



September 2018

Newsletter

Welcome back to a new academic year. I really hope that you have had a good break and that you had a chance to enjoy the lovely weather. The children appear to have come back refreshed, smart and ready to learn.

Please remember that we do have an open door policy and whilst I try to see you it is often better to make contact with your child's class teacher as they spend the most time with your children. Please also remember that Mrs Hutchins is also available to see parents regarding matters of concern. If you do wish to see me then please make an appointment at the office stating your concern and I will endeavour to see you as soon as possible. I am looking forward to seeing you at some of our events and around school and please remember you can also follow us on twitter @thorngumbaldsch.

## Governor Elections

Very soon we will be holding a Governor election to elect two new Governors on to our Governing Body. If you are interested in finding out about the role and speaking to a Governor then please ring the school and we will arrange a meeting with a Governor so you can find out about the role.

## Secret Student

From next week, our celebration assembly will take place at 2.50pm on a Friday afternoon. Secret student parents or another family member will be able to attend the assembly to see their child receive certificate of success and share in this achievement. We will inform you by text message on the Thursday morning to say that you are invited. We understand that not all parents will be able to attend so another family member (Grandparent etc) will be invited to attend. We are limited to **two** members of the family due to space.

## School Meals

We continue to provide hot school meals in school. Meals are free of charge to children in EYFS and KS1 and cost £2.30 per day to children in KS2. This means that children who are now in **Year 3** must pay for their lunches. Please could send the money for the week to school with your child in a named envelope on a **Monday morning**. It will only be in extenuating circumstances that we will be able to accept dinner money on any other day. If your child is having a packed lunch then please do not send fizzy drinks or sweets.

# Health in School

It is important that all children are fit and healthy. We are an active part of the Schools sports and many of these are being planned over the next couple of weeks. As soon as we have dates for inter school sports we will let you know.

We also welcome back Tigers Trust who will work with the different classes in the coming year. First Steps are also working in school and providing our after school sports club.



In order for children to take part in PE and other activities I ask that they come to school equipped with the correct PE kit. Both boys and girls need to wear black shorts and a white tee-shirt. All children need a pair of black sandshoes and a drawstring bag. **Please can you make sure that all uniform and clothing is named.**

### **Head lice**

Unfortunately, sometimes schools have children who come to school with head lice. All we ask is that 'Once a Week' you 'take a peek'. That way we can work together so that it does not cause a problem.

### **Snacks**

All children in Key Stage One and Foundation (classes 1, 2, 3 and 4) are provided with a piece of fruit or vegetables on a daily basis. Key Stage Two children (classes 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9) are allowed to bring in a piece of fruit or a cereal bar or other **healthy** snack for their break. **NO CHOCOLATE BARS OR BISCUITS PLEASE.**

### **Hydration**

**Please remember that children may only have juice to drink with their lunch.** Children will have the opportunity to drink water throughout the day but are not permitted to bring juice to drink in the classroom. Children may bring water to drink in their water bottle in the classroom and there are water coolers for them to refill their bottles.

## **Child Protection**

At Thorngumbald Primary school, we recognise that your child is our responsibility and concern. We want to work in partnership with you, and discuss with you, any concerns we may have or that you may have.

It is a priority to inform and involve you at every stage in your child's time at the school.

Since the first priority is your child's welfare, there may be rare occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you.

The ER Safeguarding Children Board has laid down the procedures we follow, and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of all.

If you want to know more about our procedures or the policy, please speak to Mrs Carroll/Mrs Clark or Mrs Hutchins, your child's class teacher or Mr Finer who is the Governor with responsibility for Child Protection.

**Whilst on the school premises, please be aware that confrontation between parents or even children is not permitted and will not be tolerated.** This is also part of keeping our staff, parents and children safe.

## **Attendance**

Your child's attendance in school, as you will know, is important so that we can work together to maximise their progress and learning. Evidence shows the better a child's attendance, the more likely pupils will succeed at school however, sometimes children are ill and cannot come to school and that is understood. Please can you inform school of any pending appointments and contact the school at the beginning of the school day to inform us of any absence. We have been advised that, if attendance is below 95% we must send a short letter to inform you and if it is below 90% another letter must be sent out to parents. Matters that cause concern will result in an invitation to an action plan meeting and if attendance does not improve we must refer the child to the Education Welfare Service. Whilst this can be frustrating for you as parents, these are the guidelines that we have to follow.



**Congratulations to Joshua on your swimming achievements!**

### **The School Day and Safety**

Please remember how important it is for your child to be in school on time each morning. School is open every morning at 8.45 am to allow for a smooth start to the day and the security gates will be closed again at 8.55 am. If your child goes home for lunch, please collect them from the entrance at 12.00 pm. They should return at 1.00 pm in time for the start of the afternoon session. If they arrive back before that time, they will need to wait in the entrance until the bell rings at 1.00 pm for the afternoon session. **REGISTERS WILL NOW CLOSE AT 9.00AM. IF A CHILD ARRIVES AFTER THIS TIME THEY WILL BE MARKED AS LATE.** Each month your child's class attendance will be inserted here for you see.

Some of our children are collected by other providers at the end of the school day. We ask that if there is a change of circumstances with the provider and you no longer wish for them to collect your child or you have a change of circumstances that you let both us and them know. That way there can be no confusion over who is collecting your child.

**Judo begins on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**September 2018 at 8.00-**  
**8.40am. Come and try session**  
**open to all. Please bring PE**  
**kit.**



### **Friends of the School**

The Friends of School Annual General Meeting will take place at **6.00 pm** on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October**. Please come along – there will be no obligation to volunteer for anything, but you will get an insight into the many ways in which the Friends provide much valued support for our school.

### **Facebook**

Social media can be a great way to keep friends and family up to date with things that are happening in our lives however, I would ask that if we, as a school, do anything that is celebrated or you are worried about, that you make contact directly with the class teacher, Mrs Hutchins, Mrs Clark or myself, Mrs Carroll. That way we can resolve things quickly and work better together.



### **Times Tables Rock Stars**

Last year we used a programme called Times Tables Rock Stars which really enthused the children to learn their times tables. The Department for Education are in the process of piloting a test for children in Year 4 and it is their intention to carry out these tests in the near future. Year 4 children will be expected to know all of their times tables before the test. All of the children from Year 1 upwards will be given a username and password to access this programme at school and at home. Even children who know their tables would still benefit from using the programme to secure their knowledge.

## Term Dates

	<b>AUTUMN 2018</b>	<b>SPRING 2019</b>	<b>SUMMER 2019</b>
open	Tuesday 4 September	Tuesday 8 January	Wednesday 24 April
close Half term	Friday 26 October	Friday 15 February	Friday 24 May
open	Monday 5 November	Monday 25 February	Monday 3 June
close End of term	Friday 21 December	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 19 July

**Closed May Day 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

### Additional dates for your diary

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September** – MacMillan Coffee morning fundraising event.

We are supporting this great charity with our very own coffee morning to be held in the school hall 9.15am – 10.30pm

Come and join us for a coffee and cake!

All donations will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.



Additional dates for Parent Lunches and Christmas Plays etc. will be in the October Newsletter.





