



November 2021

The Thurleigh Times

A big welcome back after half term

We hope that all of our families are well and that you all enjoyed some time together over the half term. Can you believe that we are into the second half of the Autumn term already? We have all the fun and excitement that this term brings on the horizon! As always, we have many great things lined up for the children, including the 'Fantastic Finishes' for our topics. We look forward to seeing or speaking with you next week for the Parent/Carer Consultations.

Covid Update

You will see from the diary dates later on in this newsletter that we are going ahead with planning some of our usual events for our children. We would invite you to make note of these dates, however we have to make you all aware that, at the moment we are unable to say if we will be able to invite you in to join with the children for some of these Christmas events.

Cases of Covid-19 remain high in Bedford Borough schools and you will have received a letter and flowchart from Local Public Health, outlining the need for the return of some restrictions. The Borough Council are due to review these guidelines later on in November, so all we can do is assure you that we will do everything possible to make sure our children enjoy some festive events, whether this is with or without their parents and carers. We are keeping everything crossed and will give you more information as we review options and make decisions.

Mental Health & Well-Being

Bedfordshire Mental Health and Well-Being Hub is a great bank of resources that are available free for everyone. There is a huge range of support materials for both children and adults that can be found at:

https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/kb5/bedford/directory/site.page?id=R_ScQfCiWk





A Lunchtime Request

Our midday supervisors have noticed an increase in sweets and chocolate bars present in children's lunch boxes.

As we have 'healthy Schools' accreditation, we have always encouraged lunchboxes containing a more healthy option for an additional treat where possible please.

Remembrance Day

Thursday 11th November

We have a lovely box in school containing items being sold for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. As well as the traditional paper poppies, there are also the following items which come with a suggested donation amount:

- Zip pull 50p
- Reflector poppy 50p
- Silicon wristband £1.00
- Snap bands £1.50

If you or your child would like to purchase anything, please send the money in and the older children will take the box and collecting tin around to each classroom over the next few days.

On Thursday 11th November, we will have a short act of remembrance at 11am at the War Memorial opposite the school. You are welcome to join the children, but we do ask that you keep socially distanced – thank you.

Let kindness fuel kindness this Anti-Bullying Week.

ONE KIND WORD

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2021
15th - 19th November

ODD SOCKS DAY 2021
Monday 15th November

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Anti-bullying week

Each year, we mark a special Anti-Bullying week. This year the theme is One Kind Word. Each of the classes will be working on age-appropriate activities during the week.



Save the Children

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Christmas Jumper Day

We would like to support the work of the charity Save the Children, by celebrating Christmas Jumper Day.

This is on Friday 10th December.

On this day, children may come to school dressed in a festive fashion, for a suggested donation of at least £1. They do not need to wear any part of their school uniform that day.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday

As you may be aware, an extra bank holiday was announced for 3 June 2022 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The DfE has now amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the school year 2021/22 for maintained schools to a minimum of 189 days.

As this additional bank holiday would fall during half term week, the change to the Regulations allows a maintained school to close at another time, to give staff and students an extra day off.

Therefore we will be closed on Friday 27th May to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



Parent/Carer Consultations

As you know, we will be holding parent/carers consultations on Wednesday and Thursday evenings next week. We are offering face-to-face and Zoom meetings or you may prefer a telephone or email update at a mutually convenient time for you and your child's class teacher. Due to the current circumstances, if you have opted for a face-to-face appointment, could we please politely request the following:

- Please arrive at the allotted time for your appointment and not too early
- Where possible, please limit the meeting to 2 adults to meet with the class teacher
- Please adhere to the timings of the meeting slot – appointments will be strictly 10 minutes. However, please be assured that if you feel you need more time to discuss your child, that a longer appointment can be made for a different time.
- Please could we ask that you wear a face covering unless medically exempt

Please note – face-to-face meetings will take place in your child's classroom

Thank you for your understanding with this.



Advice offered

Do you have any concerns or worries about any aspect of your child's development, learning or behaviour? We have a few virtual appointment slots with the Educational Psychologist during the morning of Thursday 2nd December. These can be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please contact our SENDCO Sheri Morgan if this is of interest to you. You can email her at the school office

thurleigh@ktfederation.co.uk

Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 9th November	Sports event at Lincroft for our Year 2 children
Wed 10th November	Parent/ teacher consultation
Thurs 11th November	Parent/ teacher consultation Remembrance at the War Memorial 11am
Monday 15th November	The start of Anti-Bullying week Chestnut visit from heater of Widdershins
Friday 26th November	'Decoration Day'- in the morning FOTS event: Mufti day for all children- in return for a donation for Christmas hamper
Mon 6th and Tues 7th (am) December	Robotics workshops for children in Years 1-6
Tues 7th December	Afternoon Christmas Performance Nursery - Y4
Wed 8th December	Evening Christmas Performance Nursery - Y4
Friday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 16th December	Year 3-6 to visit the Panto at MK theatre
Friday 17th December	FOTS event: Break the Rules Day Christmas 'Carols round the tree' - a sing song in the hall during the morning Break up for Christmas holidays
Tuesday 4th January 2022	Back to school for the Spring term

Key dates for later in the academic year

Friday 11th February	Break up for half term
Monday 21st February	Back to school
Friday 1st April	Break up for the Easter holidays
Tuesday 19th April	INSET day for staff
Wednesday 20th April	Children back to school
w/b Monday 9th May	SATs week for our Year 6 children
Thursday 26th May	Break up for half term
Friday 27th May	Extra Bank Holiday for the Queen's Jubilee
Monday 6th June	INSET day for staff
Tuesday 7th June	Children back to school
Friday 22nd July	Break up for the summer holidays