

THORNGUMBALD NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

It's hard to believe we're already six weeks into the new school year! It's been such a positive start, and I'm so proud of how well the children have settled back into school life. Classrooms are full of energy, curiosity and kindness — it's lovely to see everyone so engaged in their learning and so happy to be together again.

Our new pupils have made a fantastic start, quickly becoming part of our school family, and it's been wonderful to see the older children setting such a brilliant example around school. Staff have worked incredibly hard to create calm, nurturing and exciting environments where every child can thrive.

There's a real sense of community around school at the moment — whether it's in the way children support one another, how families greet us at the gate, or the buzz during assemblies and learning time. Those positive relationships make such a difference and are at the heart of everything we do.

Looking ahead, we have lots of exciting events planned for the term — from discos and parents evenings to festive performances as we move towards Christmas. It's always such a special time of year in school, and I'm really looking forward to sharing it all with you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. It's a privilege to work with such a caring and committed school community.

REQUESTS & REMINDERS

● Could we kindly remind everyone that P.E kits should be a plain white t-shirt, black or navy shorts or trousers and a plain black or navy jumper.

● If children are bringing in a snack for their break, can we please ask that this is either a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. A reminder that we are also a nut free school as we have children with severe allergies.

If you have any spare or unwanted waterproof clothing, seasonal clothing and home-related resources to enhance our home corner in EYFS, please send them in!



FRIENDS OF SCHOOL

Friends of School would like to thank everyone for all of their support last year. In the last few weeks of term we had a successful summer fair and then end of year disco as well as a Year 6 prom!

We look forward to this new year with our upcoming Halloween Disco on Thursday 23rd October. If you'd like to help out at this event, please let your class teacher know.

Our AGM meeting is Monday 6th October at 6:00 at Camerton and we would love to see as many of you as possible. New members will be very much welcomed.

SEPTEMBER STARS OF THE WEEK



EYFS – Daisy C, Peyton, Lottie & Michael
Year 1 – Jonah, Harry, Khloe & Maya
Year 2 – Ava, Grace, William & Reuben
Year 3 – George, Chloe, Charli & Roman
Year 4 – Tyla, Iyla, Charlie, & Alfie
Year 5 – Bobby, Jacob, Kendon & Bronwyn
Year 6 – Lily-Rose, Kai, Jacob & Rosemary

CLASS HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER



In EYFS, the children have had a fantastic first half term at school, settling in brilliantly to their new classroom and routines. They have made new friends, explored their learning environment and enjoyed discovering all about autumn through stories, activities and nature walks. As the weather changes, we are hoping to continue learning outdoors in all conditions.

In Year 1, we've been settling back into our school routine and the children have done a fantastic job getting back into the swing of things! In Science, we've been learning all about different materials and their properties, exploring how and why they're used in everyday life. In Phonics and Guided Reading, everyone has been working hard to read words more confidently and build their fluency. We've also just started our Rainbow Challenges, which the children have absolutely loved — it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and independence shining through!

In Year 2, the children have been busy exploring a range of exciting topics! In Geography, they've been learning about the world, oceans, and continents, discovering where different countries are and how our planet is divided. In Maths, they've been practising their adding and subtracting skills, using fun games and challenges to build confidence with numbers. Meanwhile, in Music, the class has been enjoying learning "The Menu Song", using rhythm and melody to make their lessons lively and engaging. It's been a wonderful mix of learning and creativity this month.

This year we have opened a second space for children with speech, language and communication difficulties so we now have The Den and The Meadow. All the children have settled into school beautifully and we are really proud of them. So far, they have enjoyed a range of activities linking to different themes including transport, space, colour and pattern.

Thank you to Friends of School for paying £5 per child for Year 3's upcoming school trip!

They will be paying £5 for all children across the year for one of their school trips.



CLASS HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER



Year 3 have had a fantastic time this month! They've loved diving into history, exploring life from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. In maths, the children have been brilliant mathematicians, working hard on the next steps in their place value learning. We've also been busy in English, where the class wrote their very own set of instructions on how to wash a woolly mammoth – with lots of creativity and fun!

This month, Year 4 have had a fantastic start to the term! In English, we began reading Anglo-Saxon Boy and How to Train Your Dragon, diving into exciting stories filled with history and adventure. In Maths, we practised rounding to the nearest 10, 100, and 1000 – with the help of our catchy rounding rap! As young scientists, we conducted an experiment to explore what might happen to our teeth if we didn't brush them. In RSHE, we've had thoughtful discussions about stereotypes and how they affect others. It's been a busy and brilliant month of learning!

Year 5 have had an amazing start back to school this September and have quickly settled into their routines with enthusiasm and positivity. In maths, we have just completed our place value unit, where we have explored numbers up to 1 million, showing great determination when skills looked tricky. Our English and reading lessons have been filled with excitement as we began our new class book Cogheart by Peter Bunzl, which is already capturing our imaginations. In history, we have been learning all about the Tudors, with a particular focus on the fascinating reigns of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I. Meanwhile, in science, we have been busy investigating the forces around us. It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we are looking forward to the rest of the term!

I am so proud of the start Year 6 have made to this academic year. They have all settled in really well and are showing exemplary behaviour for the younger year groups. We have really hit the ground running and have covered a lot in September alone. In maths we are now into our long division lessons, in reading we have started our book When The Sky Falls and we are all really enjoying our current WW2 topic and are looking forward to our trip to Eden Camp in October. Great work Year 6 – the potential is huge and I can't wait for the rest of the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER

- 13** EYFS Phonics Parent Session – 3:30
- 14** EYFS Open Evening for new starters in 2026 – 4:00
- 16** Flu Vaccinations for the full school
Year 6 trip to Eden Camp – flu vaccinations have been rearranged for 5th December
- 20** EYFS Stay and Play – more info TBC from Miss Killelay
- 23** Friends of School Halloween Disco: KS1 4:15 – 5:00 and KS2 5:15 – 6:15
- 24** Inset Day - School Closed

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

- 3** School opens for children
- 6** Individual School Photos
- 20** Year 3 School Trip
- 27** 27th – EYFS & Year 6 height and weight measured by school nurse
- 28** Parents Evening – details on booking time slots TBC

Thank you to Friends of School for purchasing our new fencing and tools for Mrs Wilkinson's upcoming forest school endeavours!

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Tuesday - Dodgeball
Thursday - KS1 Science
Friday - Football



Our new school sports kit arrived this month and our Year 6 football team had the job of wearing it for the first time whilst representing us in a local football tournament, I think we can all agree it looks great! Thanks Mrs Morrow for sorting that out for us all.

THANK
YOU
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