



Talk for life and learning!

Attached with this newsletter is all of the key words we will be seeing, saying, learning and using in class. It would be great, if you could use these words at home.

Here are a few key words to get you started:

1. Distracted
2. Scurried
3. Peered
4. Stomped
5. Responsibility

Class 1's Spring 1 Newsletter

We are the 'Peaceful Pandas.'

A very warm welcome to this week's newsletter.

Class Attendance Update

Each half term, we will update you on how our class attendance is looking compared to the other classes in school. As a school we are aiming high for 98% attendance this year and we have a saying in school, **'The best ability is availability.'**

Class 1's attendance: 96% School attendance: 97.8%



"Children at Thurgoland CE Primary are encouraged to see that everyone is special and unique and, in this way, gain a sense of ourselves as a unique individual - that true self, or best self, God has created us to be."

Class Specific Events and Information

Below is a list of events and important information specific to our class. For a comprehensive view of whole school events, please refer to the school's website or Mr. Jordan's weekly newsletter.

Upcoming Class Events

- Parents evening – Tuesday 13th January 2026 & Thursday 15th January 2026
- Handwriting showcase – Friday 23rd January 2026
- Big Book Swap – Monday 2nd February 2026
- Celebration assembly in church (by invite) – Monday 9th February 2026 – 9.40
- Safer Internet day – Tuesday 10th February 2026
- Chinese Themed Meal – Thursday 12th February 2026
- Crazy rules day – Thursday 12th February 2026
- Break up for February Half Term – Thursday 12th February 2026
- Inset day – Friday 13th February 2026

Important Information

Homework Policy

Homework is assigned every Friday and is due the following Thursday. Please encourage your child to manage their time effectively.

We are very lucky to have a wonderful dedicated area outside EYFS and year 1 classroom. This enhances our curriculum and learning through play-based opportunities. As you can appreciate, time is spent planning and organising this provision to meet the needs of our children, so we really would appreciate your support by supervising younger family members to avoid toys and resources being used at drop off and collection times. Thank you



By working and playing together we can love, learn and respect.

"It has been said beautifully and profoundly, that our God in his most inner mystery is not solitude, but a family." John Paul II

For any questions or additional details, please feel free to reach out to the Class Teacher, who will be on the door every morning or email your enquiry to office@thurgolandprimary.org and we will get back to you within 48 hours. Anything urgent please phone or catch us face to face. We look forward to an exciting and productive half term!

As educators we are all passionate about the way children are formed by the environment in which they grow. To become our best self we will need the environment that enables this.



What are we learning about this half term?

This half term, Class 1 will embark on an exciting journey of discovery across various subjects. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded educational experience that fosters children to love to learn, give things a go, be resilient, show respect and aim high. Below is an overview of the topics we will explore.

Reading:

In Reading, we will read the following books: I'm in charge, Slow Samson and Handa's Hen.

Our focus will be on understanding the sequence of the story and thinking about how the characters might feel. We will develop our oracy skills to ask questions about a text for a deeper understanding of the events that occur.

Writing:

In writing we will be exploring the same books as we do in reading which allows us to develop our understanding of the story. Our in-depth understanding of the stories supports oracy and develops our ability to write about the narrative we are reading. Our focus this half term will continue and we will develop our use of capital letter, finger spaces and full stops. We will work hard to develop the use of 'ed' and the use of question marks and exclamation marks so we can extend our writing skills. We will develop our independent writings skills and start to apply more of what we know.

Mathematics:

Our mathematics curriculum will cover a range of concepts, including: understanding of place value, using number lines as well as estimating. We further develop our mathematical skills through our 'Mastering Number' programme to develop our mental maths skills and support our mathematical understanding.

Science:

In science, we will focus on: Wonderful weather

In this unit the children will explore, identify and name a variety of different weathers and how they are measured. They will also have the opportunity to make some of the equipment needed to measure the elements of the weather. The children will identify which weathers are common within the different seasons.

Physical Education:

In PE we cover a range of skills this half term, including our dance skills as we perform a 'toy dance'. In our 'sending and receiving' unit we will work on developing our ball skills and our teamwork skills.

PSHE:

In PSHE, we will focus on: Relationships

In this unit the children will explore relationships. We will look at friendships at what makes a good friend. We will identify different actions and how they can make others feel. This topic will investigate the opinions of ourselves and others regarding what makes a good friend.

ART:

In ART we will be focusing on the artist Jackson Pollock and his painting technique. We will create a final piece by layering a pattern over a Jackson Pollock inspired background.



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RE:

Our focus this half term is Islam where we learn new vocabulary and information about the Islamic faith. We investigate the question... What do Muslims use when they pray?

Music:

In music, we will focus on: Classical music, dynamics and tempo. We will listen to multiple pieces of music using the sounds we hear to influence our movements. Year 1 children will have multiple opportunities throughout the term to learn new songs to perform as small groups and as a class.

History:

In our History unit we focus on what toys our grandparents played with. We look at old toys and what they were made from. We think about the similarities to toys that we play with today and how over time toys have changed.

Phonics:

This term phonics is highly important in preparation for the government's phonics screening check that takes place in June. As well as our daily phonics lessons, all Year 1 children will have opportunities to embed their knowledge through continuous provision. We appreciate the extra support given to the children through reading their phonics books at home in preparation for the check.

This half term promises to be an enriching and enjoyable experience for all students in Class 1. We look forward to a term filled with learning, growth, and fun!

You can find more detailed information about the knowledge and skills your child will be learning in our curriculum documents, which can be found on the school website: <https://thurgolandprimary.org/curriculum-statement/>

Please encourage your child to complete their homework weekly on Class Dojo's and if you want to spend a little more time on home learning, why don't you try an activity from our half term bingo boards. You can find these on the school website and this half terms bingo board is attached with this newsletter. <https://thurgolandprimary.org/students/>
The bingo boards can be downloaded from the tabs, which are located on the left hand side of the webpage.



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