



Newsletter

WORK TOGETHER - GROW TOGETHER - FLOURISH TOGETHER

Welcome from Mr. P

What a brilliant start to the new school year it has been. As many of the children and staff will confirm, I've hardly been out of classrooms over the last few weeks, seeing how everyone is settling in. I must admit, the classroom is always a welcome distraction from my headteacher role and a constant reminder of why we do what we do. It has been wonderful to see the whole school back into routines that now feel so natural to us all, and the children looking that little bit taller and more mature in their new year groups. It's also been wonderful to welcome back so many of last year's Year 6 pupils at home time each day to learn how they have settled in to life at secondary school!

Our new FS2 children have made an excellent start and it already feels as though they have always been part of our school family. Their confidence, enthusiasm and happy smiles have been a joy to see each day, and it was lovely to welcome so many new and familiar faces into school at the beginning of term.

Reading continues to be at the heart of our work and I am delighted to share that, thanks to your ongoing support at whole school events, we have been able to purchase almost £900 worth of books to complete our Whole School Reading Spine. This means every child now has access to full class sets of carefully chosen, high-quality texts. These stories will not only nurture a lifelong love of reading but also deepen children's comprehension and inference skills in meaningful ways. Together, we are giving our pupils the gift of stories that will stay with them for a lifetime.

Music is also in full swing once again as we welcome back Mr Bottley and his fantastic ukulele lessons with our Year 3 pupils in Clumber Class. They have begun by learning how to hold their instruments correctly and will soon move on to reading musical notation. We look forward to hearing their progress and to a special performance later this term.

The first two INSET days of the year were dedicated to staff training in our new phonics scheme, which has already proven more robust and engaging for the children. We are proud to be achieving outcomes above the national average in phonics, and this new approach will help us go even further. Later this term, parents will be invited to a workshop to see how phonics is taught and learn ways to support at home, while our new starters will be able to join 'Stay and Play' sessions with Mr Bell. Staff have also been working hard with Dr Jeannie Bulman to align our writing curriculum to the new framework, with a copy now available on our website.

Perhaps the most special addition this term has been the arrival of our new school altar, created by Treske and inscribed with our mission statement: Work Together. Grow Together. Flourish Together. It embodies our vision for every child to leave us not only with academic success but as the very best humans they can be, living out values of friendship, love, originality, understanding, resilience, integrity, selflessness and hard work. We are so thankful to the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham for their continued support as our links with the church grow ever stronger.

It has been a busy but truly inspiring start to the year. Thank you, as always, for your support in helping us ensure every child flourishes.

Harvest Assemblies & donations

We are very much looking forward to our Harvest Festival celebrations this year. Parents and carers are warmly invited into school to watch their children take part in our pupil-led Harvest worships – always a special moment in the autumn term. We are also delighted that the team from St. Luke's Church will be joining us to celebrate together.



As in previous years, we will be supporting Bassetlaw Foodbank with our Harvest donations. We kindly ask for tinned or packeted goods only (please do check expiry dates carefully), as fresh produce cannot be accepted. Your generosity makes a real difference to families in our local community, and we are so grateful for your continued support.

Please check the list of diary dates for your child's time and date. We look forward to celebrating this season of thankfulness with you all.

Dojo vs. Juniper/Marvellous Me

You may have noticed that we are no longer using Marvellous Me. The company has recently moved their app over to a new platform called Juniper. We did try this out with a view to using it, but it quickly became clear that it wasn't the right fit for us.

Meanwhile, Mrs Green and Clumber Class had been trialling Class Dojo with their families, and the feedback was really positive. It soon became obvious that this was the way forward, and the best option for sharing class news and updates with you all.

I know this has been a quick change, and I'm sorry for any confusion it may have caused. We're confident, though, that Class Dojo will be the better choice for children, parents and staff in the long run. Thank you so much for your patience and support as we get everything up and running.



ClassDojo

Book Fair

The Book Fair is coming! From Monday 13th October, during the final week of this half-term, we're excited to welcome the Scholastic Book Fair back to school. The fair will be open both before and after school each day, as well as during both Parents' Evening events, giving plenty of opportunities to browse and buy.

Payments can be made by cash or card, making it as easy as possible to take home some new reads. Last year, thanks to your amazing support, we raised enough money through book sales to purchase brand-new dictionaries and thesauruses for the children. We look forward to seeing what we'll be able to add to our school resources this year.

Thank you, as always, for supporting reading in our school and helping us share the love of books with every child.

Ukulele Recital

As we welcome back Mr Bottley and his fantastic ukulele lessons with Year 3, we are also excited to invite parents and carers to a one-off showcase of the children's work. Clumber Class will be performing a special ukulele recital on **Tuesday 16th December at 2.45pm**, giving families the chance to enjoy their progress and join in the festive spirit. We look forward to seeing you there for what promises to be a wonderful celebration of music and learning.



Uniform exchange and donations

A huge thank you to all the parents who have donated to our School Uniform Exchange – your generosity and positive feedback have been wonderful. Please do keep sharing any spare or outgrown uniform you may have at home so we can continue giving it a new lease of life. Uniform items will also be available to browse during both upcoming Parents' Evening events.

Macmillan Coffee Moring

Please remember that our whole-school Macmillan Coffee Morning will take place on **Friday 26th September** from 9.00–10.30am in the school hall. We warmly welcome donations of cakes and buns, which will be sold to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support – a charity that sadly touches the lives of so many families.

Our event is part of Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning, when people all over the country come together to enjoy a slice of cake, a cup of tea, and raise money for such an important cause. We cannot wait to see as many of you as possible joining us to share in this special morning of community, conversation and care.

Jeans for Genes Day

This Friday, **19th September**, we will be supporting the *Jeans for Genes* charity. All children are invited to wear jeans in place of their school trousers, while the rest of their uniform should still be worn. We kindly ask for a £1 donation, which will go directly to the charity to support children and families affected by genetic conditions. Thank you in advance for your support.

2025/26 Key Assessment Dates

Just a reminder that we expect the children to be in school for the following statutory assessment dates:

Year 6 SATs:

Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May, 2026

Year 1 & 2 Phonics:

Monday 8th June to Friday 12th June, 2026

Year 4 Multiplication Tests:

Monday 1st June to Friday 12th June, 2026

Rock Star Day

On **Friday 3rd October**, we invite every child in school to come dressed as a rockstar to help raise the profile of TT Rockstars! This is the fun and engaging app we use to practise times tables, where children can compete against their peers – and even staff – while building speed and accuracy.

Times tables are especially important for our Year 4 pupils, who will take part in the statutory Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in the summer term. In this online test, children are asked 25 quick-fire questions up to 12 x 12, with just six seconds to answer each one. Regular practice on TT Rockstars helps children build the fluency and confidence they need to succeed.

We are so proud of Miss Tomlinson and Thoresby Class, who absolutely smashed the MTC this year, with our school ranking 35th across all primary schools in Nottinghamshire for the number of pupils achieving full marks. What an incredible achievement! We hope to continue this success in the year ahead, and Rockstar Day will be a fantastic way to kick things off.

Diary Dates: An updated list!

September

- 19th – Jeans for Genes Day. £1 donation.
- 24th – Clumber Class to Creswell Crags
- 25th – Girl's football match vs. Langold (away)
- 26th – Macmillan Coffee morning from 9am – 10.30am
- 29th – Black History Week
- 30th – Y5 & Y6 Harvest Assembly @2.45pm
- 30th – Boy's football match vs. St. Joseph's (away)

October

- 1st – Y3 & Y4 Harvest Assembly @2.45pm
- 1st – Phonics Parent's Workshop @5pm
- 2nd – Y1 & Y2 Harvest Assembly @2.45pm
- 3rd – FS2 Harvest Assembly @2.45pm
- 3rd – TT Rockstars Day. Dress as rockstars!
- 8th – Rufford Class to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
- 8th – FS2 Weights & Measures (Letters to follow)
- 8th – Reading Parent's Workshop – 5pm
- 9th – Girl's football match vs. Clarbrough (home)
- 9th – FS2 *Story, Rhyme & Song time* day
- 13th – Book Fair Week
- 13th – Fire Engine Visit & Fireworks Safety Workshop
- 14th – Parent's Evening
- 15th – World Mental Health Day (Non-uniform)
- 15th – Parent's Evening
- 16th – Sherwood Class to National Coal Mining Museum
- 17th – Red Card to Racism (Wear red)
- 17th – Last Day

November

- 3rd – Children return
- 4th – Thoresby Class to Leeds Imperial Museum
- 6th – Book & a brew @8.30am
- 10th – Odd Socks for Anti-Bullying Week