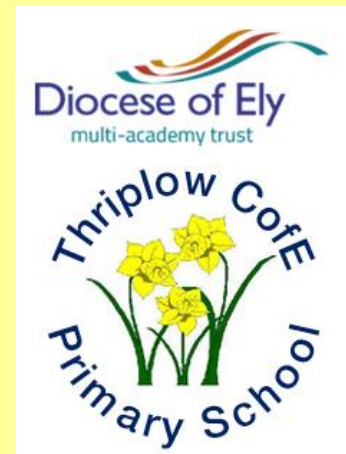


Thriplow School Newsletter

7th November 2025



We've had a really exciting first week back! It's been wonderful to hear about what the children got up to over the break. There is so much to look forward to this half term. Please make a note of the dates below and do let us know if you have any questions about anything that is happening.

Thank you so much to those of you who popped in to the library after school yesterday. A reminder that the library is open after school on Thursdays. You can access it via the white external door on the ramp.

A reminder that next week is Anti-Bullying week. To mark the start of the week, children are encouraged to wear odd socks or crazy tights. On the Anti-Bullying Alliance website, there are loads of resources that you might find useful to discuss with your child <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2025/parents-and-carers>

We will also be holding our first Charity fundraising day next Friday. Your child is encouraged to dress as an animal for a suggested minimum donation of £2.

The money raised will go to help the Blue Cross. Please make sure your child's costume allows them to access the school day as normal!

Our poppies and poppy-related accessories will continue to be on sale before school on Monday and Tuesday if you would like to purchase any.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,

Best wishes,

Lucy



**MAT of
the Year
2024**



<https://www.facebook.com/thriplowschool>



<https://x.com/thriplowschool>



<https://www.instagram.com/thriplow.school>

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*

WB 10 th November	Anti-bullying week. Children are encouraged to wear odd socks or crazy tights on Monday 10 th to mark the start of the week.
14 th November	'Dress as an Animal' day. Suggested donation £2 for the Blue Cross
14 th November	Movie Night after school
28 th November	Decoration Day. Parents welcome in the morning.
1 st December	DEMAT Carol Service (Year 6)
9 th December	Nativity Dress rehearsal (KS1)
10 th December	Nativity Performance (KS1) 2.30pm
11 th December	Nativity Performance (KS1) 6pm
12 th December	Festive Friday
16 th December	KS2 Concert
17 th December	Christingle (children need to bring an orange)
19 th December	Carol Service in church. 2.30. Everyone welcome
20 th January	Young Voices
WB 2 nd February	Relationships and Sex Education Week
24 th February	Parent Consultations
26 th February	Parent Consultations
5 th March	World Book Day
WB 9 th March	Science Week
21 st – 22 nd March	Daffodil Weekend
27 th March	Year 3/4 Bikeability level 1
WB 11 th May	SATS week
WB 18 th May	KS2 Residential (Year 5 and 6)
Fortnight beginning 1 st June	Multiplication Check fortnight (Year 4)
5 th June	DEMAT Art Exhibition
WB 8 th June	Phonics Screening check week (Year 1)
WB 15 th June	Poetry Recital Competition
24 th June	Sports day (First thing – will finish 11.15ish)

Term Dates 2025/2026

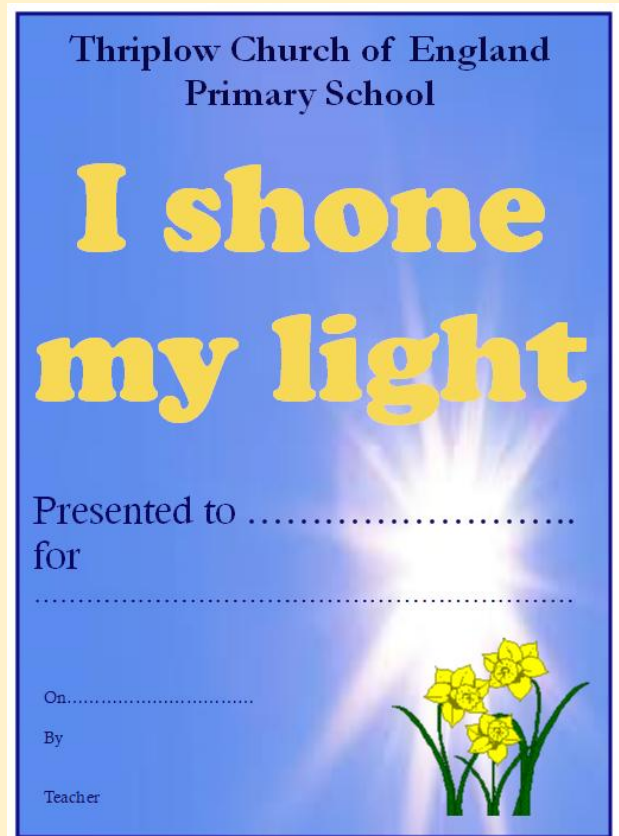
Autumn Term	
End of Term	Friday 19 th December

Spring Term	
Start of Term	Monday 5 th January
INSET Day	Friday 13th February
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
End of Term	Friday 27 th March

Summer Term	
Start of Term	Monday 13 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
INSET Day	Monday 1st June
End of Term	Friday 17 th July
INSET Day	Monday 20th July

Our certificate winners this week are: -

- Lois (Reception)
- Elias (Year 1)
- George (Year 1)
- Annabelle (Year 3)
- Monty (Year 3)
- Ellie (Year 5)
- Millie-Rose (Year 6)



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

- Ruby (Compassion)
- Peter (Confidence)
- Logan (Confidence)
- Amy (Respect)



House Points

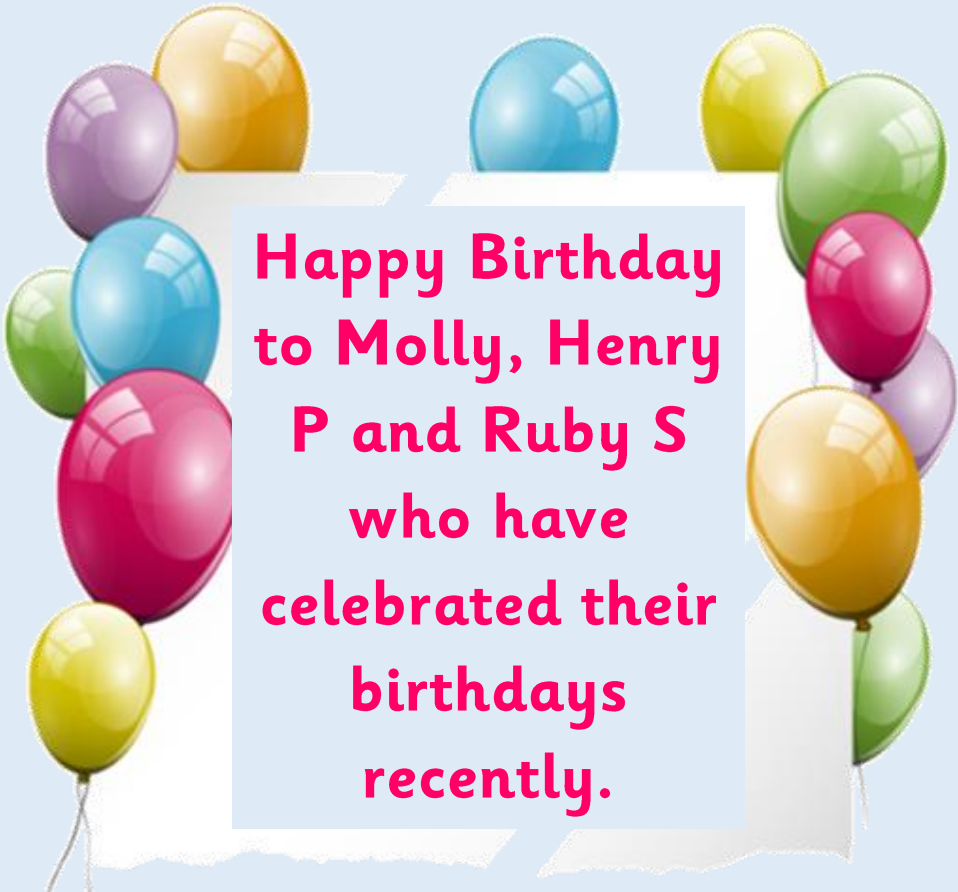
Our totals for this week!

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	154	599
Barenton	108	574
Bury	102	525
Bassett	130	743

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>





**Happy Birthday
to Molly, Henry
P and Ruby S
who have
celebrated their
birthdays
recently.**



Safeguarding at Thriplow

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

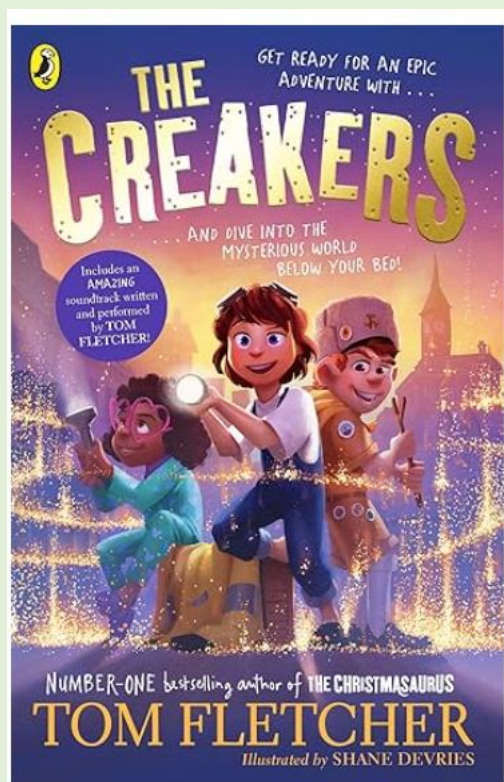
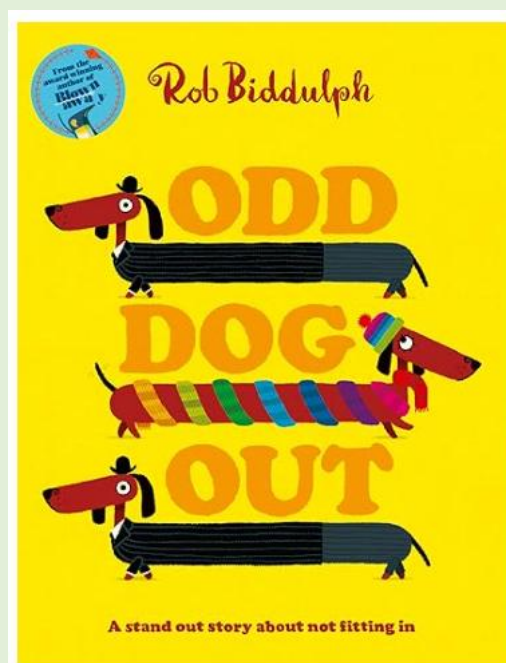
If you have a concern about a child, please come and speak to or email either of us. Alternatively please speak to any member of staff who will be able to pass on information.

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>

Birthday Books

Many thanks to Arthur for donating this book on the occasion of his 6th birthday.



Many thanks to Molly for donating this book on the occasion of her 10th birthday



BLUE
CROSS



14th November

**'Dress as an
animal' day!**

Suggested donation – £2



Information on your child's learning

Ants

It has been a great first week back in Ant's class!

The children have loved playing in our Vets role play area and exploring our new writing area.

In phonics we have been continuing to learn our new sounds b, c, g, h, and recapping over our already learnt sounds. During lessons the children have been practicing sounding out and blending words, writing the words and writing short sentences! Next week we will move onto looking at d, e, v, f.

In Literacy we have begun looking at our story for this half term, Owl Babies. We read the story and spoke about the main characters as well as finding out what a 'problem' means and looking for the problem in the Owl Babies story.

In maths the children have continued to explore subitising and looking at making numbers to 5. Next week we will be exploring numbers to 8.

In understanding the world, we have started our new topic of looking at transport. The children named lots of different transport we can travel on and we discussed the importance of wearing a seatbelt on some transport and wearing a helmet on others. Today we have been looking at road safety and how we can make sure we are seen when walking near the road and learning how to cross the road safely.

Butterflies

We hope that you and your families had a wonderful half term break. It was lovely to hear what the children have been doing, and thank you for sharing on Tapestry. We have been so delighted to welcome the children back after their half term break. They have continued to impress us with settling back into routine.

Preparations are underway with our Nativity Practice, and currently we are focussing on the songs and the actions. Please continue to practise the songs and the scripts with your child. Please check that your child has their script in school every day.

In Maths, the year 1 children have been learning the days of the week and the months of the year. The Year 2 children have been learning time and practised telling the time to o'clock and half past. Please practise these with your child.

In English the children have been learning about Non-chronological reports and used their knowledge from their Science work on The Human Body to write some sentences. We have been very impressed with how much they could remember.

We have also started our History topic on The Romans and the children were very excited with this topic. We briefly looked at a map of which countries the Romans had invaded. Please ask your child which countries they can remember were invaded by The Romans. If you know of any places that you have visited that were invaded by the Romans, it will be good to share with your child.

We have started our next art unit on Shape, Colour and Texture by looking at some of the work of the artist Matisse and the children have painted paper in preparation to make Matisse-style cut-outs next week. In PE we started our dance unit and football skills units and in RE we are learning more about what it means to be human to Muslims.

For Phonics, the Year 1 children have been learning the er sound. They have also been reviewing the /ae/ sound. The Year 2 children have been learning the /i/ sound and have also been reviewing the /ee/ sound.

We hope that you have an enjoyable and safe weekend, especially if you are attending fireworks displays.

Bees

Bees Class have had a great first week back after half term. We welcomed Peter into year 3 and it has been wonderful to have a 28th member of our class! Yesterday, the children wrote a recount of the burglary in Oliver Twist. They pretended to be Oliver and I was so impressed with how their writing has progressed from the beginning of the year. The children got into character and used many descriptive techniques. We have also started out new topics in Science and Art this week. In Science, we learnt about classification and the children sorted animals into two groups - invertebrates and vertebrates. In Art, we began to consider the idea of how to use space in Art and drew some 3D shapes. I also particularly enjoyed this

morning when we started our learning on hockey in PE. We learnt how to hold a hockey stick and how to dribble with the ball under control. We have also moved onto subtraction in Maths. Another new topic we began this week was in Geography when we started to consider Mediterranean Europe. We looked at maps of the area and thought about the Mediterranean Sea. This learning will link to our Pizza Express trip next week. I am excited for the morning and I know the children are too! Don't forget that on Wednesday morning the children will need to be in school at 8:30am. The gates will be open so please do bring them up to the classroom as we will leave their bags on their pegs for the afternoon. The children will not need lunch as they will be bringing their pizzas back to school to eat. They will need a coat and a water bottle for the trip.

Dragonflies

We have had a fantastic week in Dragonflies. On Monday we began our new dance unit, street dance, the children (and I!) thoroughly enjoyed exploring K-Pop style street dancing. This week in maths we have been working hard on the order of operations and have been exploring long division in year 6. In English we have been thinking about writing a balanced argument around home schooling compared to in school education, based on the differing experiences of Michael and Mina, the main characters of our class text Skellig. We have made progress on our artwork this week by adding different lines to our designs (inspired by the tiles decorating the Dome of the Rock). Soon we will be using ink to paint these designs. Looking ahead, next week we will be marking Anti-Bullying week and Remembrance Day. Don't forget that we will also have our Dress as an Animal Day to look forward to on Friday!

Anti-Bullying Week

We will be marking Anti-Bullying week, which is the week beginning 10th November, with lots of discussion and work in school around the theme of 'Power for Good'. We will start the week with 'Odd Socks/Crazy Tights' day on Monday 10th November.



Decoration Day!

Decoration Day will take place on Friday 28th November. Parents are very welcome to join their children for the morning to help them make Christmas decorations. Please note that we cannot accommodate pre-schoolers.





FREE Christmas Crafts Workshop for Children

This year's Christmas Crafts Workshop will be on

Saturday 29th November, just in time for Advent!

At St. Mary's Church Fowlmere

2:00 - 4:00 pm

There will be lots of lovely craft activities for children to enjoy. We'll be making advent candles, badges, book marks, Christmas tree decorations, and lots more.

Delicious refreshments will be served
throughout the afternoon.

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE by emailing

Kate, Rev David's wife, at katelee36@gmail.com

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



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



- Let your child help you pack their lunch box and choose what to include from a list of options.
- To keep children fuller for longer, give them a 'main' lunch item that includes carbohydrates, such as whole grain bread, rice or pasta.
- Try pasta salads, stir-fried rice, wraps or crackers and low-fat dips as alternatives to sandwiches.
- Choose lean meats, such as chicken breast as sandwich fillings, and try to include oily fish like tuna once or twice a week.
- Include vegetables such as cherry tomatoes, carrot or celery sticks or home-made vegetable crisps (slice vegetables like sweet potato or beetroot, toss in olive oil and bake).
- Always put salad (lettuce, cucumber) in sandwiches - it all counts towards their five a day.
- Swap the crisps for plain popcorn or vegetable crisps (see above).
- Pre-peel citrus fruits like oranges or satsumas to make them easier to eat.
- Include tinned fruits but make sure they are in juice not syrup which is high in sugar.
- Fruit bars are generally not healthy - try dried fruit like apricots or sultanas instead.
- If your child insists on having crisps or chocolate in their lunchbox, try to limit this to one day per week and let them choose what their 'treat' will be.

According to the NHS, the perfect lunch box for a child should contain:

- a serving of starchy foods (wholegrain bread or pasta, brown rice);
- a protein (lean meat, egg or oily fish);
- a dairy item (low-fat cheese or sugar-free yoghurt);
- a portion of vegetables (celery sticks, carrot pieces);
- a portion of fruit (berries, grapes, melon, apple slices);
- water.

We've put together five balanced lunch boxes here - one for each day of the school week. You can copy them exactly, swap items around or get rid of them all together - whatever works for your family is fine.



Attendance Reminders

Days off school add up to lost learning			
175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR			
175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, household jobs and other appointments			
0	6	15	19
DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days)	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE
100%	96%	92%	Below 90%
EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE	SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE	REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT	Persistent Absentee
Best chance of SUCCESS	Harder to make good progress	Less chance of success	CAUSE FOR CONCERN
			Serious concern Possible court action

Three-Year Period

First Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

£80 for each child per parent.

E.g. if two parents take 3 children away, the fine would be $£80 \times 3 = £240$ per parent.

The total would be **£480**.

If you pay after 21 days it rises to **£960**.

If you don't pay after 28 days = a prosecution.

Second Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

£160 for each child per parent.

E.g. if two parents take 3 children away, the fine would be $£160 \times 3 = £480$ per parent.

The total would be **£960**.

If you don't pay after 28 days = a prosecution.

Third Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

Prosecution.

Apply now



for a Reception school place for September 2026

If your child
will be aged 4
by **31st August**

You need to
apply **NOW**
for a School
place



**Apply by
15th January
2026**

For further information please visit
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
or contact your local School

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

School Admissions ALC2605, PO Box 761, Huntingdon, PE29 9 QR or
email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Breakfast Club at Ladybird



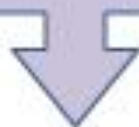
Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am



Early Starters from 8:30



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

COME ALONG TO THE ANNUAL
LADYBIRD PLAYGROUP THRILOW

Quiz Night

Saturday 15 November Doors at 7pm for
7.30pm start Tickets £15 per person
includes food.

To book visit: [https://www.pta-
events.co.uk/ladybirdplaygroupthriplow/index.cfm](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/ladybirdplaygroupthriplow/index.cfm)

Click
to
book



Teams of
up to six
Ploughman's
sharing platter
for your table

THRILOW VILLAGE HALL, MIDDLE STREET, THRILOW, SG8 7RD

DONATIONS

for
Breakfast Club and Ladybird Playgroup

Any Pre-loved toys and games, in good
condition wanted.

Including: (for children aged 3- 11 years)

Outdoor toys:
Balls, hoops etc.

Board games

Toys

Craft supplies

Building blocks

Please drop off any donations at

*Ladybird Playgroup - School Lane,
Thriplow, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 7RH*

Or call 01763 208055

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.