



Thurlbear Matters

21.4.23

Term 3, Week 1

In This Issue

- Starting Back

Our Christian Values:

Thankfulness,
Hope,
Friendship,
Wisdom and
Trust

WISDOM is our focus, this half term.

Our classes will focus on this value around school and in our collective worships, led by Mr Gillan and individual classes.

Online Resources and Safety:

1. www.swiggle.org.uk

Starting Back: A General Welcome Mr Gillan

It's the start of a brand-new term – and we are back on our field! It really is a huge bonus to get our pupils back out onto our magnificent area and give them the space to play sports, be friends and get creative in all kinds of ways. Our younger pupils get time on the field, too, as well on the playground so they have more space to play, socialise and use our climbing equipment. Our lunch staff oversee activities, as well as myself most lunchtimes on duty, and we try and keep with the COPS approach around school:

Calm, Orderly, Positive and Safe!

(You can try it with your child: you say the words and I would be 98.7% confident they will finish the word "safe" before you reach it!)

Our pupils are great with this and handle themselves respectfully around school. We try and keep our approach to this consistent with **every** member of staff, so our pupils know they will get the same reaction from the adults.

It was great to see so many families at consultations, before the Easter break. I hope you gained an understanding of what your child is covering and any targets for this term, as well as opportunity to look at their learning in books. This is very important, as it gives you a sense of their day-to-day standards and the type of learning going on in school. I put out an evaluation form, to try and capture a sense of what else I can do to improve our day to day lives a Thurlbear family; things that don't add to the workload of all staff, here, but will tweaks that I can think about as leader of an effective Church School. Thanks to those that have already filled them in and I will be sending home a copy for those that may have missed it in the hubbub of the evening. As Mrs Linthorne – parent governor – said, it will give you real time to reflect on the positives and what could be 'even better if'. **WHAT WILL I DO WITH THEM?** I am going to collate the suggestions and then make a **small video** addressing them! So, for example,

- "bring back the swimming pool" can be answered!
- "Have our own outdoor learning space on the field" (popular!) is certainly something I will address.

I hope this is seen a positive way that the school is engaging with you all.

Safer online searching – it creates search lists from educational sites only. Please do give it a go at home, as it should bring up some very interesting sites for home projects / research.

3.
<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>
Some beautiful images and great facts on this National Geographic site.

Contact Us

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Bible Thought:

“You welcome me as an honoured guest and fill my cup to the brim.”

Psalms 23

We are a proud part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells:

www.bathandwells.org.uk

Class Dojo continues to be a brilliant parental engagement tool for families and school and I notice classes have attachments of their learning letters for this half term. Huge thanks to the teachers and staff for maintain such great pages and including details that helps families get a greater picture of the class. If anyone needs support with how to use it, please contact us.

On Monday, I will put out as many dates that we have – and with as much notice as is possible. Some things come in with very short notice and, if this is the case, then we will let you know when that happens. When we get it wrong and could have told you quicker, we will say so and apologise. We fully understand that you have busy lives through work and family and, in many cases, need as much notice as we can give. ****DATE FOR YOUR DIARY ALERT**** Sports Day will be Friday 16th June, with a reserve of July 6th. I will send out more information on this in due course.

Clubs are online and payments can be made. I have said, on a different post via the blog and Dojo, that we will be looking at **MORE** clubs in the last half term. This half term is quite complex, with Bank Holidays, SATs for both Key Stages and we have now been notified about more **industrial action** dates.

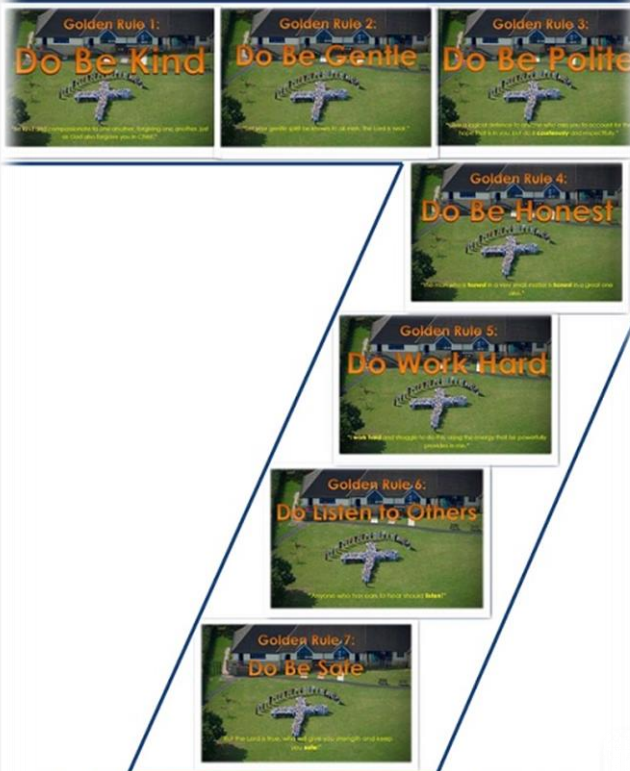
Industrial Action: The Local Authority has been formally notified by the NEU that, under the results of the ballot of NEU members that took place earlier this year, the NEU intends to call upon its members to take part in further industrial action consisting of strike action on **Thursday 27th April 2023 and Tuesday 2nd May 2023**. As I have said before, staff are under no obligation to tell me whether they intend to strike but, in consultation with them, I feel that we will be able to operate effectively on the 27th, with the 2nd May being the date on which most effect will be felt. I will let all families know as soon as I can.

I have been asked to help the Diocese of Bath and Wells to provide some evaluation and support to primary and secondary schools across the region. It has been incredibly useful for our school, as it makes me reflect on our Vision and Values at Thurlbear and how I want to reinvigorate these with you all. Our staff are all bound by the same simple vision:

“Train Up a Child in the Way They Should Go.”

It is our mission to make our pupils the very best versions of themselves by the time they are ready to leave for secondary school. Within this, there are also 7 rules by which we live our school day:

Our Magnificent Seven



We hope and trust you make wise choices and thank you for being a good friend in Thurlbear.

You can see our Christian Values at the bottom...this links to our School Prayer and the 5 Christian values that should shine through our day to day living at school: Thankfulness, Hope, Friendship, Wisdom and Trust.

I will be sharing more on these next week!
Still to come on Monday: Big PTA ideas!

These rules are used with our pupils on a daily basis and all staff use the same language based around them.

Do Be Kind
Do be Gentle
Do be Polite
Do be Honest
Do Work Hard (or be proud of your efforts)
Do Listen to Others
Do Be Safe



**Lord, guide me on the
path I should go,
Help me see the ways I
can grow,
Thankfulness, Hope,
Friendship, Wisdom and
Trust,
These values help me be
kind and just.**