



# Thames View Primary School Newsletter



*Responsibility*

*Resilience*

*Respect*

*Special events coming soon*

## NOVEMBER

- 18th – NHS Nurse Team – flu immunisations
- 20th – Yr 6 – workshop Women of WW2
- 25th – Y5 – VR workshop – Egypt
- 29th – ECO Awards at Ashford

## December

- 4th – Open Day for 2025 entrants
- 6th – PTA Wreath decorating event
- 9th – 12th – PTA - Santa visiting TVP
- 10th – Yr4 – Harry Potter World
- 11th – Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th – Christmas Fun Day!
- 11th – Christmas Dinner Day
- 12th – LAMDA at Glassbox Theatre
- 13th – LAMDA at Glassbox Theatre
- 13th – Sparkles Christmas event
- 16th – Yr R - Nativity – 9.15am
- 17th – Yr 1 – Nativity – 9.15am
- 18th – Yr 2 – Nativity – 9.15am
- 20th – KS2 @ St Margaret's Church
- 20th – last day of term

*Last day of term – Friday 20th December*

## Mrs Rogers Message

This week, we have been enjoying Science Week. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in a Forensic Workshop on Monday, where they had to be Forensic Scientists and work out the clues to solve the crime. They made very good detectives and learnt about what it would be like to have a job in Forensics and what they would need to do to get there! Other year groups took part in science experiments in class, which many of you will have seen on our social media pages!

We welcomed our prospective new parents for our second open day on Tuesday. Our student tour guides superbly led the families around the school and talked to them all about what we learn and what it is like to be a student at Thames View. If you are a prospective parent, please do not hesitate to contact our school office and book on to our two remaining open days. There are nearly full, so please phone us to guarantee a booking!

Our TA's have been taking part in Widget Training this week. As a school, we use widgets, which are symbols for communication. This helps us to ensure that we have visual timetables in place and also assists with some of our students who struggle to express themselves verbally. You might see some of our staff have these symbols on their lanyards.

Monday, we will be having the Flu Nasal Sprays for all students whose parents have given permission. These have been sent to parents from the immunization service and not from the school office, so any queries, please contact the immunization service, rather than us. Year 6 will be enjoying a Women at War workshop on Wednesday (20th) and on this same day, year 5 will be going on their team building trip to Chatham Bowl and Junkyard Golf. Please ensure you give permission if you are a year 5 parent!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and stay safe, Mrs Rogers.



# Learning Page

Year 5 Windsor class investigating a crime scene to gather DNA and evidence to work out the suspect.



Year 4 - We had a Forensic Workshop where we learned more about Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and how Crime Scene Investigators use evidence on scene to catch perpetrators.

We had a go at finding the person who broke into the safe. We had to narrow down and catch the suspects by identifying finger and foot prints and examining pieces of clothing to find DNA. We finally found 'Who done it'.



## Play Therapy Counsellor @ Thames View

**Megan Duffield** is our school Play Therapist/Counsellor. She has been working with us since 2023, and we have seen positive changes in all of the children she has seen.

Megan has some availability for private play therapy sessions, so if you think your child could benefit from this please contact her via [megan@medwaytherapy.co.uk](mailto:megan@medwaytherapy.co.uk) or on 07734 868231.

Play therapy is a way for children to understand how they are feeling, it can support children from 3-13 years of age who have disturbed sleep, are not realising their full potential, struggle with transitions, have suffered trauma, are in the process/or have a diagnosis, have suffered a bereavement, have a separated family, have friendship struggles, don't play, are withdrawn and anxious, and many other difficulties.

Please get in touch with me on the above email or mobile number if you feel this could help.



Golden Ticket is every Friday and a child in each Key Stage 2 class can win the golden ticket for outstanding effort, behavior and for showing our 3 school values, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience



## STARS OF THE WEEK

### Attendance Stars:

KS1: Liberty  
KS2: Enterprise

### Eco Class Award

KS1: Liberty  
KS2: Discovery

### PE Class Trophy:

Topaz

### PE Champion:

Lola - Windsor

Class	Star of the week	Star Reader	Star Writer	Maths Champion
Sparkles Nursery	Zac			
Pippin	Ethan	Joel	Arthur	Betsy
Sunrise	Harry	Maggie	Georgia	Ruben
Elstar	Evie P	Myles	Ornela	Lenny
Kanzi	Harvey	Arthur	Hendrix	Ayda
Fortune	Teddi	Harrison	Isla	Zayaan
Liberty	Tristan	Catherine	Aalyrah	Edward
Opal	Aliye	Finley	Jack	Vinnie
Topaz	Layla	Luna	Elena	Luther
Enterprise	Lucy	Bailey	Penny	Autumn
Victory	Nieve	Freddie	Evelyn	Betsie-Mae
Blenheim	Thomas	Phoebe	Elyas	Whole Class 🌟
Windsor	Lucas	Lahna	Jack	Whole Class 🌟
Discovery	Miya	Emily-Rose	Preston	Thomas
Pioneer	Ashanti	Harry	Isabel	Mia

## Safeguarding Corner

Our inclusion team and our safeguarding team are here if you need us, no problem is too small! This week's focus is on Whatsapp, with the legal age of 16! Please be aware of the dangers of this app when not used safely!

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**16+**  
In UK and Europe; rest of the world 13+

**...MSG ME...**

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients; not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

**EVOLVING SCAMS**

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

**CONTACT FROM STRANGERS**

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

**FAKE NEWS**

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

**ONLINE**

**'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT**

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

**CHAT LOCK**

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

**VISIBLE LOCATION**

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

**Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...**

**EMPHASISE CAUTION**

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

**THINKING BEFORE SHARING**

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

**ADJUST THE SETTINGS**

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

**CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY**

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

**Meet Our Expert**

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**...HEY OSCAR...**

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/107098839582332> | [https://faq.whatsapp.com/361005898188245?helpref=hc\\_fnav](https://faq.whatsapp.com/361005898188245?helpref=hc_fnav)  
<https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private>  
<https://www.aarc.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

**@natonlinesafety** **/NationalOnlineSafety** **@nationalonlinesafety** **@national\_online\_safety**

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.09.2023

## ... other Thames View news ....

Each term we will share with you the results of the Accelerated Reader Project we are taking part in :



Thames View Primary School Reads!

In this school year, students have read...

**977 Books**  
**4,140,930 Words**  
for **7 minutes/day!**  
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE  
Accelerated Reader®

The infographic features a stack of books on the left side, with the text and statistics on the right. The background is a light blue gradient.



RENAISSANCE  
Accelerated Reader

**Our word count champs for Term 1 :**

Y2 - Carter with 28,560 words  
Y3 - Elliot with 116,422 words  
Y4 - Maria with 72,740 words  
Y5 - Lahna with 222,668 words  
Y6 - Zac with 348,012 words

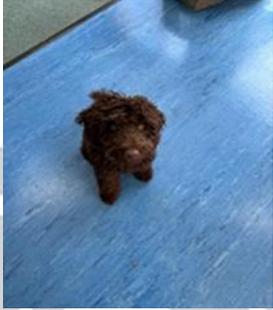
Well done to everyone



Keep on reading!

The graphic shows an open book with a blue cover and spine. The left page contains the Renaissance Accelerated Reader logo and a list of word count champions for Term 1. The right page contains a congratulatory message, a sparkling book icon, and an encouragement to keep reading.

Weekly Dog Mentor Spot!  
What have our dogs been  
up to this week?



Rocky                      Ruby                      Rolo                      Reggie



Our therapy dogs have had a busy week with the children and have had lots of fun seeing everyone whilst on duty, visiting classes on learning walks and our dog mentors.



Congratulations to our **joint** Hook Day Board winners this term

Year 2 –  
Titanic



Year 5 –  
Egyptians



.... Christmas at Thames View ....

## CHRISTMAS FUN DAY !

WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER :

Christmas Jumper Day - come to school in your Christmas Jumper !  
We are going to incorporate this into our Christmas Fun Day

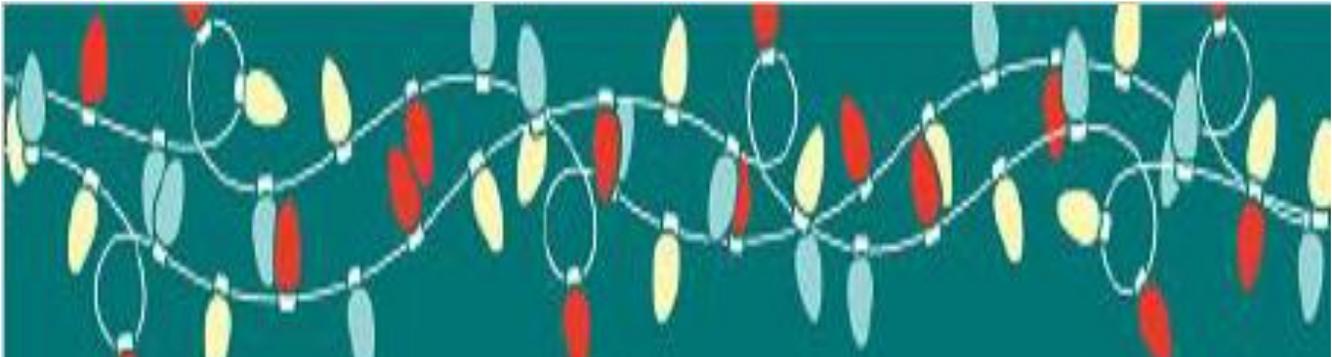


Christmas Lunch Day – menu & further details to follow

... and it is Christmas Fun Day too !



Enjoy everyone !



## **CHRISTMAS 2024 AT THAMES VIEW**

### **Christmas Fun Day! - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Come in your Christmas Jumper, to have some Christmas Fun and have some Christmas Dinner too if you'd like !

### **Sparkles Nursery - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December - from 9am**

Parents can come along and join the Nursery for their Christmas celebrations, join in with crafts and some Christmas nibbles

### **Year R - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December - 9.15am - 9.45am (approximately).**

Please come along to the KS1 hall to watch their Christmas play

### **Year 1 - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 9.15am - 9.45am (approximately).**

Please come along to the KS2 hall, (via the office reception) to watch their Christmas play

### **Year 2 - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - 9.15am - 9.45am (approximately).**

Please come along to the KS2 hall, (via the office reception) to watch their Christmas play

### **Years 3-6 - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - am**

We are looking forward to the Christmas Assembly at St Margaret's Church.

This year, parents will not be able to attend the church due to limited space in the church as Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children will be taking part together and as such will be using all the available seating.

Children should come to school at their normal time for registration and they will walk to the Church together for their Christmas Assembly and then return in time for their school lunch.



## .... PTA News ....

**Father Christmas** will be visiting Thames View week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – *book a place via the link*

<https://buytickets.at/thamesviewpta/1466509>

*– see poster on the next page*



**Christmas Wreath making** “A new event for this Christmas” – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm - *to book a place, please email [thamesviewpta@gmail.com](mailto:thamesviewpta@gmail.com)* - *see the poster on the next page*

**Further details of the Christmas Fayre and other PTA events this term will be sent out in the next few days**

Friday 6th December - 7pm Start  
£35.00 per person

# WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

**WREATH-MAKING STATIONS  
INSTRUCTOR-LED  
SNACKS & DRINKS  
TAKE HOME YOUR CREATIONS**

Join us for a festive crafting session where you can design your own Christmas wreath. Bring your creativity and leave with beautiful, handmade pieces to brighten up your home this festive season!

FOR MORE INFO OR TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT please email [thamesviewpta@gmail.com](mailto:thamesviewpta@gmail.com)

Thames View Primary School PTA

# Father Christmas

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

<https://buytickets.at/thamesviewpta/1466509>

Parentkind  
Member Association