Thriplow School Newsletter

9th October





We so enjoyed our Harvest Festival on Tuesday. I'm sure those of you who were there would agree that the children performed beautifully. A special well done to our Ants children who performed for the first time - and with such joy and confidence! Many thanks for all the contributions of food that were donated. They will be gratefully received by Jimmy's Night Shelter.

As you know, the School Council (after speaking with their peers) have chosen to support Age UK this term. They are very keen to organise a dress-up day and, in consultation with the charity, have come up with the idea to 'Dress as an inspirational older person' on 6th November. This could be a famous person or it could be an inspirational friend, neighbour or family member. We would love for the children to also come equipped with some facts or a story about their chosen person to share on the day. In order to raise money, we ask that the children make a contribution of 2 pounds. For further information, see the poster below.

Sadly on Wednesday, due to the rain, the Year 5/6 netball tournament was postponed. We will be letting families of the team know when we have a new date. Whilst on the subject of rain - we try to go outside in all weathers at breaktimes - fresh air is so important! With that in mind, please make sure your children have suitable outdoor wear (e.g. waterproof and wellies in school).

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,

Lucy How



Grace SCHOOLS

MAT of the Year 2024

NATIONAL SCHOOLS awards 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 -

16th October	No Celebration Collective Worship
5th November	Holy Communion in hall. 9.15am. All welcome
6th November	Dress as Inspirational Older Person fundraising event.
6th November	Open classroom - 3pm
9th November	Flu vaccinations
16th November	Odd socks day for Anti-Bullying week
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

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

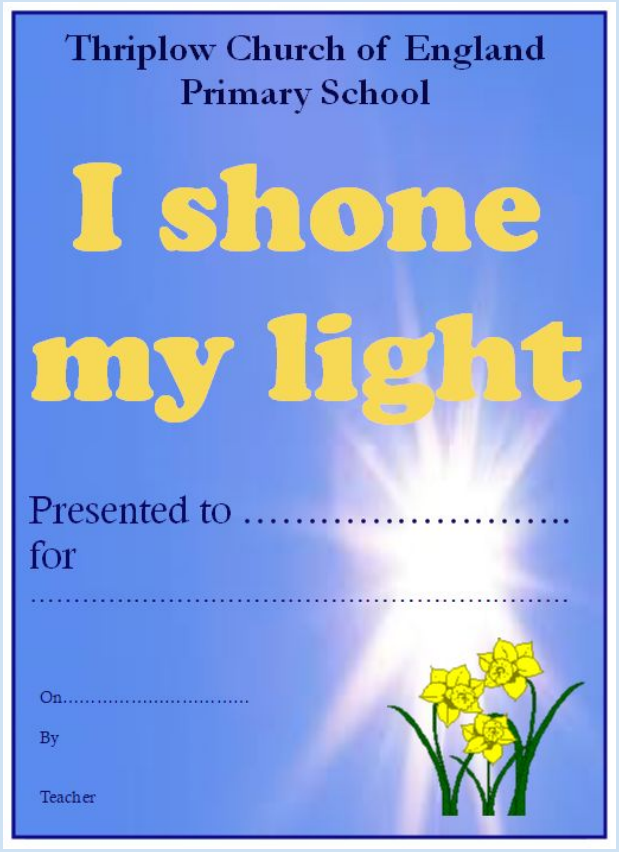
	Total this Week	Total this Term
Bacon	102	461
Barenton	78	481
Bassett	95	395
Bury	115	476

Well done Bury !

Certificate Winners

Our certificate winners this week are:

- **Blake (Reception)**
- **Percy (Year 2)**
- **Emilia (Year 2)**
- **All of Butterflies!**
- **Hudson (Year 3)**
- **Otto (Year 3)**
- **Susannah (Year 5)**
- **Kyan (Year 5)**
- **Sophie (Year 6)**





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

- **Apollo (Community)**
- **Lily (Achievement)**
- **Freddie P (Ambition)**
- **Harvey (Ambition)**

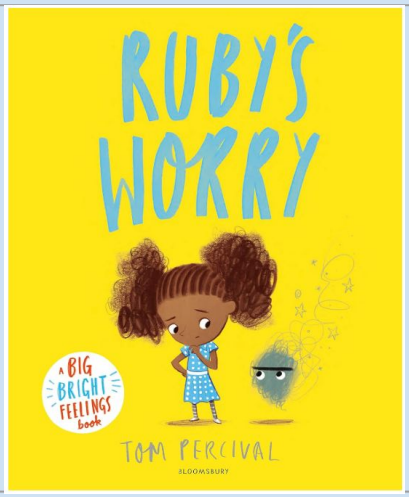
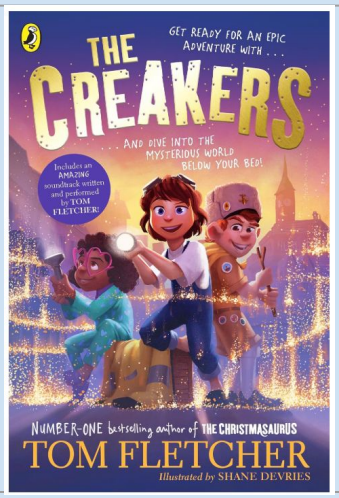
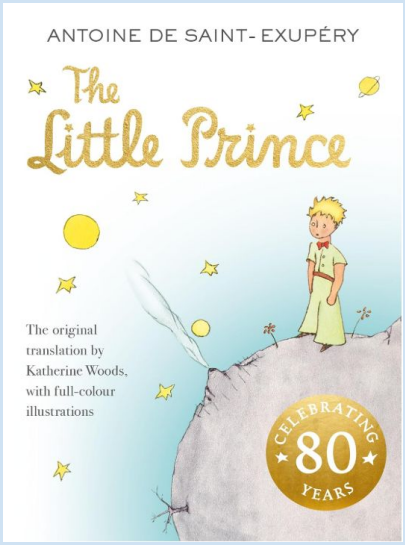
Happy Birthday

to Edward and Lois
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 Evelyn for donating this book on the occasion of her 6th birthday.	
	**Many thanks to Izzy for donation this book on the occasion of her 9th birthday.**
Many thanks to Lois 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:

What a wonderful week we have had in Ants!

I am very proud of how well the children did in Church for our Harvest Festival. Ants class were very nervous to sing our Harvest song but did so well and have continued to sing the song throughout the week.

In Phonics we have moved onto our Unit 3 sound. The children are getting confident when building, reading and writing their words. I am very impressed with how well their letter formation is developing. They are working very hard to form each letter carefully!

In Maths this week we have been learning about number 6. The children have had fun going on a number 6 hunt and finding different amounts of 6 in the classroom. We have been carefully counting to 6 using a variety of objects and we have been problem solving when we can not find 6.

In Understanding the World, we have been continuing our topic "All About Me." This week we have been creating maps on how we get to school. The children recognised key features of their journeys and discussed how they also got to school.

In Art this week we also used our topic to draw our own houses. We thought carefully about what kind of house the children live looked like outside and inside.



Butterflies:

Butterflies class have continued to work hard this week.

In Maths, the children have been working on addition and subtraction facts. Year 1 children have been using the +, - and = symbols to write facts to 5. The Year 2 children have been using different strategies to become more fluent with calculating addition facts. They have used the strategy of 'think 10, ' to work out addition facts when bridging 10. For example, to work out what 9 +3 is, they partitioned 3 into 2 and 1. This helped them to add 1 to 9 to make 10, then to add 2 onto 10 to make 12. They have also used their knowledge of doubles to work out near doubles facts. They have also used their knowledge of number bonds of 10, to work out number facts to 100. Please revisit these strategies with your child.

In Geography, the children drew their own compass points to show direction.

In English, the children have started to write their story of 'Hansel and Gretel.' They have been focussing on writing simple sentences and have been reminded to use capital letters and full stops in their writing. The Year 2 children have been encouraged to improve their sentences by adding adjectives to their sentences.

In RE, the children listened to the Creation Story and thought about why this story is important to Christians.

For Phonics, the Year 1 children have been learning the alternate /ee/ sound. Please find attached a reading book called, 'Kate Bakes,' which reviews the /ae/ sound which they had learnt previously. When you have read this with your child, please comment in their Reading record, focusing on how well they could read and recognise the /ae/ words.

Year 2 children have been reviewing the alternate spelling for /d/ sounds. Please encourage your child to identify different spellings when they are reading.

The weather is becoming colder and wetter, please encourage your child to bring in a coat every day.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.



Bees:

It was lovely to see many of you come and celebrate our Harvest Festival on Tuesday. Some of the children mentioned they had been practising the Harvest Samba song at home- thank you for your continued support.

In Maths, we have started our new geometry unit in Year 3 looking at vertical, horizontal and parallel lines in Year 3. Next week, we will move onto perpendicular lines 2D shapes and 3D shapes.

In Year 4, we concluded our unit on place value with learning about Roman Numerals. The children have also started their new geometry unit and have been learning about different types of triangles. We have looked at how to identify equilateral triangles and will move onto isosceles and scalene triangles next week.

In Science, we recapped the digestion process and looked at the roles of organs such as the small and large intestines. The children watched a short demonstration involving a mashed banana, water, part of a pair of tights, food bags, water and food colouring!

In History, the children looked at images of artefacts from the Bronze Age discovered during archaeological digs, and engaged in interesting discussions about how these may have been used.

The children enjoyed practising techniques for running longer distances in P.E and are working on developing collaborative skills in games of netball.

In R.E, we have been learning about the holy text for Sikhs (the Guru Granth Sahib) and how this is used during times of worship.

In this week's Latin session, we looked at phrases linked to birthdays.

In PSHE, we have been discussing friendships and how to manage challenges and difficulties that may arise during interactions with friends and peers.

The children enjoyed discussing the local area in Geography and are looking forward to writing their own short informational guides to Thriplow.



Dragonflies:

Dragonflies have had a busy week in which year 6 have completed their mock SATs whilst year 5 have started a project based on the National Gallery. Both year groups have done extremely well with their focus on these different tasks. Well done!

In amongst this, Dragonflies did manage to complete their very own science experiment. Last week the children designed their own experiments to explore the effects of exercise on pulse rate. This week they independently carried out these experiments, recorded their results, drew a graph to represent their results and wrote a conclusion! They were excellent scientists.

The class also learnt about consent in PSHE in the context of asking for consent to post photos online. We had some very interesting discussions around this issue. In History, we learnt about the end of World War I. Thanks to Betsy for bringing in some really interesting WW1 medals from her relative! In Art, the children made plaster disks using their yoghurt pots and plaster of paris. They then drew sun designs on them and are excited to paint these next week! In PE this week the children carried on their learning about long distance running on Monday and defensive tactics in Netball on Thursday.

We have fitted in some Maths and English amongst our busy week. In Maths, year 6 have learnt about common multiples, factors, prime numbers, multiplication and division. What a productive Maths week! Year 5 have moved on to their topic of decimals where we have begun learning about thousandths. In English, the class planned a short story based on our class book and wrote the first paragraph this morning where we set the scene of Roxy and Aiden being in the woods post-fire.

Next week is a much quieter one for Dragonflies which I'm sure we will enjoy! We will be continuing our narratives in English, learning how to re-draft each section of our work as we go. In Maths, year 5 will continue their work on numbers with 3 decimal places whilst year 6 will look at division in further detail.



DRESS AS AN INSPIRATIONAL OLDER PERSON DAY!

Friday 6th November

In aid of Age UK

Thriplow Primary School



Come dressed as an older person who has inspired you.

This might be a famous person or someone who is a friend or member of your family.

We will be learning about the work of Age UK as well as sharing inspirational stories about our chosen person.







PLEASE BRING A CONTRIBUTION OF £2

Age UK

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

KCSIE 2026 IS HERE

Are you ready?

HERE ARE THE TEN BIGGEST CHANGES YOUR WHOLE SCHOOL NEEDS TO KNOW.

The new statutory guidance has been published and comes into force on 1 September 2026.
The changes make consistency and collaboration in safeguarding the expectation for all.

1 EVERYONE READS PART ONE. IN FULL.

The condensed version (old Annex A) has gone. Every member of staff, whether teaching, admin, catering, or site staff, must read and understand the whole of Part One.

2 MOBILE PHONE FREE BY DEFAULT.

For the first time, it is in statutory guidance: schools should be phone-free environments, with anything else by exception only, across lessons, breaks, and lunch.

3 ONLINE HARM IS REAL-WORLD HARM.

Deepfakes, AI-generated imagery, and sextortion are named for the first time. The word 'sexting' has gone. The guidance now talks about 'making or sharing nudes and semi-nudes', and every incident needs a safeguarding response, consensual or not.

4 WEAPONS: REPORT STRAIGHT AWAY.

Any concern that a child is carrying, has used, or intends to use a weapon goes to the DSL immediately. The DSL assesses the risk and puts a safety plan in place.

5 MISOGYNY AND ITS POTENTIAL TO ESCALATE.

The guidance recognises the escalatory nature of misogyny. Banter and 'boys being boys' can be the start of a behaviour pattern that ends in sexual violence. Challenging it early is everyone's job.

6 MENTAL HEALTH, EXPANDED.

There are new warning signs for all staff, and clear crisis routes: call 999 or go to A&E if a child is in danger.

7 GENDER-QUESTIONING CHILDREN.

Statutory for the first time. Schools do not initiate social transition. Decisions are made case by case and documented, with parents usually involved, and there are firm rules on single-sex spaces and sport.

8 VOLUNTEERS NEED CHECKING.

The Crime and Policing Act 2026 removes the supervision exemption. Volunteers who teach, train, or supervise children on more than three days in a 30-day period, or overnight, are now in regulated activity, however closely they are supervised.

9 FAMILY HELP: ONE JOINED-UP OFFER.

'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026' brings targeted early help and support for children in need into a single coordinated offer. All staff should know how children can benefit and how to refer.

10 RECORDS THAT PROTECT EVERYBODY.

A good record now has a clear standard: a summary, the action taken, the decisions made, the reasons for them, and the outcome. A note that says 'spoke to child, fine now' fails the test.

ALSO ON THE RADAR

- Operation Encompass is statutory: police notify schools of domestic abuse incidents before the next school day.
- Filtering and monitoring must be reviewed at least annually, with records kept.
- Cyber security is now a safeguarding issue.
- There is a new section on children with medical conditions.
- Trainee teachers are named in allegations procedures.
- Child protection files transfer within five days, with a conversation between DSLs as good practice.

Three steps of anger management

1. Recognise

Help a child recognise the early signs of anger.

They may experience:

- a faster heartbeat
- tense muscles
- racing thoughts
- a 'fuzzy' brain
- their stomach churning

By paying attention to these physical and emotional indicators, children can begin to identify when anger is building. It's important to help them understand that while these feelings are natural, the behaviours that follow can be managed.

Recognising these patterns gives them the power to pause, take control, and choose healthier, more constructive ways to express what they're feeling.

2. Reflect

Once emotions have settled, take time to explore the situation with your child. Calm moments offer valuable opportunities to uncover the deeper feelings behind their anger.

Anger may stem from fear, confusion, sadness, or frustration. These underlying emotions can be linked to:

- Unmet needs
- Past experiences or trauma
- Ongoing stress or anxiety
- Unresolved conflicts
- Misunderstandings or distorted thinking

Reflection also involves accepting responsibility for any behaviour that occurred during moments of anger. What this looks like will vary depending on your child's age and level of understanding. Encouraging healthy self-reflection helps build self-awareness and empowers children to take ownership of their actions and reactions.

3. Respond

The third step is to respond to anger healthily and constructively.

Encourage the development of assertive communication skills, where they can express their needs and emotions confidently while still respecting others' boundaries.

Some helpful anger management strategies include:

- Deep breathing
- Mindfulness practices that help ground someone in the present (what can you see, hear and smell)
- Physical activities to release tension and calm the mind
- Regular self-care
- Building routines that include exercise, rest, hobbies, and relaxation

These habits reduce stress and make it easier to manage strong emotions before they escalate.