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THURCROFT

Term dates for 23/24

Term	Start Date	Finish Date
Autumn 1 st half term	Monday 4 th September	Friday 20 th October
Autumn 2 nd half term	Monday 30 th October	Friday 22 nd December
Spring 1 st half term	Monday 8 th January	Friday 9 th February
Spring 2 nd half term	Monday 19 th February	Thursday 28 th March
Summer 1 st half term	Monday 15 th April	Friday 24 th May
Summer 2 nd half term	Monday 3 rd June	Tuesday 23 rd July



Collection Arrangements

Y3 & Y4

Please be reminded pupils in Y3 & Y4 must be collected by an adult and can not walk home by themselves. If your child is to be collected by anyone other than their Parent/Carer please inform your child's class teacher or the school office so they are aware of these arrangements.

If school are not informed we will not be able to release your child unless we can confirm this with a Parent/Carer.

Y5 & Y6

Y5 & Y6 pupils may walk home on their own. With the darker nights please remind pupils to be extra safe traveling home and when crossing roads.



Bank Holidays Academic Year 2023-2024

Christmas Day: Monday 25th December 2023
 Boxing Day: Tuesday 26th December 2023
 New Year's Day: Monday 1st January 2024
 Good Friday: Friday 29th March 2024
 Easter Monday: Monday 1st April 2024
 May Day: Monday 6th May 2024 Spring
 Bank Holiday: Monday 27th May 2024

Inset days Academic Year 2023-2024

Monday 4th September 2023
 Tuesday 5th September 2023
 Friday 22nd December 2023
 Monday 22nd July 2024
 Tuesday 23rd July 2024



Date	Activity
Friday 15 th December	Christmas church service (pupils only)
W/C 18 th December	Christmas activities week, including Christmas crafts and Christmas concert (further details to follow) Please note afterschool clubs are not on this week.
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas dinner day & Christmas jumper day School closes for Christmas holidays— 2pm finish on this day
Friday 22 nd December	Inset day (school closed to pupils)
Monday 22 nd January	Year 6 Visit to The National Holocaust Centre
Thursday 8 th February	Young Voices (choir club only)
Wednesday 3 rd July—Friday 5 th July	Y6 Peak Under bank residential

Mobile phones in school

Please be reminded that pupils in Y5 & Y6 should not bring phones into school unless absolutely necessary (walking home purposes).

Pupils in Y3 & Y4 should not be bringing mobile phones into school.



Christmas Day countdown



24 DAYS!



Children in Need

As a school we raised an amazing £213.10!

Thank you so much for your generous donations.



Christmas dinner day - Thursday 21st December



RED	Roast turkey & stuffing, mashed & roast potatoes with assorted seasonal
YELLOW	Quorn sausage & stuffing, mashed & roast potatoes with assorted seasonal vegetables

The cost of the meal will be at the normal price of £2.15. This can be paid to the school office or via School Gateway. If you are entitled to free school meals, the meal will be free as normal. Please return reply slips by Monday 4th December.



Online Safety—Parental controls

(All the following information is sourced for the NSPCC website)

Deciding what's appropriate for children to see online

The online world gives us access to a huge amount of information and services, but the scale of information available also means that there is content that is inappropriate for children. What is or isn't appropriate is up to individual parents and carers to decide, and could be based on things like age, ability, beliefs and family values.

What are parental controls?

Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone network, individual apps and devices.

Parental controls can help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- create content filters to block apps that may have inappropriate content
- manage the content different family members can see.
- create content filters to block apps that may have inappropriate content
- manage the content different family members can see.



The limits of parental controls

Whilst parental controls are a helpful tool there are limitations. So they shouldn't be seen as a whole solution. Even if you've put things in place on your home broadband and your child's device, they won't help if your child connects to a different WiFi with no controls in place.

Parental controls are just part of the way you can help keep your child safe online.

More top tips include:

- Talking to your child. Explain why you are setting parental controls; to keep them safe. But also let them know that they can talk to you to discuss why certain settings are in place.
- Set good, strong passwords where you are able. On some parental controls you can set a password which prevents settings and features from being changed.
- Age is a significant factor; as children get older, restrictions and controls you use will change, but only at a pace that is appropriate for your child, not pressure from your child "because everyone else is allowed".

Content filters are never 100% effective, it is likely at some point that your child will see inappropriate or upsetting content and it is important that you are able to talk to them about this.

More information on parental controls can be found at:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



 **National Online Safety**
#WakeUpWednesday

Thinking of becoming a school Governor?

Would you like to contribute to our academy community?

Join our Local Governing Body

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor and would love to hear from you.

Governors are volunteers who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. You do not need to be education experts or have formal qualifications. Being a Governor will enable you to contribute to the success of our academy.



'Whatever your professional background, your skills could transform a school'



Your local ACET academy:
Thurcroft Junior Academy

NEEDS YOU!

Do you have...?

- a passion for learning and self-development?
- the time and capacity to commit to four meetings per year?
- a willingness to take on responsibility, support the academy and hold them to account for delivering excellent education?



Please speak with the principal if you are interested in this exciting role

Telephone: 01709 543194