

Thurcroft Junior Academy

September 2026



Follow our Facebook page for the latest updates! Scan the QR code!



Important dates for Autumn Term

<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>
05/10/26	INSET Day
06/10/26	Biffa Assembly and Y5/6 Workshops
09/10/26	Hello Yellow Day - Info to follow
12/10/26	First Aid Training Y5 + Y6
13/10/26	SLS Workshops Y4 Romans SLS Workshops Y5 Tudors
22/10/26 - Time TBC	Halloween Disco
23/10/26	INSET Day



Principal's Message

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year at Thurcroft Junior Academy!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this September. The children have returned with such positive attitudes, smiling faces and a real enthusiasm for learning. It has been lovely to see both familiar faces and the many new children joining our school community, all excited to begin the year ahead.

A special welcome goes to our new Year 3 children, who have settled into junior school brilliantly. They have embraced their new routines, classrooms and teachers with confidence, and we are so proud of how well they have started their journey at Thurcroft Junior Academy.

Across the school, children are already getting back into routines and are enjoying being in their new classes and year groups. Classrooms have been full of excitement, curiosity and a fantastic attitude to learning, making for a brilliant start to the term.

We have lots of exciting opportunities, events and experiences planned throughout this academic year, and we are looking forward to sharing these with you over the coming months. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to make this another successful and memorable year for all of our children.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Mrs Ruth Stone
Principal



Attendance and Punctuality

A polite reminder that our school day begins when the gate opens at **8:30am**. Any pupil who arrives after **8:45am** will need to enter via the school reception.

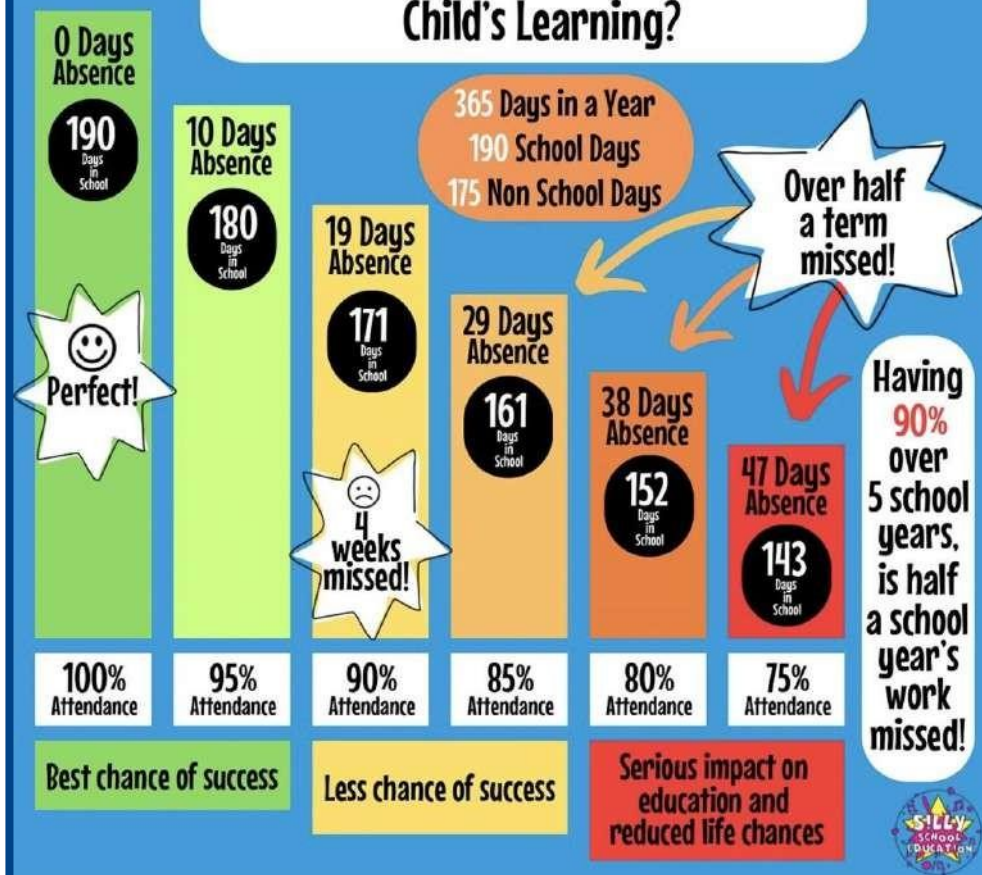
Attendance at TJA

Best class this half term:

Skylarks – 97.1%

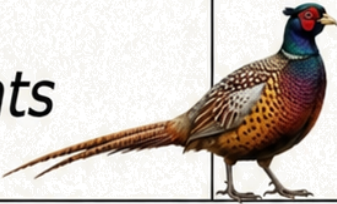
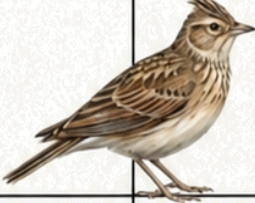
Can we work together to beat our school target of 96.6%?

How Does School Attendance Affect a Child's Learning?



Please be reminded that you must ring in **each day** of your child's absence. You can do this by either ringing the school office on **01709 543194** or leaving a message on the absence line. Please ensure to contact school **before 9am**.

*Our classes for the 2026/2027
academic year!*

<i>Y3 - Canaries</i>		<i>Miss Cosford</i>
<i>Y3 - Crows</i>		<i>Mrs Walker</i>
<i>Y4 - Swans</i>		<i>Mrs McDonald</i>
<i>Y4 - Pheasants</i>		<i>Mrs Frith</i>
<i>Y4 - Kingfishers</i>		<i>Miss Evans</i>
<i>Y5 - Skylarks</i>		<i>Miss Nettleton</i>
<i>Y5 - Penguins</i>		<i>Miss Baldwin</i>
<i>Y6 - Barn Owls</i>		<i>Mr Sharpley</i>
<i>Y6 - Snowy Owls</i>		<i>Mrs Moore</i>



2026–2027 TERM DATES

TERM	DATES
AUTUMN 1	TUESDAY 1 ST SEPTEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY 23 RD OCTOBER 2026
AUTUMN 2	MONDAY 2 ND NOVEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY 18 TH DECEMBER 2026
SPRING 1	MONDAY 4 TH JANUARY 2027 – FRIDAY 12 TH FEBRUARY 2027
SPRING 2	MONDAY 22 ND FEBRUARY 2027 – THURSDAY 25 TH MARCH 2027
SUMMER 1	MONDAY 12 TH APRIL 2027 – FRIDAY 28 TH MAY 2027
SUMMER 2	MONDAY 7 TH JUNE 2027 – WEDNESDAY 21 ST JULY 2027

INSET DAYS

The academy is closed to pupils on the following dates:

01.09.26 05.10.26
23.10.26 30.11.26
15.03.27 05.07.27

BANK HOLIDAYS

The academy is closed for bank holidays on the following dates:

 Good Friday Friday 26 March 2027	 Early May Bank Holiday Monday 3 May 2027
 Easter Monday Monday 29 March 2027	 Spring Bank Holiday Monday 31 May 2027

TJA's Good News!

Foundations

It has been lovely to welcome so many new children and their families to Foundations @ Thurcroft this term. Our children have settled in beautifully and are already enjoying exploring their new environment, making new friends and becoming familiar with their new routines. Our N1 children from last year, who have now returned as N2s, have been amazing role models for our new starters. They have shown kindness, care and friendship, helping our new children to feel welcome. We are so proud of how well all of the children have settled and are looking forward to the year ahead.



What the Juniors have been up to!

What a wonderful day our Year 6 children have had at Crucial Crew! 🌞 The children have taken part in a range of interactive activities focused on keeping safe and making positive choices, including road and fire safety, emergency services, the law and staying safe in different situations. They asked some wonderful questions, listened carefully and got fully involved throughout the day. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, enthusiasm and curiosity they have shown. 🍌 A huge thank you to the team at Crucial Crew for such an informative and engaging experience!



🎉Thank You for an Amazing TT Rock Stars Day! 🎸🌟

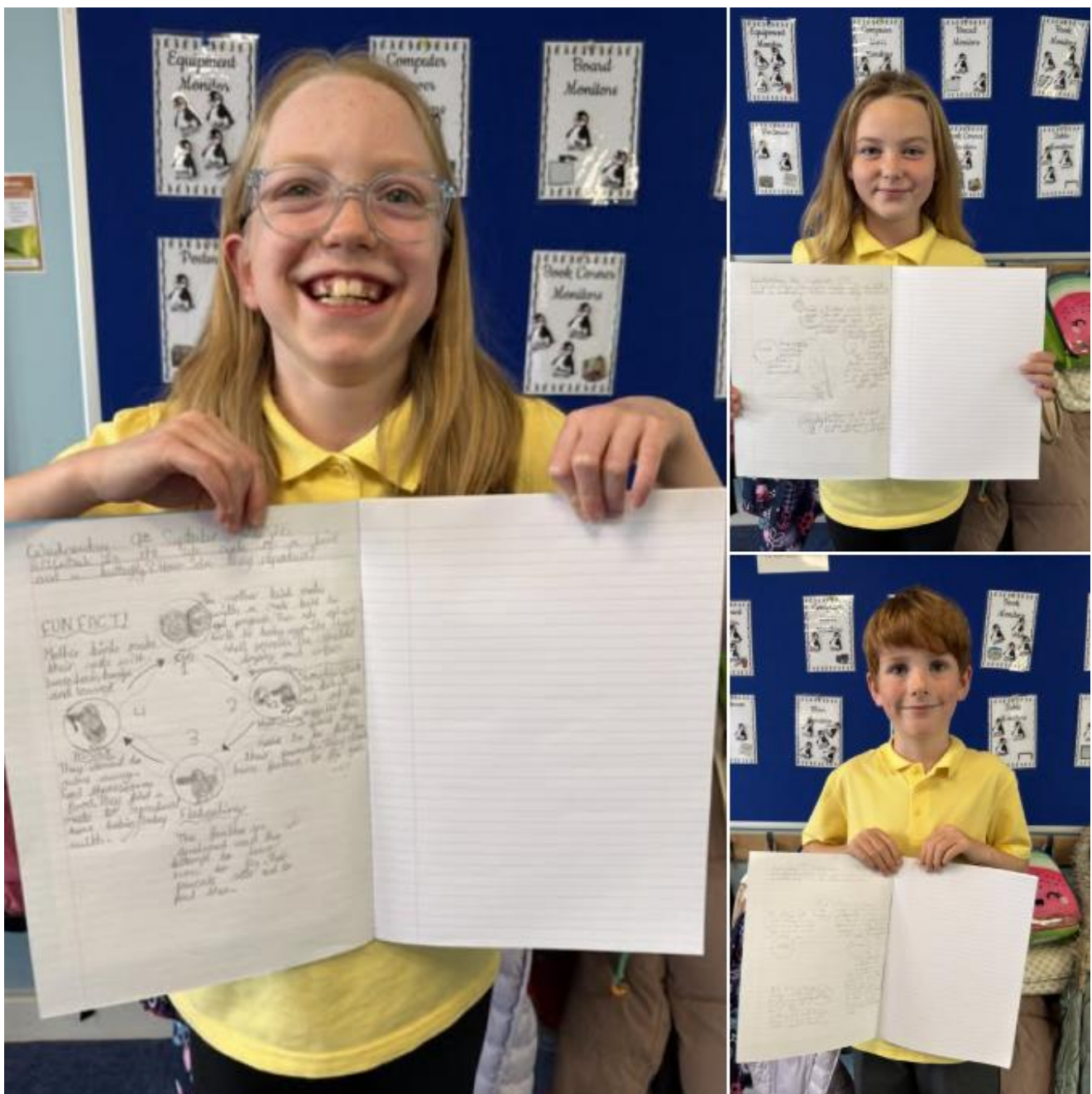
A huge thank you to everyone who took part in our TT Rock Stars Day!

The children had a fantastic time and loved getting involved in all of the activities throughout the day. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm, teamwork and times tables practice happening across the school!



🌱 Science is in full swing in Year 5! 🦋🐦

This half term, Year 5 have begun their exciting Science topic: Living Things and Their Habitats. The children explored the fascinating life cycles of a bird and a butterfly, learning how living things grow and change through each stage of their lives. The children produced some fantastic work and showed brilliant scientific understanding. Here's a look at some of the wonderful work they created! 🌱💡



🎵 Year 5 have LOVED their very first ukulele lesson! 🎵
What a fantastic start to our musical journey! The children showed brilliant listening skills, excellent concentration and some impressive first-time playing. They picked up the basics so quickly and were full of enthusiasm from start to finish.

We are so proud of how well they got stuck in and can't wait to see these talented musicians grow in confidence and skill over the rest of the term! 🌟🎸





Thurcroft
JUNIOR ACADEMY

PARK SAFELY & WISELY

**Please park safely and considerately
around our school.**

By parking safely and wisely, we help to keep
our children, families and community safe.



Do not park
on yellow zig-zags
or restricted areas.



Keep crossings
clear and allow
pedestrians to
cross safely.



Use designated
parking areas
where possible.



Drive slowly
and be alert
for children.



Thank you

for helping to keep
everyone safe.

SAFE PARKING | SAFE CHILDREN | A STRONGER COMMUNITY

A reminder of key uniform expectations:

- *Blazers and ties are no longer required*
- *Yellow polo shirts can be worn*
- *White t-shirt for indoor PE (non-branded)*
- *Black long-sleeved top or hoodie for outdoor PE (non-branded)*
- *Grey cardigan may be worn instead of a jumper.*



Please note that false nails are not permitted at our school and should be removed.



- Trainers must be solid black only.
- No contrasting or bright colors are allowed.
- No bright brand logos (see image).
- Soles and stitching should also be black.

Please note that trainers with prominent logos, contrasting soles, or multi-colored patterns are not permitted at our school and will be disallowed.





Thurcroft
JUNIOR ACADEMY

Healthy Snacks for Playtimes

A little boost can go a long way!
Healthy snacks help give you energy,
keep you focused and ready for fun.



Fruit
(fresh or dried)



Cereal bars
(low sugar)



Yoghurt
(pots or tubes)

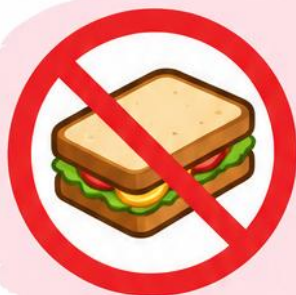


Veg sticks
(with a dip)



Nuts
(if you're allowed)

There are lots of healthy options ..
even small snacks can make a big difference!



**Please don't
share food**

Sharing food can spread germs
and make people unwell.

Let's
keep
everyone
healthy!



Healthy choices = happy playtimes



Thurcroft
JUNIOR ACADEMY



Thurcroft
JUNIOR ACADEMY

SCOOTERS ON THE PLAYGROUND?

Please help us keep everyone safe!

If you bring a scooter to school, please use the scooter parking area provided.



Please do not ride your scooter on school grounds.

This helps to keep everyone safe – including pupils, parents, staff and members of the public of all ages.

Why it matters...



Helps prevent accidents and injuries.



Keeps everyone on school grounds safe.



Shows respect for our school community.



Makes the playground a safe and friendly place for all.



Thank you for your support and for helping us keep our school a safe place for everyone!



Thurcroft
JUNIOR ACADEMY



PE Kit Reminder



PE KIT EXPECTATIONS

Plain white top (no slogans or logos)

Black, white or grey hoodie for outdoor PE



Black shorts, leggings or joggers

Trainers



PE KIT CAN STAY IN SCHOOL

Most classrooms have pegs inside. We recommend leaving your child's kit in school so it's always available if PE days change or if they need a change of clothes.



SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

If you're finding it difficult to put together a PE kit, please speak to your child's class teacher—we're happy to help.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! 



Please see below the PE days for each year group.
Children should bring their PE kit in and have it in school
for the half term. Thank you.

PE DAYS



Monday	Y4 Pheasants Kingfisher
Tuesday	Y4 Swans
Wednesday	Y6 Snowy Owls Barn Owls
Thursday	Y3 Crows Canaries
Friday	Y5 Skylark Penguins



We're excited to launch
ClassDojo!

A new way to stay connected with
your child's learning and school life.

We are introducing ClassDojo as a simple and effective way to strengthen communication between school and families.

ClassDojo will provide one place for you to receive important updates, reminders, celebrations and information about your child's learning and school life.

Better together

What will ClassDojo be used for?



We will use ClassDojo to share:

- ✓ Class updates and learning highlights
- ✓ Celebrations and achievements
- ✓ Important reminders
- ✓ Information about upcoming activities and events
- ✓ Photos of learning and classroom experiences (where permission has been given)

Our aim is to help you feel more connected to what is happening in school and celebrate the experiences your child is enjoying.

How do I join?



You will be invited to join ClassDojo using a QR code provided by school.



Once you have connected your child's account, you will remain connected and will not need to repeat the process each academic year.



ClassDojo can be accessed through the free app on a phone, tablet or through a web browser.

Communication Expectations

To make ClassDojo work effectively for everyone, we ask families to be mindful of the following:

- ClassDojo will be used to share information and updates from school.
- Comments on class posts will be switched off.
- If you need to contact your child's teacher, please use the private messaging feature within ClassDojo.
- Teachers will respond to messages during school working hours.
- Staff will not be expected to respond outside of their working hours.



ClassDojo is not intended for urgent matters. If you have an urgent concern, please contact the school office through the usual channels.

Photos and Permissions



We love sharing the experiences children have in school and celebrating their learning.

Before any photographs of children are shared on ClassDojo, parents/carers will be asked to complete a separate photo permission form.

This ensures that families are clear about how photographs may be used and that all sharing follows our safeguarding procedures.

Keeping Communication Positive



ClassDojo is designed to strengthen the partnership between school and families.

We ask that all communication remains respectful and supportive, helping us maintain a positive community for children, families and staff.

We are looking forward to using ClassDojo to celebrate learning, share important information and keep families connected with school life.

Thank you for your continued support.

