gmail.com



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygrouphriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

Registration forms can be found on the School Website

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