



NEWSLETTER

October 2024

As we approach the end of another half term, it seems no time since I was welcoming you all back in September. The countdown to Christmas is already active in school and plans are underway for various Christmas events in school.

I am delighted that all the children have settled into their classes and routines in an exemplary way, we are all super proud of the children. External visitors have continued to praise the children on the calm learning environment in school and the excellent behaviour in school. Thank you and well done to everyone and parents/carers for supporting school.

Now that the weather is turning colder, please ensure that your child has a coat in school every day, we always try to make the most of outdoor playtimes so wellies for the field are needed when the wet weather is here.

We have attended a number of sporting events with great sportsmanship and teamwork during the half. Children's behaviour at these events as always, has been impeccable and we are very proud they all represent Thursby School exceptionally in the wider community.

The dates to the end of term are attached, you have already received a copy of these but there is a slight change., shown in red, Class 4 book look will be a week earlier so as not to clash with Robinwood Residential Visit and Class 1 are now visiting Aztec Soft Play instead of Holme Head House, the date for that remains unchanged.

Please keep an eye out for parents evening appointments, these will all be face to face and bookable via an email which will be sent after half term.

I hope everyone enjoys half term and the weather is kind so you all enjoy the freedom of the great outdoors before the darker nights come fast.

Remember you all deserve a lie in this weekend- clocks go back on Saturday 26th /Sunday 27th October.

Mrs Williams

Foundation Stage (Nursery/Reception) Miss Butler and Mrs Gibson

We are happy to share all our children in Class 1 have settled into their everyday routines, are happy, making friends and enjoying some amazing learning! They are also looking forward to their half term break and having some family time at home.

Over these last few weeks, all our children have immersed themselves getting to know their peers, staff, their environment and daily routines of school life. They have shared stories about themselves, their families and pets. The children are all participating in daily phonics and maths activities.

They have enjoyed our Welly Wednesday every week, exploring their environment inside and outside and drinking hot chocolate!

Class 2 (Years 1 & 2) Mrs Milburn & Miss Gregson

What a wonderful start we've had in Class 2! It has been an absolute joy to teach both Year 1 and Year 2, and to get to know them well. We'd like to extend a very warm welcome to our new family who have joined us in Year 1 – it's always exciting to welcome new faces into our class community.

This half term, we've focused on establishing our class routines and building strong learning habits. The children have been practicing taking turns when sharing ideas, listening carefully to instructions, and showing respect for one another and our classroom equipment. It's been fantastic to see how enthusiastically everyone has engaged in their learning!

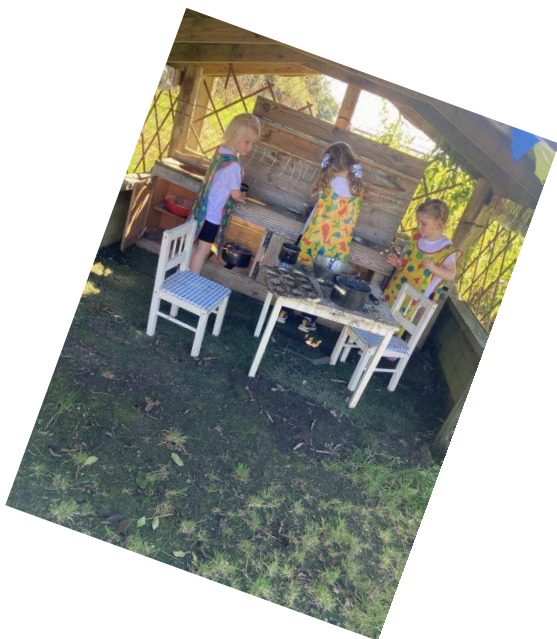
We are finishing off this last week making crafts for Halloween.

Next half term and the run up to Christmas we will be delving into the land of fantasy; exploring princesses, knights and dragons with great books like *Zog* and *On the way home* which enables us to focus on high quality interactions, exploring and using our new vocabulary!

We are looking forward to performing our Christmas production with Class 2, a trip to Aztec (changed from Holme Head House) and our Christmas party!

We would like to wish you all a happy and restful half term.

After half term, our PE lessons will be on Tuesdays & Fridays, every week.



In History, we've been exploring chronology with our topic on the Great Fire of London. The children have been thinking deeply about cause and effect, and through drama and discussion, they debated whether more could have been done to stop the fire from spreading.

In Art, we've worked on the skill of weaving, learning about the terms 'weft' and 'warp.' Together, we created two giant looms and made some wonderful display art for our classroom.

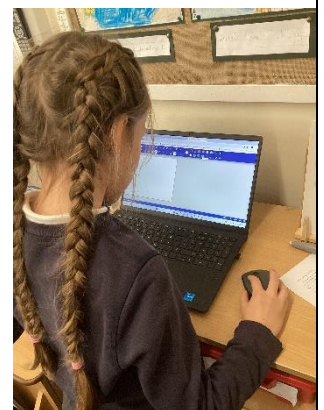
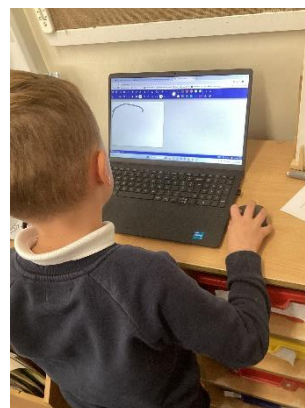
Our class book this half term has been *The Lonely Beast*, which the children have absolutely loved! We've written fantastic stories and even created instructions for making a Lonely Beast Crunchie Cake – after baking and tasting one first, of course!

It's been a jam-packed, hard-working half term, and we couldn't be prouder of how much the children have achieved.

Looking ahead to next half term, we'll be learning about food from around the world, mapping familiar places using our geography skills, and in science, we'll be discovering how our bodies work and the importance of eating a balanced diet. In DT we'll make some healthy foods and refine our chopping skills.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on the 4th of November.

After half term, our PE lessons will be on Wednesdays & Fridays every week.



Class 3 (Years 3 & 4)
Mrs Brown & Miss Gregson

Class 3 have made a FANTASTIC start to this academic year, well done everyone!

The children have been working hard in maths, learning about place value, and addition and subtraction. In English, they have written some excellent instructions about 'How to wash a Woolly Mammoth'.

Our class text has been 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. We have really enjoyed reading the text, exploring new vocabulary and improving our inference skills looking at why the main character Edward has felt certain ways at different points in the story.

The children have all improved their ball skills in PE. In Art & Design, the children have developed drawings into prints and have produced excellent pieces of artwork with a focus on shape, line and pattern. In History, the children have learned why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain, what village life was like and investigated which King they thought was buried at Sutton-Hoo. As part of their Science learning, the children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Life Centre in Newcastle where they participated in a digestive system workshop!

Next half term, the children will be studying the counties and regions of the UK and improving their knowledge of these. In Science, the children will be learning all about electricity - looking at which of our everyday appliance use electricity and constructing a simple series circuit. In Design and Technology, we will be looking at electrical systems before designing, making and evaluating their own torches. Our class text will be 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.

We are really looking forward to another busy half term filled with lots of new learning.



Class 4 (Years 5 & 6)
Mr Colombi

It has been an excellent start to the new academic year and all the children are settled into their new routines and expectations. Their attitude, concentration and effort has been constantly improving.

This half term we have focussed on The Vikings. The key knowledge learnt has been The Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England. They have learnt about many famous figures from this era and why The Vikings invaded and settled here in Britain. In PE, children have enjoyed their weekly swimming session with the water safety session in clothes being a particular highlight. I have been impressed with their determination.

Children have learnt to interpret artwork and the story / message that the artist was trying to portray. They have then tried to create their own picture with a message like the famous David Hockney, Fiona Rae and Lubaina Himid.

In Science, they have learnt about Electricity. The children know how to draw symbols in a circuit and all about current and voltage. They will be investigating brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. Last Friday, the children thoroughly enjoyed a workshop from Ian and Electricity North West.

Next half term, the class will be learning about Coasts, Rivers and Mountains.

They also have an exciting residential to look forward too.





Upcoming dates

Friday 25 th October	3.20 pm Start of Half Term
Monday 4 th November	8.50 Return to School
Wednesday 6th November	3.30 Book Look Class 4 Only
Monday 11 th November – Wednesday 13 th November	Year 5/6 Residential Visit to Robinwood
Wednesday 13 th November	3.30 pm Book Look For All Parents/Carers (Classes 1-3)
Friday 15 th November	PFA Non-Uniform in return for prizes for Chocolate Bingo
Tuesday 19 th November	PFA Chocolate Bingo – School Hall – 3.30 Start
Monday 25 th November	Parents Evenings Week – times to follow
Monday 2 nd December	Parents Evenings Week – times to follow
Thursday 5 th December	NISCU Puppets to visit Class 1 & 2
Monday 9 th December	Cycle Training Year 5 (most days for the week)
Tuesday 10 th December	Cinema Trip KS2
Wednesday 11 th December	1.45 pm Class 1 & 2 Christmas Production
Friday 13 th December	Class 2 Theatre By the Lake Visit
Monday 16 th December	Christmas Church Service in St Andrews
Tuesday 17 th December	Class 1 to Aztec Soft Play Centre

Tuesday 17 th December	Class 3 & 4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	Class 1 & 2 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 20 th December	2pm End Of Term
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Children Return To School

Attendance

Congratulations to Class 2 who have the highest attendance during the Autumn 1 half term (up to and including 18 October), 97.94 %

House Points

There will be a non-uniform day for OAK (Yellow) house on Friday 9th November, as they have gained the most house points this half term.

Drinks in School and DFE School Food Standards

All children should have a water bottle in school every day.

Drinks in water bottles must be water, if children are not keen on water a piece of cucumber or fruit for example can be added to alter the taste. Cordial juice is not allowed. If there is a specific medical need please let us know.

We remain a nut-free school due to allergies.

Information from the Department for Education (DFE) School Food Standards is attached for all parents/carers to view which explains the standards schools must follow for eating and drinking whilst at school.