Thriplow School Newsletter

2nd October





We have had another busy week in school! The week started with a PTA meeting in the hall. Many thanks to those of you who were able to attend. There is information further down the newsletter about how you can support the PTA and the school this term. Please do not hesitate to ask a member of the PTA core committee, or Ms Sandford or myself if you have any questions.

Year 6 had a really fun morning on Wednesday taking part in the GenR8 'Cool Choices' workshop. The GenR8 team were so impressed by year 6 describing them as confident, thoughtful and well-behaved. They said they were a delight to spend time with and they were impressed by how well they engaged. Whilst on the subject of Year 6, we are so proud of them for being amazing play leaders as well! They have been leading the younger children in play at lunchtimes and have been so patient and kind. Well done Year 6!

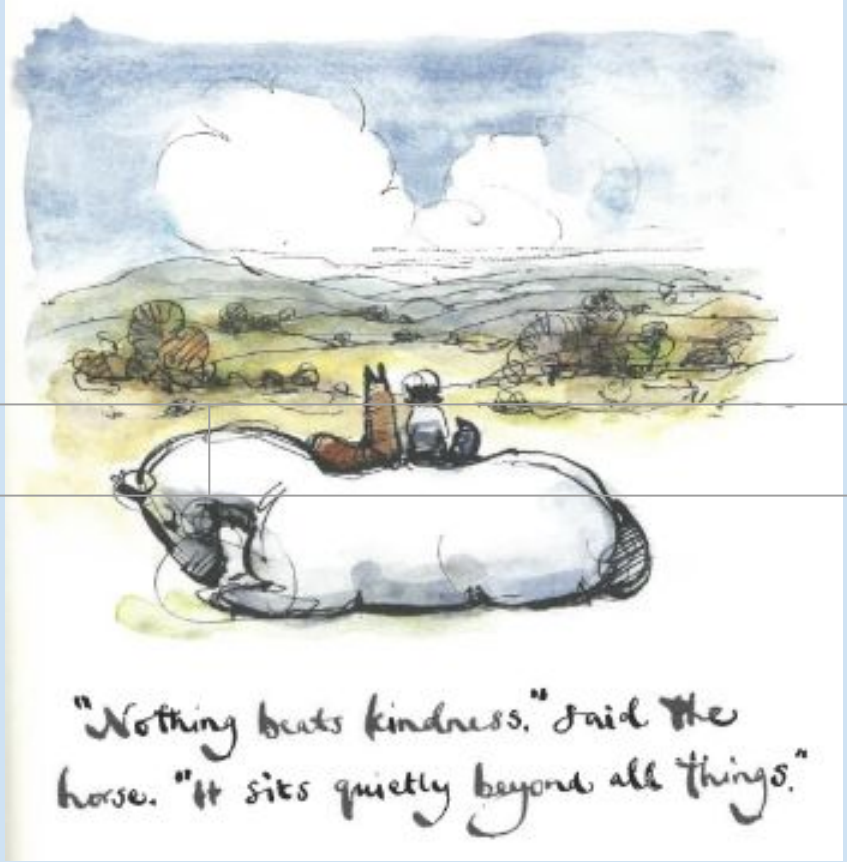
Please remember that Cauliflower Christmas Cards must be back in school by Monday morning at the very latest. They will be collected by the company any time from Monday afternoon. Please do ensure that if you have brought a design back, that you have ordered online. Similarly, if you have ordered online, please make sure we have your design. It saves a lot of administrative difficulties later on!

We look forward to welcoming you to our Harvest Festival on Tuesday morning. If you are able, we would welcome donation of non-perishable food (in date) to donate to Jimmy's. Please bring these on the day.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,

Lucy How



MAT of the Year 2024

	www.facebook.com/thriplowschool
	www.instagram.com/thriplow.school
	x.com/thriplowschool
	https://thr.graceschools.org.uk/

In the same way your light must shine before people so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5:16*

You are the people of God: he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with kindness. *Colossians 3:12*

Important Dates -

6th October	Harvest Festival in church - 9.15am (this should last about an hour)
16th October	No Celebration Collective Worship
5th November	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
6th November	Open classroom - 3pm
9th November	Flu vaccinations
Week beginning 16th November	Anti-bullying week
23rd November	Uniform swap/Coffee morning 9am
27th November	Decoration day
1st December	Grace Schools Carol Service (Y6 only)
8th December	KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal
9th December	Nativity 2.30pm
10th December	Nativity 6pm
11th December	Festive Friday (Christmas Jumpers)
15th December	Key Stage 2 Concert

Important Dates

16th December	Christingle Day
18th December	Carol Service 2.30pm in church
7th January	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
8th January	Open Classroom - 3pm
11th January	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
19th January	Young Voices
Week beginning 8th February	RSE week
23rd February and 25th February	Parent Consultations (All children)
25th February	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
26th February	Open Classroom - 3pm
4th March	World Book Day
12th - 13th March	Daffodil Weekend
17th March	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
25th March	End of term service - 2.30pm in church

Important Dates

15th April (TBC)	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
16th April	Open Classroom - 3pm
22nd April	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning - 9am
Week beginning 10th May	SATs week
Week beginning 17th May	Year 5/6 residential
Fortnight beginning 7th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Holy Communion	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
11th June	Grace Schools Art Exhibition
Week beginning 14th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
24th June	Sports Day
Week beginning 28th June	Poetry Recital Competition
2nd July	Open Classroom
6th July	KS2 Dress rehearsal - 9.30pm
7th July	KS2 production - 2.30pm
8th July	KS2 production - 6pm
12th July	Uniform Swap/Coffee morning
15th July	Transition morning (9-10.30)
19th July	End of Term Concert

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Tuesday 6th October at 9.15am. All the children will be performing and they are invited to bring in donations of non-perishable food. Please ensure donated food is in date. Food will be donated to Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge.

There will be a retiring collection for the children's chosen charity this term - Age UK so do bring some loose change!



Cauliflower Cards

Christmas Cards designed by your children will have come home in the last week. Please read the form attached carefully to see how to order cards, wrapping paper, mugs etc with your child's beautiful design on it!

Designs must be returned by Monday morning at the latest!



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2026	
INSET Day	***Tuesday 1st September***
Start of Term	Wednesday 2nd September
INSET Day	***Friday 23rd October***
Half Term	Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October
End of Term	Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2027	
Start of Term	Monday 4th January
INSET Day	***Friday 12th February***
Half Term	Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February
End of Term	Thursday 25th March

Summer Term	
Start of Term	Monday 12th April
Bank Holiday	***Monday 3rd May***
Half Term	Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June
INSET Day	***Monday 7th June***
End of Term	Tuesday 20th July
INSET Day	***Wednesday 21st July***

Safeguarding at Thriplow

Lucy How, Annabel Forde and Kulsoom Sheikh 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

Useful websites:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/

https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/

https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/

House Points

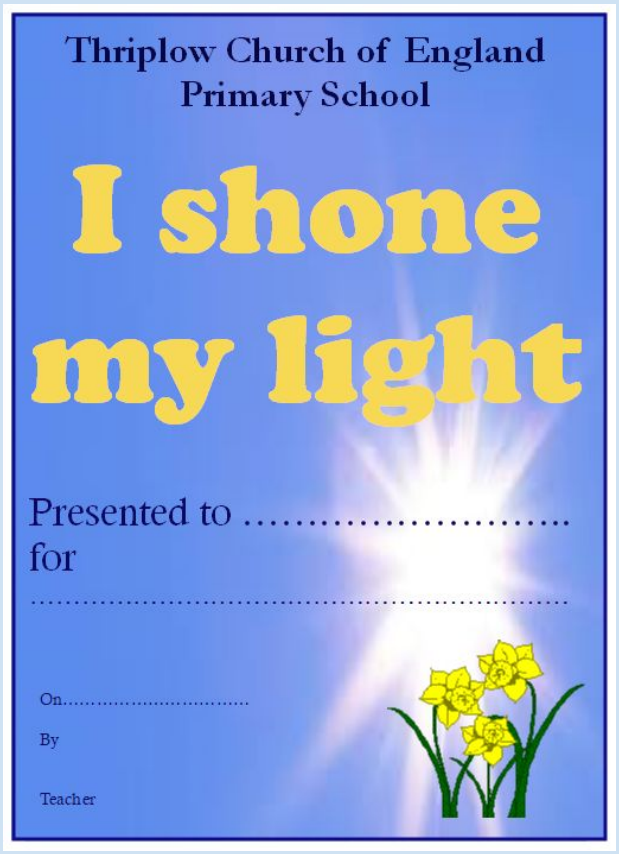
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	114	359
Barenton	145	403
Bassett	105	300
Bury	91	361

Well done Barenton !

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- **Henry (Reception)**
- **Kitty (Year 2)**
- **Elias (Year 2)**
- **Annabelle (Year 4)**
- **Monty (Year 4)**
- **Hollie (Year 5)**
- **Annabel (Year 6)**
- **Ellie (Year 6)**





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

- **Harry (achievement)**
- **Fitz (Ambition)**
- **Arlo (Ambition)**
- **Year 6 (Service)**

Happy Birthday

to Henry D. Evelyn and Lily who have celebrated their birthdays this week!

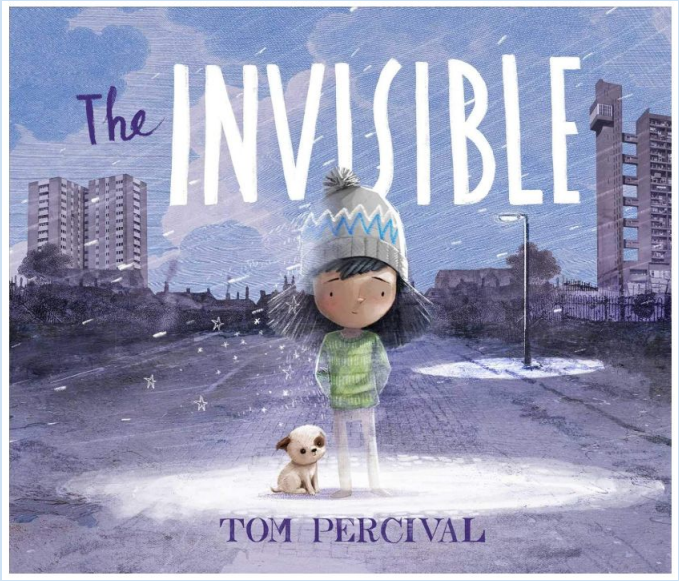
Birthday Books

If you would like to donate a book to our library to celebrate your child's birthday, then we would be so grateful. Please follow this link to see a list of books that we would like.

https://amzn.eu/ez2OYOf

Many thanks to Henry for donating this book on the occasion of his 8th birthday.





Many thanks to Lily for donation this book on the occasion of her 6th birthday.

Thriplow Primary School

Library

Open on Thursdays and Fridays after school.

Please pop in and visit!

Your child's learning

Ants:

Ants have had a good week!

We have enjoyed learning our new Unit 2 sounds: n,o,p. Ants class very quickly recognised, built words, read words and wrote words using the new sounds. We also played a symbol search game in which the children had to find the correct sound.

In Maths this week we are finishing our Counting to 5 unit. The children discussed that although objects might be different in size and shape, the total is still how many there are altogether. The children also started subitising to 5 this week, subitising is looking at a dot pattern (such as a dice) and asking children to see how many there are without counting. Ants class are getting better at using fast eyes to recognise the amount. Next week we will be moving onto counting to 6.

Ants class have continued to work hard developing their fine motor skills this week. The children had their first pen party today in which they had to draw certain patterns to help develop patterns for writing.

In Understanding the World, the children explored how they got to school such as walking, driving or riding a bike. We then investigated a range of pictures of different locations in Thriplow Village, the children were able to identify the village shop, the church and then Thriplow School. Ants' class then made their own maps of Thriplow School which included Ms Sandford's office, the school hall, library, Ants classroom

and playground.



Butterflies:

Butterflies class have continued to work hard this week.

In Maths this week, the Year 2 children have looked at 3-D shapes and their properties. It will be great if they could do a 3-D shape hunt to see what objects they can find.

The Year 1 children have been adding and subtracting 1 to numbers up to 20. Please recap these with your child, so they become fluent with this.

In English, we have continued to read 'Hansel and Gretel.' The children identified the mini plot. You could ask your child what happened at the beginning, what the different mini plot was and how it was solved.

In Geography, the children used the directions of a compass to identify the location of places around the school. When you are visiting or passing places, it may be an idea to ask your child to tell you what they can see eg. What is North to you?

In art, the children painted their own seascape, by looking at examples from Monet's paintings - Shadows on the sea and The sea at Fecamp.

In RE, the children looked at the Bible and how it is like a mini library. We also looked at the Old Testament and the New Testament. The children then thought about a book that is special to them.

In Phonics, the children have been looking at the different spellings of /ae/

If you would like to share activities that your child has done over the weekend with us, then please send it via Tapestry. We have enjoyed discussing

what you have shared so far with your child.



Bees:

In Year 3, we have been learning about tenths in decimal and fraction form in Maths. We will be concluding our unit on place value and we start looking at geometry next week.

In Year 4, we have been rounding 3 digit and 4 digit digits to the nearest 10,100 and 4 digit numbers to the nearest 1000. Next week, we will be looking at negative numbers and Roman numerals before also moving onto geometry,

In English, we have been learning how to use adverbs and fronted adverbials to uplevel descriptions as we prepare for planning and writing our own narrative segments inspired by Stig of the Dump.

In History, we have been learning about the Bronze Age and will be looking at the Iron Age.

In P.E, we have been learning about techniques for receiving batons in running relay races and also passing and receiving the ball in netball. The children have also practised shooting using the netball hoops.

In Latin, the children had great fun learning how to introduce themselves and giving themselves latin names.

We have also been busy practising the Harvest Samba song ready for Harvest Festival celebrations next week!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqpkWsR6Yew

After a few technical hitches, Year 4 completed their first baseline multiplication assessment. Results of these will be shared next week. Year 3 will also receive heatmaps from Times Tables Rockstars. Apologies for the delay!



Dragonflies:

Dragonflies have had a great week full of lots of interesting learning. On Wednesday, year 6 had their 'cool choices' workshop with GenR8 and I was so proud of their engagement. Mrs Maloney who went with them said that it was the best workshop she'd been to as the children were happy to share their thoughts and consider what a 'cool choice' might be. I was also very pleased with year 5 students who had a different morning in the classroom with me but worked hard on their Maths learning on negative numbers and then when we looked at the poem 'To Autumn' by John Keats.

The rest of the week involved lots of learning. On Monday the children continued our learning about friendships as we considered how to resolve conflict. We also learnt more about the Saturnalia in Latin and did some long distance running in preparation for cross country next half term. The children persevered with their running really well as we did run for a considerable distance!

On Tuesday, I really enjoyed our RE learning about different genres of Christian music. The children loved hearing different songs and considering how this form of worship points Christians towards God. In Science, the children planned their own investigations to answer, "How does exercise affect heart rate?" The children will carry out these experiments next week.

On Thursday, the children continued to be fascinated by our learning on WWI where this week we looked at the home front. They also learnt about attacking in netball. Today the children thought about different types of maps in Geography. These maps showed the children about GDP and farming etc. In Art, the children were very pleased to show the drawings of their hands today in Celebration Collective Worship. We moved on to drawing ears today! Please don't forget a yoghurt pot for Monday as next week the children will be making plaster moulds that they will paint in Art.



Dragonflies:

Throughout the week, in English, the children have been looking more closely at our book, 'The 1000 Year Old Boy'. We considered themes of loneliness and isolation. We have also started to consider what a good story looks like in preparation for writing our own story next week. In Maths, year 6 have finished their decimal learning this week with complex decimal multiplication. This work was challenging but they all preserved well. Next week they will move onto a new topic of multiplication and division. Year 5 have continued learning on place value by thinking about negative numbers and roman numerals. They have now finished their topic and will move on to decimals next week.

Next week, the class will be performing their harvest song on Tuesday. It sounds really beautiful and they are excited to share it with you all. Next week is also Mock SATs week for year 6. We have discussed that this is a week to help them get used to the format of SATs and help me see what work we need to do more of this year. I know that this will be a tiring week for year 6 but a useful one for us all. Year 5 will be completing a small project based on national gallery paintings whilst year 6 do their Mocks.



THRIPLOW
CofE PRIMARY

PTA THIS TERM

Working together to support our school

YEAR 5 FUNDRAISER

A Year 5 year-rep choice to organise – watch this space!



HOUSE HAMPER RAFFLE

A festive hamper packed with a lovely selection of goodies, including sweet treats, drinks and more. Raffle before Christmas.



DECORATION DAY REFRESHMENTS

Year 4 reps will be serving lovely tea, coffee and mince pies before parents join the children in class to make beautiful Christmas decorations.



NATIVITY REFRESHMENTS

Our Year 2 reps will be running refreshments for the Key Stage 1 Nativity, with drinks available before we watch our children perform.

MORE THAN YOU SEE...

There's lots happening in the background too, with the PTA pitching in to support the school community throughout the term.

Thriplow Primary School PTA

GARDENING CLUB

Help keep our school grounds safe, tidy and looking beautiful!

We need a little help with:



LEAVES

Clearing leaves that get slippery in winter.



HEDGES

Cutting hedges back and keeping them neat.



PRETTY SPACES

Making the school look lovely in general – inside and out!

Small jobs... make a BIG difference!

Join our WhatsApp group

to help on weekends and holiday time – when ever anyone can do!

Community effort... brighter spaces!

Help make the school GREAT!

Lead for this:

Rachel Leech

07969989939

Attendance

365 days in a year

190 days in a school year to support pupils to maintain and even exceed expected attainment outcomes.

175 days for other activities like holidays, appointments, days out, family events

100% attendance	zero days missed	Perfection!
99% attendance	Two days of absence across the year	Excellent!
97% attendance	Five days of absence across the year	Good
95% attendance	Nine days of absence across the year: one week and four days of learning missed. Lost learning is likely to start affecting pupil performance, confidence and self-esteem.	Satisfactory
90% attendance	Twenty days of absence across the year; four weeks of learning missed. Pupils will find it difficult to keep up with work and achieve their best.	Concerns
85% attendance	Thirty days of absence across the year: six weeks of	Serious

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

If your child needs time off for a medical appointment, please provide an appointment card or printed confirmation for our records.

Where possible, please make appointments out of school time.

Attendance

If your child is late for school, please ensure that you sign the late book in the entrance hall, giving a reason for the lateness.

If it is a sensitive reason and you would rather not write it down, please chat to Mrs Sandford or Mrs How.

Please do not write 'late' as a reason.

Minutes late per day	School days lost per year
5 minutes	3 days
10 minutes	6.5 days
15 minutes	10 days
20 minutes	13 days
30 minutes	19 days

A reminder that we are a nut-aware school. Please ensure that your child's lunchbox does not include any nuts.



Keep them fuller for longer

Base the main lunchbox item on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.



Freeze for variety

Keep a small selection of different types of bread in the freezer so you have a variety of options – like bagels, pittas and wraps, granary, wholemeal and multigrain.



DIY lunches

Wraps and pots of fillings can be more exciting for kids when they get to make them. Dipping foods are also fun and a nice change from a sandwich each day.



Cut back on fat

Pick lower-fat fillings – like lean meats (including chicken or turkey), fish (such as tuna or salmon), lower-fat spread, reduced-fat cream cheese and reduced-fat hard cheese. And try to avoid using mayonnaise in sandwiches.



Mix your slices

If your child does not like wholegrain, try making a sandwich from 1 slice of white bread and 1 slice of brown bread.



Always add veg

Cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A Day. Adding a small pot of reduced-fat hummus or other dips may help with getting kids to eat vegetables.



Ever green

Always add salad to sandwiches and wraps too – it all counts towards your child's 5 A Day!



Cheesy does it...

Cheese can be high in fat and salt, so choose stronger-tasting ones – and use less of it – or try reduced-fat varieties.



Cut down on crisps

If your child really likes their crisps try reducing the number of times you include them in their lunchbox, and swap for homemade plain popcorn or plain rice cakes instead.



Add bite-sized fruit

Try chopped apple, peeled satsuma segments, strawberries, blueberries, halved grapes or melon slices to make it easier for them to eat. Add a squeeze of lemon juice to stop it from going brown.



Tinned fruit counts too

A small pot of tinned fruit in juice – not syrup – is perfect for a lunchbox and easily stored in the cupboard.



Swap the fruit bars

Dried fruit like raisins, sultanas and dried apricots are not only cheaper than processed fruit bars and snacks but can be healthier too. Just remember to keep dried fruit to mealtimes as it can be bad for teeth.



Switch the sweets

Swap cakes, chocolate, cereal bars and biscuits for fruited teacakes, fruit breads or fruit (fresh, dried or tinned – in juice not syrup).



Yoghurts: go low-fat and lower-sugar

Pop in low-fat and lower-sugar yoghurts or fromage frais and add your own fruit.



Get them involved

Get your kids involved in preparing and choosing what goes in their lunchbox. They are more likely to eat it if they helped make it.



Variety is the spice of lunch!

Be adventurous and get creative to mix up what goes in their lunchbox. Keeping them guessing with healthier ideas will keep them interested and more open to trying things.



Plan to Eatwell

The guide shows how much of what we eat overall should come from each food group to achieve a healthy, balanced diet. It can be really useful when thinking about what goes into kids' lunchboxes.

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide/

COME ALONG TO THE ANNUAL
LADYBIRD PLAYGROUP THRIPLOW...

Quiz Night!

Saturday 21st November 2026

Doors at 7pm for 7.30pm start

Tickets £15 per person inc. food

For enquiries: ladybirdplaygroupcommittee@gmail.com

New
Quiz Master!
Raffle
Prizes!

Teams of up to six people
Sharing platter for your table
Click on the QR code to book

THRIPLOW VILLAGE HALL, MIDDLE ST, THRIPLOW, SG8 7RD

Ladybird Playgroup

Breakfast Club

Open to All Thriplow School age children and Ladybird Children aged 3 up.

Breakfast Club - 8:00 -9:00 am
Early Bugs - 8:30- 9:00 am

Variety of breakfast is provided every day and is served till 8:30 am

Have fun exploring a range of activities, games and books with friends before school/playgroup.







Visit our website for more details and booking forms.

Contact for Bookings

01763 208055
ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

LONELINESS ONLINE:

What Causes It and Ways to Feel Better

Have you ever been online and felt a little bit lonely? In a recent study, 14% of 10–12-year-olds said they often felt lonely, so you're not the only one who sometimes feels that way. We spoke to a group of children and teenagers, who told us some of the things that make them feel isolated when they're online.

CAUSES OF LONELINESS ONLINE

- Seeing photos or videos of friends having fun without me
- Being excluded from group chats or games with friends
- Friends or family not replying to texts or answering my calls
- People being unkind to me online
- When friends leave my group chat



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

So if these things happen to you and you start to feel down, what can you do? The same young people also told us how they make themselves feel less lonely when they're online – and we've collected some of their advice to share with you.

- Tell a friend or a trusted adult that you feel lonely
- Watch funny videos of cats and pandas
- Watch yoga videos and do some exercises
- Play single-player games you enjoy
- Listen to happy music
- Listen to your favourite audiobooks
- Send nice messages to your friends and family
- Play games with friends who you trust, if they're online too



TAKE A BREAK

Sometimes the best thing you can do is to take a break from technology and do something offline that makes you feel happy.

Here's what our group suggested!

- Paint or draw pictures
- Play with a pet
- Write about your feelings
- Hang out with your family
- Get outdoors & enjoy nature



FURTHER SUPPORT

Remember, it's normal to feel a bit lonely sometimes – but if it's really upsetting you, and you have no-one to talk to, you can call Childline for free on

0800 1111



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday