



September 2021

The Thurleigh Times

A big welcome to the new academic year 2021-2022. We have had a great start to the year and have been very pleased to welcome you all back without so many restrictions. It was so lovely for everyone to be together on the playground on the first morning back, without masks and being able to chat with one another. Kathy Augustine



Forest Schools

Our Forest School is now up and running at both Kymbrook and Thurleigh run by our two Forest School staff, **Ranger Nina** and **Ranger Carly**. The children have been thoroughly enjoying these sessions and are getting to know the environment in a whole new way.

We now have a Forest Schools section on our website, which you can find under the 'OUR Learning' tab – 'Forest Schools'. Here you will find out more about our new approach and how it complements our curriculum. There is also a 'Forest School Blog' where our Rangers will be posting blogs telling you all about the wonderful activities your children will be taking part in.

Covid Update

As you know, at the present time we have been able to lower restrictions. However, we have been advised to have a contingency plan in case we meet the threshold for positive covid cases within the school, particularly as we enter the autumn/winter months. If this happens, we then inform Local Public Health at Bedford Borough, who guide us through the best way to contain the outbreak. This is most likely to be the temporary introduction of certain restrictions, such as classes being separated from the rest of the school and staff wearing face coverings, but could also result in staggered drop-offs and pick-ups once more. Of course, we will keep you updated at all times, but please be mindful that at any time we may have to change our current routines.

We will keep you updated at all times, but please be aware that Local Public Health are asking parents to look out for the following additional symptoms:

'Please note that we have seen that additional symptoms of an upset stomach, runny nose, headache, sore throat or unusual fatigue (tiredness) could be early warning signs of a potential COVID-19 infection. We advise that children with these symptoms should be kept at home, and a PCR test should be booked if any of the typical COVID-19 symptoms appear. If further symptoms don't arise then the child can return to the setting when they are well.'

Thank you for your patience and support with these uncertain times.



Information for Starting School 2022 – parents/carers of children starting school (Year R) for the first time in September 2022, please contact the school if you would like a leaflet that explains how to apply for a lower/primary school place for a child born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018.

A message from Madame Bentley at Petite Etoile:

We hope the children are enjoying learning French this year: Year 3 are now learning French in lessons for the first time whilst Year 6 are in their 4th year of learning French with Petite Etoile, wow!

Year 4,5,6 you have a challenge this half term, to find out about a French speaking country. 53 countries across the world speak French outside of France - amazing!

We are really excited to be able to start a penpal scheme with year 5 and 6 children learning French. Your son or daughter will write a letter in French to a child of a similar age in a French school, telling them about themselves, their family and their interests, and in return, the French child will write a letter back to them in English. We will be starting this in the next couple of weeks. Your son or daughter will be told the theme of the letter e.g. 'family' or 'pets' for example, and may bring in a picture or photo from home to make the letter more personal and fun to read. The more effort they put into their letter, the more effort is likely to go into the letter from France!

See attached information that will be given to your child in their next French lesson. Any questions please contact Madame Kaler from Petite Etoile on: lisakaler@petite-etoile.co.uk

Don't forget to visit our Thurleigh Primary page on the Petite Etoile website for more information about what is going on in our school: www.petite-etoile.co.uk/thurleigh-primary

On Thursday 30th September we are having a visit from a former Olympic athlete as part of a 'Sports for School' day. Please could ALL children come to school in their PE kits on this day. Thank you.

Harvest Festival & Crisis Homeless Appeal

This year we have decided to link our Harvest Festivities to the Crisis 'World Homeless Day' on Friday 8th October.

As we are experiencing cases of covid in North Beds at the moment, we have made the decision not to invite parents & carers to our Harvest event this year. However, rest assured that the event will still take place for the children:

- Each class will upload their Harvest contribution (song/poem etc) onto Seesaw for you to enjoy at home
- We ask that you make a small donation to the Crisis charity. This can be done by sending your donation in an envelope labelled 'Harvest donation for Crisis charity'. In addition, you may wish to donate some dry goods or toiletries which will be sent on to King's Arms Night Shelter in Bedford.
- We will also be having a cake sale at break time on the day to support Crisis. Cakes will be 50p each.

We really do appreciate any help your support with these worthy causes.

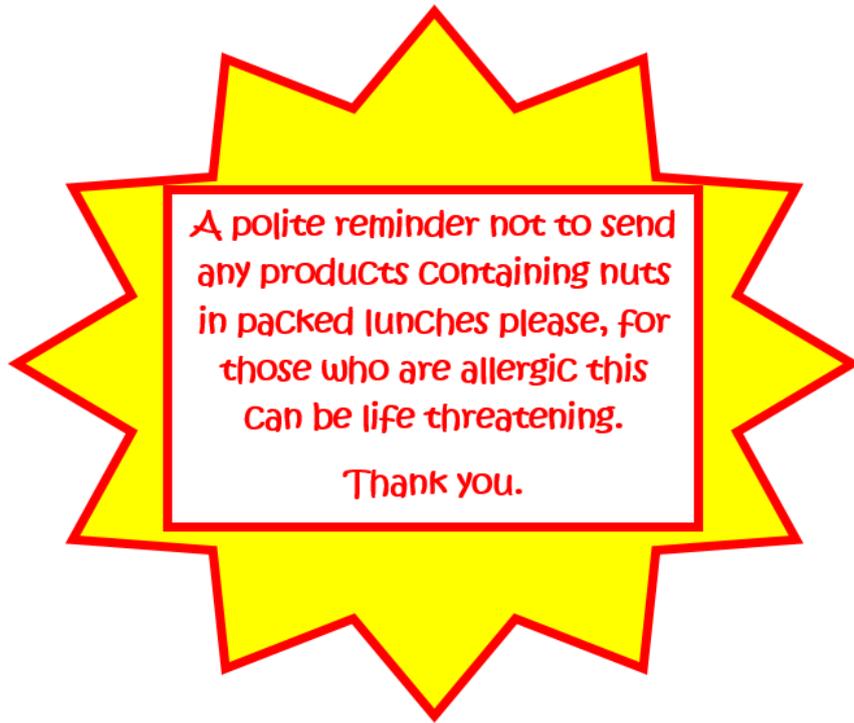


Blogs, blogs and more blogs!

We now have a wider selection of blogs for you to read:

- 'Class Blogs' on the Latest News tab
- 'Safety Blog for Parents and Carers' within the Safeguarding section on the 'About Us' tab
- 'Well-Being Blog' within the Mental Health and Wellbeing section on the Our Learning tab
- *NEW* 'Forest School Blog' within the Forest School section on the Our Learning tab.





Please note that our INSET days are slightly different to Bedford Borough's calendar. There is no training day on Monday 1st November 2021, but instead, is on Monday 6th June 2022.

Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 30 th September	Sports for School Day -Olympic athlete visit. All children please come dressed in PE kit
Friday 8 th October	Harvest Festival & Crisis World Homeless Day
Monday 11 th October	Robotics
Wednesday 13 th October	Robotics
Wednesday 20 th October	Parent/carer consultations
Thursday 21 st October	Parent/carer consultations Y3/4 Multisports @Sharnbrook
Friday 22 nd October	Break up half term
Monday 1 st November	Staff & children return to school Tempest – Individual & family photos
Tuesday 9 th November	KS1 Multisports @ Lincroft
Wednesday 15 th November	Chestnut Marvellous Middle

