THOMAS HARDING JUNIOR SCHOOL

FULLERS HILL
CHESHAM
BUCKS
HP5 1LR
Tel: 01494 782211
Fax:01494 786098
Email: office@tha.odbst.org
Website:www.thomasharding.org.uk

Oxford Diocesan
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST

Headteacher:
Mrs. S. Ruddell BAEd (Hons)

Date: Friday 5th September 2025

Welcome Back to Thomas Harding Junior School- Autumn Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to welcome your children back to Thomas Harding Junior School for the start of our new autumn term. To our returning Year 4, 5, and 6 pupils—welcome back! To our new Year 3 students—we are thrilled that you're beginning your Thomas Harding journey with us.
Our dedicated staff have worked tirelessly throughout the summer holidays to ensure everything is perfectly prepared for a fantastic start to the term.

New Staff Welcome

We are pleased to introduce several new team members joining us this year:
Learning Support Assistants:

- Mrs Clarke
- Mrs Micklewright
- Miss Thornton

All three impressed us greatly during their interviews and spent time in school at the end of last academic year to prepare for their roles. We're delighted to have them join our team.

Teaching Staff: We also welcome **Mr Robinson**, who will be teaching in Year 5 during Mrs Kuschel's maternity leave. Mr Robinson brings extensive experience as both a teacher and senior leader, and we're thrilled to have him as part of the THJS team.

Important Reminders

School Uniform

Taking pride in appearance and wearing correct uniform ensures both safety and school identity. Please familiarise yourself with our uniform policy, available in welcome packs and on our website.

Key uniform requirements:

- **Footwear:** Black school shoes only (no trainers except for PE)
- **PE kit:** Black or white trainers, plain white or school burgundy PE t-shirts, school or plain black jumpers/hoodies and black shorts or tracksuit bottoms
- **Jewellery:** None permitted except one ear stud per ear (must be removable for PE)
- **Hijabs:** Must be properly fitted for safety
- **General:** No nail polish; all items must be clearly named

We encourage children to take responsibility for looking after their belongings, and we'll reinforce this expectation at school.

PE Kit on PE days

Children may wear their PE kits to school on designated PE days. Your child's PE schedule will be communicated when they return to school and shared again during our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions.

Parking and Safety

Please do not park on the yellow lines outside school under any circumstances. This creates serious safety risks for our entire community.

For convenient parking, everyone is welcome to apply for a FREE parking pass at Water Meadow car park—contact our office for application forms. If you have accessibility concerns, please arrange to speak with Mrs Ruddell directly.

Key Dates

We've planned key dates well in advance to help you organise your calendars. All dates will be updated on our online calendar by the office team, and upcoming events will feature in our weekly newsletter, *Thomas Times*.

Immediate Priority Date:

Meet the Teacher Session

- **Date:** Wednesday 17th September
- **Time:** 3:40pm - 4:10pm

This essential session provides an opportunity to:

- Meet your child's new teacher
- Learn about curriculum plans and year group events
- Ask any questions you may have

For families with multiple children: Please select one year group to attend in person on the 17th. PowerPoint presentations for all year groups will be uploaded to our website after the event, and you're welcome to visit multiple classrooms for questions following the presentations.

Home Time Arrangements

Walking Home Policy

For safeguarding purposes, our policy states that children may only walk home alone from the **summer term of Year 5 at the earliest**, and only with written parental permission. All other children must be collected by an adult (18 years or older).

Year 6 students: If you wish your child to walk home independently, please contact the school office for permission forms. Families who provided written permission in previous academic years do not need new forms unless circumstances have changed.

Important note: Children who walk home independently on regular school days must still be collected by an adult from after-school clubs or late-finishing trips.

If different arrangements are needed or if someone new will be collecting your child, please email or phone the office to inform us.

Daily School Schedule

- **Morning:** Gates open at 8:30am with adult supervision on the playground
- **Home time:** 3:30pm
    - Years 3 & 4: Collection from lower playground
    - Years 5 & 6: Collection from front gate

Questions and Contact

Please don't hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns. We're here to support you and your children throughout the year.

We look forward to seeing you all in the coming days and weeks ahead.

Kind regards,



Mrs Samantha Ruddell
Headteacher