



# Thurlbear Matters

17.9.21

Term 1, Week 2

## In This Issue

- Welcome Back
- Notices
- The Week Ahead

## Our Christian Values:

Thankfulness,  
Hope,  
Friendship,  
Wisdom and  
Trust

## Our Christian focus for this term is:

Friendship

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

## Around School

Mr Gillan

**It has been a very busy week at Thurlbear, both in the classrooms and the school environment.**

In school, we have taken delivery of a range of historical artefacts that will be used in history sessions across Key Stage 2. The models, diagrams and other objects intrigue the pupils and they have inspired lots of conversation from across the school. It is already inspiring many of our pupils to do their own research at home and class dojo is full of great examples of this. Jack in Year 3 has



introduced me to the Low Ham mosaic and it is a fascinating read; I fully recommend it to you all! Some of the examples of photos/video clips posted by families are brilliant. Betsy and Gracie have posted these 2 great examples, featured here.

**TOP TIP:** use [swiggle.org.uk](https://www.swiggle.org.uk) at home and type in 'Low Ham mosaic' and you will get the search results that are educational-based before anything else. It is a safer alternative to a general search on Google, as it should filter out any content for older people.

**We are also gathering**, once again, for Collective Worships. It is so wonderful to see everyone in person and for our older pupils to meet our youngest children once again. The atmosphere has been excellent and it's impressive how quickly our Chestnut pupils have learned to sit in a straight line with 180 other pupils; strange to think our year 1s have never done this, either. A huge thanks to our year 6 at this point: I asked for a couple of volunteers to be 'buddies' to our new Chestnut pupils, as it is hard starting school when you are 4 or 5. I had 28 volunteers, meaning I had to make a 2-week rota! Getting to know names of pupils in other year groups has always been a positive feature of our pupils, here, and it is now coming back, which delights me. Our year 6 are the superstars of the school and every Chestnut pupil wants to wave at them!

## Online Resources and Safety:

1. [www.swiggle.org.uk](http://www.swiggle.org.uk)  
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.

2. <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/>  
Resources for reading and other online 'bits'.

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

## Contact Us

Thurlbear@educ.somerset.gov.uk

01823 442277

# General Notices

Mr Gillan, Mrs Moore, Mrs Carter

- **Building work:** I have been delighted with the works that have taken place over the Summer and are now nearly finished. The company undertaking the work has been professional, respectful and have communicated clearly throughout the whole process. You have probably seen a small section of the work if you have driven into the car park and glanced left! We now have a covered storage space where our steps were, which looks so much better.



- **We have 2 vacancies at school!**
  1. To join our premises team as a cleaner. The role is to work alongside other members of the team to help maintain a clean and safe environment for our pupils, staff and visitors. 8 hours per week, Term Time plus some holiday working – a total of 43 working weeks per year. Ideally these hours will be worked between 3.15pm – 5.15pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, however, there may be some flexibility regarding times for the right candidate. Rate of pay: Grade 17 Point 1 (£9.24) per hour. For further details, please contact our School Business Manager, Mrs J Moore either via email at [jmoore@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jmoore@educ.somerset.gov.uk) or telephone 01823 442277. Thurlbear School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure together with other pre-employment checks.
  2. To join our teaching team as a **TA** working pupil/pupils with specific learning needs. <https://www.thurlbear.somerset.sch.uk/key-information/working-for-us/> Take a look and pass it on to someone you may feel is qualified to do the role – it might be you!
- **Our new after-school sports clubs start next week** and are filling up. There are spaces in tag rugby for Yrs 3/4 and 5/6, beginning next week. It is an excellent pulse-raiser and team game for your child to try....also non-contact, so no concerns if your child is smaller in stature, and it is excellent preparation for when we return to competition level with other schools! Street surfing has limited spaces!
- **PTA NEWS:** Before the summer, the challenge was set to grow your sunflowers and enter the PTA competition! We had some incredible entries and it was very hard to pick overall winner...but we went for: **GRACE D! LOGAN N! LOGAN C! MRS CANN!**

## Bible Thought:

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

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

[www.bathandwells.org.uk](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk)

## VALUES TEAM:

Each year, we look to our pupils to help us create the ethos in our school, to drive the standards of behavior, attitude and spiritual development. A selection of pupils from each key stage 2 class will, once again, meet and discuss improving our school alongside the staff and parents.

# Safeguarding

Mr Gillan

- **Our PCSO** came to visit me and was very impressed to see how well behaved you all are in your vehicles! We are trying to work with the village of Stoke St Mary and look at driving speeds through the village. I have also chased up our warning flashing lights to be put outside school during pick up and drop off. These were planned pre-COVID by the Local Authority but have yet to materialise!
- **Just as a general reminder**, I (Mr Gillan) am the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Miss Kelloway is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Both Mrs Lucas and Mrs Moore have also had the relevant safeguarding lead training.

# The Week(s) Ahead

Mr Gillan

- **We will be conducting distanced PARENT TOURS for our 2022 intake.** If you know a family who is interested, get them to look at these dates:  
**September:** 21<sup>st</sup> 10am and 23<sup>rd</sup> 2pm  
**October:** 5<sup>th</sup> 10am, 7<sup>th</sup> 2pm, 12<sup>th</sup> 10am and 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.  
These are filling up which is great.

**Monday:** Mr Timms piano.

**Monday:** Our new Reverend Joanna Porter will be visiting us.

**Monday:** Health and safety tour of the school involving our governors.

**Monday:** Teachers from St Andrews are visiting our teachers to observe excellent practice.

**Tuesday:** Parent 2022 tours.

**Wednesday:** Chestnut families' meeting 2:30pm.

**Thursday:** Parent 2022 tours.

**Friday:** Closing date for the cleaning post.

**Friday:** Mr Lloyd drumming.

**Dress Down Fridays:** They occur on the first school Friday of a new month. Here are the dates for the rest of the year (hopefully):

**1<sup>st</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> April, 6<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July.**

**The end of a lovely week in school  
– May God Go With You!**

