



Laying the foundations for a bright future

Website link: www.htpfederation.co.uk

A little note from Mrs FitzGerald...

Welcome back! Goodness me, the winter break disappeared at a rapid rate and here we are, 2023 and the spring term!

Firstly, huge thank you to all the children, parents and carers for your kind Christmas cards and gifts - we very much appreciate your kindness and generosity.

The initial three days and subsequent full week have flown by and the children have settled back into school extremely well, returning to routines with ease. Going round the classes it has been lovely to see the children's focus and engagement.

We have lots of fantastic learning themes and opportunities planned for this coming term including a focus on safer internet use and fair trade as well as British Science Week to look forward to.

The team and I are very much looking forward to working with you again this term.

Warmest regards,
Mrs FitzGerald

SPRING TERM 1- SCHOOL MEALS

For pupils in Years 3 to 6 (Otters Class and Hares Class) the cost of a school meal is £2.30 per day. Next half-term will cost £64.40 in total, (a week of school meals is £11.50.) Children can alternate between packed lunches and school meals as preferred but school meals need to be paid for in advance. Here is the link: [School Meals - Suffolk County Council](#)

SEVERE WEATHER

Every effort will be made to keep the school open in severe weather. The school would only close if it is no longer safe for staff and pupils to travel to school and be on site.

We recognise that it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Therefore, we will make every effort to prepare for severe weather.

Information about school closure will be posted:

- On local radio
- Via the Suffolk County Council website: <http://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk/>
- Via our Facebook page
- On ParentMail

REMINDER ~ Strep A infections

With the recent national increase in notifications of Strep A infections in children as well as rises in Scarlet Fever and related press coverage the following is provided for your information.

Group A streptococcus (GAS) is a common bacteria. Lots of us carry it in our throats and on our skin, and it doesn't always result in illness. However, GAS does cause a number of infections, some mild, like scarlet fever, and some more serious.

The most serious infections linked to GAS come from invasive group A strep, known as iGAS. These infections are caused by the bacteria getting into parts of the body where it is not normally found, such as the lungs or bloodstream. In rare cases, an iGAS infection can be fatal. Whilst iGAS infections are still uncommon, there has been an increase in cases this year, particularly in children under 10, and sadly, a small number of deaths across the UK.

As parents, you should monitor your child for any GAS/scarlet fever symptoms, and take action to get treatment as soon as possible. Symptoms include a **sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting**. This is followed by a **fine red rash, which typically first appears, on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body**. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it should feel like 'sandpaper'. The face can be flushed red, but pale around the mouth. **It should be treated as soon as possible, with antibiotics, to minimise the risk of complications, and reduce the spread to others.**

If you think you or your child may have GAS/scarlet fever:

- See your GP, or contact NHS 111, as soon as possible
- Make sure that you/your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor
- Stay at home and away from school for at least 48 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection
- Notify the school that your child has a suspected or confirmed case

If your child has an underlying condition, which affects their immune system, you should contact your GP or hospital doctor to discuss whether any additional measures are needed

As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, **you should trust your own judgement.**

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child shows signs of dehydration
- your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking in under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy, and will not wake up or stay awake

Further information is available from the following links:

[UKHSA update on scarlet fever and invasive Group A strep](#)

[Fact sheet covering what scarlet fever is, and other frequently asked questions](#)

[Scarlet fever guidance on symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment](#)

GAS/scarlet fever is spread by close contact with an infected person, and can be passed on through coughs and sneezes, or from a wound. It is therefore important to maintain good hand and respiratory hygiene to stop the spread.

HUNDON AND THURLOW PRIMARY FEDERATION

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Thurlow Church of England (VC) Primary School



Parents and Carers of 3 and 4 year old children, have you applied for a full-time school place for your child?

If you have a child born between **1st September 2018** and **31st August 2019** you must apply for a place by midnight on **Sunday 15th January 2023**.

Applications should be made online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/onlineadmissions

Choosing the right primary school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will have to make. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about our school and what learning is like as part of a village community, in light of Reception admissions for September 2023 or otherwise, please visit our school website:

<https://www.htpfederation.co.uk/index.php/thurlow>

Explore our website, visit our class pages and contact our School Office via email at admin@thurlowschool.co.uk or by telephone on 01440 783281 so we can contact you with further details as soon as we can.

NB: You must make an application for a full-time place even if your child is already attending a nursery class in an infant or primary school or a Children's Centre next to a school site. Please note that a place for your child at your catchment school is not guaranteed.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SPRING TERM 2023

Please note the presentation dates have been adjusted to ensure all classes have sufficient learning within their new themes on which to draw.

Friday 27th January ~ Hares Class Presentation

Monday 30th January to Friday 3rd February ~ National Storytelling Week

Friday 3rd February ~ 'Share' morning ~ more details will follow

Tuesday 7th February ~ Safer Internet Day

Friday 10th February ~ Otters Class Presentation

Friday 10th February ~ END OF HALF-TERM

Friday 24th February ~ Butterflies Class Presentation