



Thomas Times

WHO WE ARE CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

ASPIRE Certificates

Year 3

Lenny- Resilience
Eloise- Aspiration
Robyn- Aspiration
Kai- Integrity

Year 4

Jessica- Integrity
Emily- Jayne- Integrity
Taylor- Pride
Florence- Resilience

Year 5

Emilia- Success
Obaid- Success
Leila- Resilience
Mackenzie- Equality
Eloise- Integrity
Robyn- Success

Year 6

Albie- Pride
Milan- Success
Harry- Integrity
Mukunda- Success
Eshaan- Aspiration
Dylan- Aspiration

ASPIRE Award

Dates for next week:

Tuesday 8th September- 11+ Secondary
Transfer Practice Test (Y6)
Thursday 10th September- 11+ Secondary
Transfer Test (Y6)

Year 3

Emily
Cleo

Golden Tickets

Year 4

Elias
Abdul-
Raheem
Adam
Oliver
Ali

Year 5

Abby
Izzy
Toby
Henry

Year 6

Thomas
Alisha
Cara
Samiah

Message from Mrs Butler

Dear Parents and Carers



Welcome back to the new school year! I am pleased to report that everyone returned to school full of anticipation and excitement after the summer holiday. We are thrilled to welcome our new families in Year 3 and also newcomers in other year groups across the school.

We have been busy over the summer break creating new environments to benefit our pupils. We have a new outdoor classroom on the lower field, and are grateful to the PTA and their partners and our Nature Explorer leaders for making this happen. We also have two new spaces to support children to be ready to learn.

We had a great turnout for our Meet the Teacher sessions yesterday; thank you for taking the time to visit the school and find out how you can support your children's learning. If you were not able to attend, the PowerPoint presentation will be uploaded onto the school website at the end of this week.

Finally, please remember to park and drive safely and sensibly when dropping off and collecting from school.

We look forward this year to working in partnership to give our children the best opportunities to thrive.





TELL ME ...

Section

Questions you can ask your child about this week's learning.

Year 3

Tell me all the number bonds to 10

Tell me the names of the 4 countries in the UK.

Tell me what a statement, command, questions and exclamation is.

Tell me some of the rules on our class charter

Year 4

Tell me about the book The Tunnel by Anthony Browne

Tell me what you have enjoyed about being in year 4 so far

Tell me your ideas about the universe

Tell me how to represent the number 453

Year 5

Tell me what a coral reef is and why they are important

Tell me what is meant by place value

Tell me what are the key features of a river

Tell me what our PSHE character is called

Year 6

Tell me what worship means and how you show it.

Tell me about the story of Alma.

Tell me why place holders are important in maths.

Tell me some of the characters from our class novel, Clockwork

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Volunteers

If you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer, please speak with the school office.

School dates

Autumn 1 2026

Tuesday 8th September- 11+ Secondary School Practice Transfer Test (Year 6)

Thursday 10th September- 11+ Secondary School Transfer Test (Year 6)

Tuesday 15th September- School Photographs

Friday 18th September- Year 3 New arrivals event for parents and children @ 2pm

Wednesday 30th September- Author Visit to school for pupils

Friday 2nd October- Year 5 River Trip

Wednesday 7th October- Flu Vaccinations

Week commencing 12th October- Pupil Wicker Workshops

Friday 16th October- School closes for Half Term @ 3.30pm

Monday 2nd November- School opens



START YOUR DAY RIGHT!

Thomas Harding Junior School
A Great Morning Routine for Kids!



**Wake Up
On Time!**



Make Your Bed

Wash & Brush Teeth



Eat a Healthy Breakfast



Get Moving & Get Sun!



Pack Your School Bag!



★ Ready to Learn & Have Fun! ★

School Attendance: *Every Day Matters!*

Why it's important:

Research shows a clear link between coming to school and achieving well.

Long-term impact:

Regular attendance is linked with **higher future earnings**, better wellbeing, lower risk of exploitation, and **stronger social skills**.

**Missing school =
Missing out on
learning**

Beyond Academic Success

Regular school attendance helps your child:

- ✓ **Build friendships** – Being present means being part of the class community;
- ✓ **Develop routines** – Learning appropriate routines and behaviour expectations that are well understood;
- ✓ **Feel confident** – Children who attend regularly feel more connected and settled;
- ✓ **Stay safe** – School is a safe place where staff know and care about your child.

What the evidence shows:



Children in Year 6 who attend 95–100% of the time have around **30% higher odds** of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths than similar pupils attending 90–95%.



Pupils develop the knowledge and skills they need to be ready for the next stage of their education.



Pupils who miss more school generally achieve lower results at both primary and secondary levels.



Good attendance habits now set children up for success in secondary school and beyond.

Our Commitment to You:

We work closely with parents and other agencies to communicate expectations about attendance and improve it, paying close attention to pupils' needs and acting on absence promptly.

We will:

- Support you if your child is struggling with attendance;
- Work with you to overcome any barriers;
- Celebrate good and improved attendance.

How parents can help:

- ☀ Send children to school **every day** if they are well enough.
- ☀ **Avoid term-time holidays** and appointments – Learning time is precious.
- ☀ **Establish good routines** – Regular bedtimes and morning routines make a difference.
- ☀ **Talk to us early** – If you're worried about attendance, we're here to help.

Every day in school is a step toward a brighter future!