



THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Class R's Spring 1 Newsletter

We are the 'Brilliant Blue Whales.'

A very warm welcome to this half term's newsletter and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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 R's attendance: 97.6 %

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' Meetings

- Dates: Tuesday 13th January 2026 and Thursday 15th January 2026
- Time: by calendly
- Details: Teams meetings

Handwriting Showcase

- Dates: Friday 23rd January 2026
- Time: 09.00am

Crazy Rules Day

- Dates: Thursday 12th February 2026
- Time: all day
- Details: more information in due course!

Important Information

HOMELEARNING

To get into good habits that are in line with the rest of our school, homework is assigned every Friday and is due the following Thursday. In Class R this increases termly in readiness for Year 1. This term consists of:

- daily reading (upload 2 minutes of reading to Dojo once per week)
- handwriting
- optional extra-curricular activities relating to the learning theme 'Would you like to live at the Poles?'
- maths -select one per week from the activity board and share on DOJO.

Classroom Supplies Needed

We kindly request donations of **£5.00** for food technology ingredients and for creations using clay and textiles (sewing binca).
THANK YOU.

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. Community
2. Inuit people
3. Patient (behavioural meaning)
4. Persevere



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 R 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 enjoy stories, rhymes and songs relating to cold lands, Winter and Chinese New Year. Some examples are:
The runaway wok - a Chinese New Year story

Penguin Small

Kipper's snowy day

One snowy night

Albert le blanc

'Have you ever seen a penguin come to tea' song

Our focus will be on developing listening and attention skills; answering when, how and why questions.

Writing:

We will use of phonics knowledge to write dictated sentences and learn to spell some common exception words.

Our focus will be on learning spellings *I the of my he*

Mathematics

Our mathematics curriculum will cover comparing numbers to 5; composition of 4 and 5; subitising up to 5 and understanding zero.

Science

In science, we will focus on freezing experiments to know changes in state happen and talk about if they are irreversible. We will look at similarities and differences between animals, environments and habitats and learn to name some plants and trees in the school grounds as well as learn names of some polar animals.

Physical Education

We will learn to perform copied movements to perform a dance with twists, turns, jumps and hops. These will be linked to animals (Farm, wild, arctic) Our REAL PE-Unit 3 – focuses on dynamic balance/static balance: small base.

PHSE/RSE

We are looking at the beginning of the year-the start of the Christian New Year and we will celebrate Chinese New Year to know about this festival that is celebrated around the world.

Art

We will learn how to mix primary colours and learn that there are hot and cold colours. We will learn the water colour wash/wax resist painting technique and learn to print and create in the style of Kandinsky.

D.T.

We will draw (design) ideas for an arctic creation to be made from clay and then talk about the ideas with a friend or an adult. We will learn how to use a knife safely to chop vegetables to make soup (food technology) and learn to use a needle safely to create a bookmark (textiles)



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Music

To use body percussion to find the pulse and keeping a pulse. We will learn understand, lyrics, and musical terminology including verse, pulse, steady, repeat, constant, piece, composer and perform to an audience (aka Thurgoland Luncheon Club)

Geography

We will learn that animals originate from hot and cold countries and identify the polar regions on a world map. We will say what is different about the polar regions to where we live.

We will continue to complete our class calendar daily to describe weather patterns and learn what season it is.

Wonderful Wednesday activities will be to observe seasonal changes in the school garden and the weather.

This half term promises to be an enriching and enjoyable experience again in Class R. We look forward to a season 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/>



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