



THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Information booklet for Class 3

The Tremendous Turtles

This booklet aims to introduce our class and provide some initial information which we hope you will find useful.

Should you have any further questions, staff will be happy to discuss these with you. Please speak to staff on the classroom doors at drop-off or collection times, or contact them via the school office email address. Please note that we aim to respond to emails within 48 hours. If your enquiry is urgent, please contact the school office directly by telephone.

We hope you find this booklet helpful. For further information, please refer to the school website.

Contact Information

Telephone: 0114 288 3300

E-mail: office@thurgolandprimary.org

Website: www.thurgolandprimary.org

Class Dojo

We use the Class Dojo platform to share the many WOW moments from your child's learning and daily experiences in school. Information on how to sign up can be found in the Class Dojo section of this booklet.

Newsletters

Newsletters are emailed weekly on Fridays. On the first Friday of each half term, families receive a class newsletter containing key information about upcoming learning and events within your child's class. The remaining newsletters are whole-school newsletters, written by Mr Jordan, celebrating school life and sharing important updates.

Newsletters are also available on the school website and can be printed if required.





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LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

Our Christian Vision

LOVING GOD, BLESS THURGOLAND SCHOOL



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.

The Church of England states that, when it comes to education,

"THE VISION IS OF GOD-GIVEN FULLNESS OF LIFE IN WHICH EACH PERSON IS BOTH BLESSED AND A BLESSING"

(Church of England Vision for Education p.12)

AND MAY IT BE A PLACE OF FAITH AND JOY

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.



Our vision is rooted in the Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13 31-32): **A mustard seed...**

"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A MUSTARD SEED, WHICH A MAN TOOK AND PLANTED IN HIS FIELD. THOUGH IT IS THE SMALLEST OF ALL SEEDS, YET WHEN IT GROWS, IT IS THE LARGEST OF GARDEN PLANTS AND BECOMES A TREE, SO THAT THE BIRDS COME AND PERCH IN ITS BRANCHES."

We are a small school in a valley – but we believe like the mustard seed that high standards of education can have far-reaching impact and that our children will grow into those who bless others through their careers, caring and vocations. One tiny seed just like one small child carries a world of potential.

Thurgoland CE Primary School is surrounded by beautiful countryside where farming and growing is part of daily life. The parable of the mustard seed provides a link with the historic roots of the school.

With our caring and nurturing ethos firmly embedded in all that we do, every member who joins our school whether child or adult, like the small mustard seed, is welcomed into a learning environment so that they grow and flourish in its broadest sense – academically, socially, morally, physically and spiritually.



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LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY



BY WORKING AND PLAYING TOGETHER WE CAN LOVE, LEARN AND RESPECT



Through working and playing together in peace and harmony, Team Thurgoland embody the concept born from the African philosophy of "ubuntu" – a concept in which your sense of self is shaped by your relationships with other people – underpins how we work together in peace and harmony to become our best self. It's a way of living that begins with the premise that "I am" only because "we are."

Our children, our staff, our families and our community – together we are Team Thurgoland.

"IT HAS BEEN SAID BEAUTIFULLY AND PROFOUNDLY, THAT OUR GOD IN HIS MOST INNER MYSTERY IS NOT SOLITUDE, BUT A FAMILY."

(John Paul II)

**"I AM BECAUSE
WE ARE."**

WE KNOW YOU ARE WITH US. HELP US BECOME OUR BEST SELF

At Thurgoland CE Primary School, everyone is inspired to reach their full potential and become their best self, to make the world a better place.

"BELOVED, WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN NOW: WHAT WE WILL BE HAS NOT YET BEEN REVEALED" (1 JOHN 3:2A)

We are committed to promoting a growth mindset. In line with Christian teaching, at Thurgoland CE Primary School, there is a big emphasis on everyone striving to move from their former self to a self that has to be found: growth and renewal.

**TO MAKE
THE WORLD A
BETTER PLACE.**



AMEN



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Welcome to Class Three

The Class 3 Team is made up of Mrs Dodsworth (Teacher), Mrs Kaskiewicz (Teacher) and Mrs Marrison (Teaching Assistant).

The classroom is located on the left-hand side of the corridor as soon as you pass through the double doors by the school office.

Every morning, children receive a warm welcome and a smile from their teachers and settle into a routine of reading activities. This is followed by an English lesson where pupils study a range of texts, genres and authors. Maths is the final lesson of the morning, and this is where children are given the opportunity to develop their mathematical skills and challenge themselves with problem solving activities. In the afternoon, we begin with a reading session where a love of books and reading is promoted. Then the class teachers share their wealth of knowledge about the subjects they enjoy the most. The children are then transported back to life in the Stone Age, Ancient Egypt and even Thurgoland!

Children also gain an understanding of different areas around the world including Florida, jungles and deserts and again, Thurgoland! These topics are further explored through art and DT with some fantastic opportunities to create high quality work that the children are always very proud of. Science is taught every week and allows children to explore and investigate. Underpinning all of our learning, is a strong Christian ethos which is taught through RE and PSHE at the end of the week. The children's subject knowledge and enthusiasm for learning about the topics is enhanced through visits to Murton Park and Magna and many walks around our community. P.E. in Class 3 is very unique as children not only have the opportunity to develop their skills through games, dance and gymnastics; they also take part in weekly swimming lessons. Children begin to learn French in Class 3, along with a new, exciting music scheme.

Class 3 is a warm and inviting classroom where each child is nurtured and guided so they can achieve their individual potential and be their best self!





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Daily Routine

Our morning session begins at 08:45. Children should be brought to the classroom side door from 08:40 onwards. Please note that the school site will remain locked until 08:40; therefore, we kindly ask families not to arrive too early to help avoid congestion on the narrow lane at the side of school.

Children arriving after 08:50 should enter school via the main entrance, as the pupil entrance doors will be locked at this time. Any child arriving after the register has been taken will be marked as late in the class register.

At the end of the school day, children will be collected from their classroom side doors at 15:15. The school site will open from 15:10. If you are running late, please telephone the school office to inform us. Likewise, if a different adult will be collecting your child, please ensure the school is informed in advance.





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Example Timetable

To note this does not reflect an actual timetable, it is to give a flavour of the day in school

Time	KS1	KS2
8:40	Children arrive and are WONDERFULLY welcomed by the Headteacher at the gate and by class staff at the classroom doors, helping every child begin the day feeling safe, happy and ready to learn.	Children arrive and are WONDERFULLY welcomed by the Headteacher at the gate and by class staff at the classroom doors, helping every child begin the day feeling safe, happy and ready to learn.
8:45 – 9:00	Children begin the day with registration, daily prayer and early bird learning activities. On Fridays, this time is also used to discuss our weekly 'Sticky Question', encouraging children to reflect, think deeply and share their ideas with others.	Children begin the day with registration, daily prayer and early bird learning activities. On Fridays, this time is also used to discuss our weekly 'Sticky Question', encouraging children to reflect, think deeply and share their ideas with others.
9:00 – 9:30	Phonics	Whole Class Reading
9:30 – 9:45	Handwriting	Handwriting/Spellings
9:45 – 10:30	Writing	Writing
10:30- 10:45	Collective Worship	Playtime
10:45 -11:00	Playtime	Collective Worship
11:00-12:00	Maths/TT sticks	Maths / TT sticks
12:00 – 12:50	Lunchtime followed by Wellbeing Check-in	Lunchtime followed by Wellbeing Check-in
12:50-13:20 (KS1) 12:50-13:05 (KS2)	Mastering Number / Talk through stories	Mastering Number
13:20-14:10 (KS1) 13:05-14:05(KS2)	Wider Curriculum	Wider Curriculum
14:10-14:20 (KS1) 14:05-14:15 (KS2)	Flexible movement break	Flexible movement break
14:20-15:05 (KS1) 14:15-15:05 (KS2)	Wider Curriculum	Wider Curriculum
15:05-15:15	Poetry/story/reading	Poetry/story/reading
15:15	Children leave	Children leave





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Before and After School Club (TOOSC)

Situated in the youth centre, Thurgoland Out of School Club (OFSTED MET, 2024), provides affordable childcare. Run by qualified staff offering both breakfast and after school club as well as holiday club.

Breakfast club opening times are 7:30-8:45am costing £5.50 / After School sessions are 3:30-6pm costing £8.50 / Holiday sessions are either 5.5 hours @ £17.50 or 10.5 hours @ £27.50

Please call 07748 177686, or email tooscclub@gmail.com





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Attendance / Absence from School

"The best ability is availability!"

In line with our attendance policy, which can be found on our school website, here are parental responsibilities regarding attendance / absence:

"All parents/carers have a legal responsibility to ensure that their children receive an efficient full-time education suitable for their age, ability and aptitude by regular attendance at school." (Section 7, Education Act, 1996)

1. Ensure your child arrives punctually for morning registration which is at 08.45. Registers close at 08:50 and after this time your child will be marked as late.
2. All pupils that arrive late (after 08:50) must report, with their parent, to the school office where the reason for lateness is recorded.
3. Please note that arrival after 09.30 without reason will be marked as a 'U' – late after the register has closed.
4. Children should only be kept at home if they have a significant illness or injury. If this is the case, parents should contact the school at the beginning of the first day of absence by 09:30. Note that the school office is staffed from 08:00 Monday to Friday.

To report a child's absence, parents should contact the school office by phone: 01142 883300 or email: office@thurgolandprimary.org

5. If a child has a minor illness e.g. mild headache, mild stomach ache etc. parents should inform the school and bring them in. If a child deteriorates through the day, school will contact parents so that a pupil can be collected.
6. Arrange medical and dental appointments outside of school time wherever possible.
7. If a pupil has a dental, or hospital appointment, parents should inform school. Pupils should be brought back to school immediately after appointments.
8. Promote a good attitude to learning by ensuring their child attends school in the correct uniform, PE kit and book bags as necessary.
9. Work in partnership with the school and other agencies in the best interests of their child; this includes informing the school about significant influences and changes in the child's life which may impact on attendance and learning.





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0 days of school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Please avoid taking holidays in term time. In particular, please avoid taking children out of school during statutory assessment periods:

- Class R – Baseline assessments during the first 6 weeks of the academic year;
- Class 1 – Phonics screening week commencing Monday 14th June 2027;
- Class 2 – The key stage 1 tests will be administered during May 2027;
- Class 4 – Year 4 Multiplication Check week commencing Monday 7th June 2027;
- Class 6 – The statutory key stage 2 tests are timetabled from Monday 10th May to Thursday 13th May 2027.

Children taken ill during the school day

If a child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact parents/carers to make suitable arrangements for them to be collected from school. We appreciate that this can sometimes be inconvenient for families and therefore only request collection where we feel it is necessary for the child's wellbeing.





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Lost Property

Please could you ensure that **all** items of clothing are marked with your child's name. We endeavour to return items of lost property directly to the owner. Each class has a lost property box which is located in the classroom. We also have a whole school lost property rail in the foyer outside the main pupil entrance.

Contact Details

We would be most grateful if you could ensure that emergency contact details are kept up to date. If you have any change in phone numbers, please call at the office so the staff will update our records.

Accidents

If a child requires medical treatment during the school day, parents/carers will be contacted immediately.

If a child has a minor injury in school **and receives first aid treatment**, this will be recorded using our online system, Medical Tracker. Medical Tracker allows us to communicate first aid incidents and medication administration directly to parents/carers via email, whilst also helping school to monitor and analyse patterns of incidents.

If your child receives first aid treatment, you will receive an email notification from donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk. Please add this email address to your contacts or approved sender list to prevent messages from being filtered into SPAM or JUNK folders.

Medical Tracker uses the primary contact email address held on our SIMS system. This is usually the same email address used for weekly newsletters and school communications. If your email address changes, please inform the school office as soon as possible.

Please be assured that Medical Tracker is registered with the Data Protection Registrar and that all information is stored securely and kept confidential.





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Administering Medication

It is important that school staff are aware of any relevant medical information relating to your child. This includes allergies (for example bee stings or food allergies), dietary requirements (such as vegetarian or Halal diets) and medical conditions which may impact your child during the school day, such as asthma or eczema.

If your child needs prescribed medication to be administered during the school day, parents/carers must complete an Administering Medication Form, available from the school office. In line with Department for Education guidance (*Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions*, 2015), medicines should, where clinically possible, be prescribed so that doses can be taken outside school hours. However, where this is not possible, school staff may administer medication approved by the Headteacher once the appropriate documentation has been completed.

School staff are able to administer most short-term prescribed medications, such as antibiotics. Parents/carers must complete the required medication form before any medication can be given.

Non-prescribed pain relief, such as Paracetamol or Ibuprofen, will only be administered at the discretion of the Headteacher in exceptional circumstances, for example following an operation or for a broken limb.

Staff are unable to administer:

- Eye drops
- Injections
- Timed medication requiring precise administration
- Specialist treatments where missed doses could result in serious consequences
- Medicated sweets, as school cannot safely monitor dosage intervals

Children requiring long-term medication, such as asthma inhalers, will be supported by staff once the appropriate forms have been completed. Support for other medical conditions may also be arranged following discussion with parents/carers. In some cases, school may seek advice or training from external health professionals, such as the school nursing team, to ensure medication can be administered safely and appropriately.





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Where required, an Individual Healthcare Plan will be developed in line with the school's *Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy*.

Parents/carers are also welcome to come into school to administer medication to their child if they would prefer to do so.

Individual healthcare plans

Some pupils may require their own individual healthcare plan. This will be written by the school alongside external agencies such as school nursing to support pupils with long term, complex medical conditions whilst at school.

PPA Time

All teachers have a statutory entitlement to 10% non-contact time to enable them to plan lessons and assess pupils' work. We are fortunate in that Mrs Stacey covers PPA in Class Three. Planning for these lessons is done in consultation with the class teacher and is within the school's schemes of work. PPA works out, for a full-time teacher, at a half day per week.





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Oracy and Reading

Reading is at the heart of all we do at Thurgoland School because it opens the door to learning. Everything else depends on it, so we put as much energy as we possibly can into making sure that every single child learns to read as quickly as possible. A child who reads a lot will become a good reader. A good reader will be able to read more challenging material. A child who reads challenging material will learn. The more a child learns, the more they will want to find out. We want your child to love to listen to stories, love reading and want to read themselves. This is why we work hard throughout school from Class R to Class 6, to make sure our children develop a love of books as well as simply learning to read.

Reading in KS2

Whole class reading takes place every morning following a teaching sequence that prioritises vocabulary and oracy development in line with National Curriculum requirements for the year group expectations. The sessions have pupils reading aloud (Echo reading); teacher's modelling and explanations and questioning. The pupils build experience with increasingly complex texts; gain new language and develop fluency. Reading of high-quality class texts with high level vocabulary are modelled by the teacher and answering different types of comprehension questions are taught explicitly. The focus text for each unit of work also supports our writing curriculum.

There is informal book talk (Book Club style) that takes place in a weekly visit to the school library that provides time to read in a sociable environment and an opportunity to recommend books to pupils.

Every class has its own class library that has age-appropriate recommended reading books for their year. A child 'borrows' a text and enjoys reading it as well as a book banded one and a book from the school library should they wish to choose one.

All children are benchmarked each half term to ensure that they are reading texts that match their ability. Any child requiring extra support with their reading receives an intervention and reads more regularly with an adult during a week who helps them through key questioning and discussions about their book. More information about our exciting, progressive reading curriculum is available on our website:

<https://thurgolandprimary.org/curriculum-statement/reading/>





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The books your child will study and read from start to finish this year are:

Year 3 (Whole Class Reading)						
George's Marvellous Medicine	Ice Palace	Stig of the Dump	The Ancient Egyptian Sleepover	The Akimbo Adventures	Varjak Paw	The Iron Man





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Spelling Classes 2–6

Throughout the year, children will be taught a weekly spelling rule in class. This may focus on prefixes, suffixes, spelling patterns, homophones or other key spelling conventions from the National Curriculum. Each week, your child will be given **five words** linked to the spelling rule to practise at home. These words will be tested weekly in school.

At the end of each half term, children will be assessed on the spellings taught during that period. Any spellings that are not yet secure will continue to be revisited and practised alongside future lists.

In addition to these words, children should practise the statutory words for their year group. A list of these will be sent out at the beginning of the academic year.

Children in Year 2 take part in regular spelling lessons which focus on exploring, understanding and applying spelling rules accurately within writing. Dictated sentences, discussion and handwriting practice are used to help embed spelling patterns and support children's transcription skills. There is also a strong emphasis on oracy, enabling children to explain spelling rules and apply them confidently within their independent work.

Spellings on Class Dojos

The spelling list of common exception words to learn each half term will be available on Class Dojo. All children are expected to complete spelling homework on a weekly basis; this will be set every Friday under the activity 'Creative Spelling Homework'. Each week children are required to choose some words from their half termly list to practise in a creative way and upload onto Class Dojo. We encourage children to not just practise the spelling of the common exception words but to apply their learning of the words for example; understanding the meanings and use within their writing.

Handwriting

Our curriculum

Kinetic letters is a handwriting program designed to enable children to develop legible handwriting that is produced quickly and automatically. Your child will learn the formation





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of lowercase letters, capitals and numbers based on a set of rules and movements that have been made as simple as possible to enable fast learning.

Four threads of learning

The teaching and learning of handwriting is divided into 4 main threads designed to promote automaticity and fluency for writing. Each handwriting lesson captures elements of the strands below and focuses on 1 letter per lesson.

1. **Making bodies stronger:** Children will learn how to strengthen their core body and arms to enable them to control their fingers precisely. Children learn different animal poses to support their body strength (penguin, bear, meerkat, lion and lizard).
2. **Holding the pencil:** Children will learn a specific pencil grip (three friends hold) to ensure they have a comfortable pencil grip to allow writing for sustained periods of time.
3. **Learning the letters:** Children will learn the movements to form the letters, they start with whole body movements and progress through writing in sand trays, to writing on whiteboards and finally writing onto paper. Children will learn through rhymes and meeting 2 characters Bounce the Brave monkey who forms his letters starting at the tall branch and Skip the Scared monkey who forms his letters on the lower branch. This teaches children the height of letters.
4. **Flow and fluency:** letter movements are minimized to help a fast-writing style and joining is introduced in Year 2 to enable flow and fluency as they progress into Key Stage 2.

How to support your child at home

Each day your child will have a handwriting lesson where they will focus on learning 1 letter from the letter family. To support your child's handwriting development, you could revise the letter taught that day or on previous days by practising learning the rhyme and drawing first with body movements and progressing to writing into sand, whiteboards or on paper. Feel free to be creative when practising, flour makes a great sand tray replica or shaving foam.

Practise fine motor and refined finger movements to help strengthen up your child's pencil grip using the 3 friends hold. Ask your child to sing the 3 friends hold song to ensure they are in the correct pencil grip when writing at home. Refined finger movement exercises can include:





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- Moving objects with tweezers
- Using their thumb and index finger to pick up small items
- Drawing zig zags, spirals, shapes whilst holding the pencil in 3 friends hold

Please see following pages to support implementing Kinetic letters at home and practising learning the letter rhymes and formation of your letters.





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Kinetic Letters Letter Trail wording: Lower-Case letters - in Letter Families
(Family Features- the moves that the Letter Family have in common - are in red)

Jumper Family

- h Down-bump. Back up. Push over. Down-bump. Flick.
- n Down-bump. Back up. Push over. Down-bump. Flick.
- m Down-bump. Back up. Push over. Down-bump. Back up. Push over. Down-bump. Flick.
- r Down-bump. Back up. Push over.
- b Down-bump. Back up. Push over. Pull in (along the ground and hug the tree).
- p Down, on-Down. Back up. Push (the cobwebs off). Pull-in (and hug the tree).

Abracadabra Family

- c Pull around and Push (along the ground).
- o Pull around and Push (along the ground). Abracadabra! On round and Push a tiny line.
- a Pull around and Push (along the ground). Abracadabra! Up (like a helicopter). Down-bump. Flick.
- d Pull around and Push (along the ground). Abracadabra! Up, on-up. Down-bump. Flick.
- g Pull around and Push (along the ground). Abracadabra! Up. Down, on-down and Pull around (to catch the fish).
- q Pull around and Push (along the ground). Abracadabra! Up. Down, on-down and Flick (out the leaves).
- s Pull around and Push. Abracadabra! Pull back (along the ground)

Window Cleaner Family

- l Down-bump. Flick (the water off).
- i Down-bump. Flick (the water off). -pen off- Put on a dot.
- t Down-bump. Flick (the water off). -pen off- Push a line across.
- u Down, Push (along the ground). Up. Down-bump. Flick (the water off)

Special Squirter

- e Push across. Up. Pull around and Push(along the ground).

Fisher Family

- j Down-on down and Pull around (to catch the fish). -pen off- Put on a dot.
- g Pull around and Push (along the ground). Abracadabra! Up. Down, on-down and Pull around (to catch the fish).
- y Down. Push (along the ground). Up. Down, on-down and Pull around (to catch the fish).
- f Pull around, Down, on-down and Pull around (to catch the fish). -pen off- Push a line across.

Slider Family

- v Slide down. Slide up.
- w Slide down. Slide up. Slide down. Slide up.
- x Slide down -pen off- Slide down.
- z Push across. Slide down. Push across.
- k Down-bump. -pen off- Slide in. Slide out.





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Kinetic Letters Letter Trail wording: Upper-Case letters - in formation groups

Straight Lines group

- I Down-bump. -pen off- Push a top line across. -pen off- Push a line (along the ground).
- L Down-bump. Push a line (along the ground).
- E Down-bump. Push a line (along the ground). -pen off- Push a top line across. -pen off- Push a middle line across.
- F Down-bump. -pen off- Push a top line across. -pen off- Push a middle line across.
- H Down-bump. -pen off- Down-bump. -pen off- Push a middle line across.
- T Down-bump. -pen off- Push a top line across.

Curves Group

- C Pull around and Push (along the ground).
- O Pull around and Push (along the ground). On round and join.
- S Pull around and Push. Pull back (along the ground).
- G Pull around and Push (along the ground). Up. Down-bump. -pen off- Push a middle line across.
- Q Pull around and Push (along the ground). On round and join. -pen off- Slide a little line down.

Lines then Curves group

- D Down-bump. -pen off- Push over. Pull in (along the ground).
- P Down-bump. -pen off- Push over. Pull in (to Skip's branch).
- B Down-bump. -pen off- Push over. Pull in (to Skip's branch). Push over. Pull in (along the ground).
- R Down-bump. -pen off- Push over. Pull in (to Skip's branch). Slide down.
- J Down and Pull back (along the ground). -pen off- Push a top line across.
- U Down. Push (along the ground). Up.

Sliding lines group

- A Slide down. -pen off- Slide down. -pen off- Push a middle line across.
- M Down-bump. -pen off- Slide down (to Skip's branch). Slide up. Down-bump.
- N Down-bump. -pen off- Slide down. Up.
- W Slide down. Slide up (to Skip's branch). Slide down. Slide up.
- V Slide down. Slide up.
- X Slide down. -pen off- Slide down.
- Z Push across. Slide down. Push across (along the ground).
- K Down-bump. -pen off- Slide in (to Skip's branch). Slide out.
- Y Slide down (to Skip's branch). Slide up. -pen off- Down-bump.

Kinetic Letters Number Trails wording - in formation groups

Pushing numbers

- 2 Push around. Pull and Slide down. Push a line (along the ground).
- 3 Push around. Pull in (to Skip's branch). Push around and Pull in (along the ground).
- 5 Down (to Skip's branch). Push around and Pull in (along the ground). -pen off- Push a top line across.
- 7 Push a top line across. Slide down.

Pulling numbers

- 0 Pull around and Push (along the ground). On round and join.
- 6 Pull around and Push (along the ground). Up and Pull around (to Skip's branch).
- 9 Pull around (to Skip's branch) and Up. Down-bump.
- 8 Pull around (to Skip's branch) and Push. Pull back (along the ground). Push up. Pull back and join.
- 1 Down-bump.
- 4 Pull down (to just under Skip's branch). Push a line. -pen off- Down-bump.





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Times Tables

Learning multiplication facts is a vital part of any child's mathematical development. Once rapid recall of multiplication facts becomes possible, a whole host of mathematical activities will seem easier. Children need to be able to recall multiplication facts in any order and also to derive associated division facts. The National Curriculum's expectations for each year group are set out below:

- Year 1 - Count forwards and backwards in steps of 2, 5 and 10.
- Year 2 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 3, 5 and 10 multiplication tables up to $12x$ in any order.
- Year 3 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4, and 8 multiplication tables up to $12x$ in any order.
- Year 4 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 in any order.
- Year 5 and 6 - Recall and use multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 and apply knowledge to help solve decimal multiplication and division, e.g. $12 \times 12 = 144$ so $12 \times 1.2 = 14.4$

In school, a daily Tables Stick session is delivered. In line with EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) guidance for improving the teaching of maths, Tables Stick provides a strategy-based approach for the teaching of times tables, supported by Tables Stick practical resources to deepen understanding and scaffold learning so the facts make sense for all children. This mastery approach, grounded in number sense, builds on what children already know and emphasises the rich patterns and connections between mathematical facts, locking them into long-term memory for fluent recall and application. As with all manipulatives, it is how they are used that makes the difference. The Tables Stick YouTube channel supports this approach and provides videos for each times table. See here for more information and links to video guidance:

<https://www.tablesstick.co.uk/forhome>

Please encourage children to practise their multiplication facts as these are important in all areas of the curriculum. The emphasis is on accurate recall. All children will be given user names and passwords for TT Rockstars so that they can access this online programme at home. <https://ttrockstars.com/>





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

Homework

Our approach to homework

At Thurgoland our approach to homework is quality not quantity; we believe that children should have the time outside of school to grow and develop in different ways. Here is a little more information about our approach:

- Homework activities will be focused around developing children's basic skills in reading (including vocabulary development...learning new words), spelling and number facts. If you would like to spend more time completing homework, we will also set optional creative topic research-based projects each term.
- From time-to-time, children may bring home a piece of work they have missed through absence, or for further reinforcement.
- Homework will be given every Friday to complement work done in class. All homework will be due back on the following Thursday.
- There will be a homework club in school for children who do not have a quiet space to complete activities at home.

Feedback on homework activities:

Reading daily to an adult — whether that be in school or at home — is an important part of developing fluency, confidence and a love of reading. This will be recorded in your child's reading diary.

TT Rockstars practice – Teachers will check the weekly class statistics to monitor children's performance on TT Rockstars. Teachers will analyse any misconception and re-teach these in lesson times.

Creative spellings – Teachers will look at creative spellings and use the 'love heart' symbol to give praise.

Optional topic work – we would encourage your child to bring any topic projects into school to share and celebrate with their class, we are also building up a history timeline display in school. If this isn't possible, feel free to post on Class Dojo to share with your teachers and they will comment when appropriate.





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

It is our policy to set homework as follows:

Class	Suggested daily time completing the activities *This is only a suggestion as we appreciate on some days your family will have other commitments *	Activities
Class R	5-10 minutes in total per evening	- Autumn term: Regular reading to an adult * - Spring term: read to an adult and choose number activities from grid. - Summer term: read to an adult, choose number activities from grid and creative spelling using RED words from phonics book. - Plus, optional topic bingo boards – choose as many activities to complete as you like.
Class 1	5-10 mins in total per evening	- Regular reading to an adult * - Daily number facts practise - Numbots / TT rockstars. - Weekly creative spellings. - Plus, optional topic bingo boards – choose as many activities to complete as you like.
Class 2	5 – 10 minutes in total per evening	- Regular reading to an adult *and weekly reading activity. - Daily number facts practise - Numbots / TT rockstars. - Weekly creative spellings. Plus, optional topic bingo boards – choose as many activities to complete as you like.
Class 3, 4 and 5	10 – 15 mins in total per evening	- Regular reading to an adult / regular sustained private reading * - Daily number facts practise - TT rockstars. - Weekly engaging maths and spelling activities set on a platform called Sumdog. Plus, optional topic bingo boards – choose as many activities to complete as you like.
Years 6	20 minutes in total per evening	- Regular reading to an adult / regular sustained private reading * - Daily number facts practise - TT rockstars. - Weekly engaging maths and spelling activities set on a platform called Sumdog. Plus, optional topic bingo boards – choose as many activities to complete as you like.

Reading daily to an adult — whether that be in school or at home — is an important part of developing fluency, confidence and a love of reading. This will be recorded in your child's reading diary.





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

Assessment

At Thurgoland C.E. School we see assessment as an integral part of teaching and learning, and it is inextricably linked to our curriculum. We use three broad overarching forms of assessment: day-to-day in-school formative assessment, in-school summative assessment and nationally standardised summative assessment.

Nationally standardised summative assessment

Nationally standardised summative assessment enables:

- School leaders to monitor the performance of pupil cohorts, identify where interventions may be required, and work with teachers to ensure pupils are supported to achieve sufficient progress and attainment
- Teachers to understand national expectations and assess their own performance in the broader national context
- Pupils and parents to understand how pupils are performing in comparison to pupils nationally

Nationally standardised summative assessments include:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) baseline assessment, which are completed in the first half term.
- Phonics screening check in year 1
- Multiplication Check Year 4
- National Curriculum tests and teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 1 (year 2) and Key Stage 2 (year 6)





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

Expectations for our required school uniform

Please ensure that all clothing worn or brought into school is labelled with your child's name and class.

We encourage all children to wear school uniform. This consists of:

- Required – White or navy polo shirts or T-shirts
- Optional – Blue and white checked dresses (not available from Vortex)
- Required – Grey or navy skirts / trousers
- Required – Navy sweatshirts / cardigans

Note, jewellery must not be worn for health and safety reasons and where ears are pierced, only small studs are permitted to be worn. Exceptions can only be made for medical or religious reasons. Long hair should be tied back with appropriate discrete school-coloured hair accessories. Children need to be able to remove their own earrings as well as put them back in.

Please make sure that you clearly label all pieces of your child's clothing, as they are very easily lost if not labelled.





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

PE Uniform

P.E. in Class Three is on a Monday (swimming from February for 18 weeks) and Wednesday.

Children in Classes 1-6 are asked to wear their PE uniform to school on their two scheduled PE days.

By wearing their PE uniform to school: children will be able to have longer for lessons as no time will be lost on changing for PE; it will ensure pupils' privacy and dignity as boys/girls won't need to change in mixed groups; there will be more space in cloakroom areas; and as a Platinum School for Sport, all pupils will be wearing an appropriate kit that enables them to participate fully in lessons.

Our P.E. uniform is:

- Required – PE Team T-Shirt in Navy Blue
- Required – Plain navy or dark coloured jogging bottoms or leggings
- Required – Plain, dark shorts
- Required – 'Lightweight' Trainers i.e. not boot like trainers (these need to be suitable for outdoor physical activity. Black plimsolls will no longer be suitable as these are not waterproof or as practical to walk to school in/wear all day)
- Required – Pupils can wear outdoor coats, school jumpers, a plain navy sweatshirt or a fleece over their PE uniform to travel to school/play outside.

For swimming a full swimming costume (not bikini) or swimming trunks / shorts should be worn. Swimming hats must be worn over long hair. A towel will be needed from home.

Parents and carers can obtain uniform from:

- The above branded items, plus navy waterproof jackets and fleeces can be purchased at from <https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/Primary-Schools/Thurgoland-Primary-School>
- Or can be bought more widely, e.g. from 'high-street' retailers
- Nearly new uniform sales will take place periodically throughout the year
- Requests for nearly new uniform items can be made via the school office
- Details of any local uniform exchange schemes running, will be shared on school social media.





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Water

Children need to bring their own NAMED water bottle. The school has filtered tap water in the classroom, from which refills can be made. Children are encouraged / allowed to drink at appropriate times throughout the day.

Milk

Children can be provided daily with a carton of milk for the morning break on request from -

<https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/>

Snacks / Tuck Shop

Children in KS2 are allowed to bring an extra piece of fruit/vegetable from home if they would like.

At Thurgoland, we thrive on teaching children the meaning and choices to make to lead and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Our Year 6 pupils like to support promoting healthy choices by running a KS2 Healthy Tuck Shop. The Tuck shop will run daily during morning playtime for Key Stage 2 pupils. Children will be able to visit the tuck shop everyday where a range of healthy snacks will be available to purchase. To support all our families, every item sold will be 20p therefore, if your child would like to buy a healthy snack at playtimes from the tuck shop, please ensure they bring money to school.

Note we are a nut free school

School Dinners

At Thurgoland CE Primary School, we are proud to manage our own school kitchen. Our meals are freshly prepared using high-quality ingredients, with many products sourced locally where possible. We aim to provide children with healthy, balanced and enjoyable meals each day.





THURGOLAND

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



LEARNING TOGETHER
IN FAITH & JOY

Children can choose from:

- Two hot meal options each day
- A jacket potato option
- A daily salad bar selection

Parents/carers select meal choices at home using the Gateway App. Meals can be ordered daily, weekly or for an entire half term in advance. Payment is taken at the point of booking, although families may also choose to add credit to their child's account to cover future meals. School dinners currently cost £3.00 per day.

To support the smooth running of our kitchen and reduce food waste, we kindly ask that all meal choices — including packed lunch selections — are made by 08:00 each morning.

Your support with prompt ordering helps our kitchen team prepare meals efficiently and ensures all children receive their chosen option wherever possible.

We would also encourage families to consider the school meal option where possible. School meals provide children with a nutritious, balanced lunch and are an important part of the social experience of the school day.

