



Thomas Times

WHO WE ARE CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

ASPIRE Certificates

Year 3

Rose- Resilience
Oliver- Aspiration
Louis- Pride
Riyansh- Aspiration
Abdul Salaam- Success
Alishbah- Pride
William- Success
Antonia- Spiration
Zlata- Success
Ottie- Equality
Inaaya-Equality

Year 4

Lola- Pride
Micah- Pride
Millie- Aspiration
Mackenzie- Aspiration
Lolly- Equality
Sruthi- Pride
Izzy- Equality
Ibby- Resilience

Year 5

Ghulam- Pride
Kanami- Aspiration
Cara- Resilience
Alfie- Resilience
Tilly- Resilience
Alice- Success
Joshua- Success
Rayan- Pride
Arnav- Success

Year 6

Zain- Success
Hussain- Pride
Zakariya- Pride
Rose- Equality
Sophia- Aspiration

ASPIRE Award

Izzy (Year 4)

Dates for next week:

Monday 20th July- Art Fortnight Exhibition for parents @ 3pm
Tuesday 21st July- Year 6 Leavers' Assembly @ 9.30am
Tuesday 21st July- Year 6 Afternoon Picnic
Wednesday 22nd July- School closes for the Summer @ 1.15pm

Year 3

Arthur
Raylee
Jojo
Kara
Thierry
Isabelle
Fatima
Marshall
Emilia

Golden Tickets

Year 4

Toby
Micah
Robyn
Fatima
Marshall
Emilia

Year 5

Abi
Sabeen
Zunaira
Nell
Jack
Murari
Alisha
Bryony
Ella
Blake

Year 6

Lois
Elyan
Gabriel
Rizwan
Charlie
Mustafa

Message from Mrs Butler

Dear Parents/carers,

We have had a fantastic last full week at Thomas Harding! This has included a wonderful performance of Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits, more creative juices flowing during the second week of Art Fortnight, and a fun morning of sporting exploits on Sports Day!

The children have shown exceptional teamwork, creativity and resilience across all these activities. Their enthusiasm during rehearsals, their focus and imagination in art sessions, and their determination on the sports field have been a real credit to them. It has been a joy to see them supporting one another, celebrating each other's achievements, and taking such pride in their work.

A huge thank you must also go to our fantastic staff team. From organising rehearsals and preparing resources, to setting up Sports Day and guiding the children through Art Fortnight, their hard work and commitment have made this week truly special. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do to create memorable experiences for our pupils. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us for the **Art Exhibition on Monday 20th July at 3pm**, where the children's artwork from Art Fortnight will be proudly displayed. It promises to be a wonderful celebration of their creativity and effort.

We have also just been notified that the school has been awarded **Silver** in this year's Blooming Schools competition! This is a fantastic achievement that recognises the hard work of our pupils and staff. Judges praised our strong links with local environmental groups, the enthusiasm of our Nature Explorers' club, and the wide range of gardening activities taking place across the school. They were particularly impressed by the way children learn gardening skills, grow vegetables used in cooking, and help care for areas such as the orchard and woodland. Representatives from the school have been invited to the Chesham in Bloom prizegiving event in September, where certificates will be presented to all participating schools.

Have a lovely weekend!



TELL ME ...

Section

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

Year 3

- Tell me the rules of rounders
- Tell me what a pictogram is
- Tell me how you created your final piece in Art
- Tell me what imagery you used in your narrative poem

Year 4

- Tell me about your design for DT.
- Tell me about the artwork you have made during Art Fortnight
- Tell me about the activity you enjoyed participating in most on Sports Day.
- Tell me how to translate coordinates.

Year 5

- Tell me who our artist is
- Tell me what cubic centimetres measure
- Tell me your favourite activity at sports day and why
- Tell me what your favourite piece of art is from art fortnight

Year 6

- Tell me which artist you have been studying for art fortnight, what techniques they use, and what are our three focus areas for our art fortnight pieces.
- Tell me a line from your Leaver's Speech that resonates with you the most.
- Tell me about the school show – what did you enjoy most about watching / participating.
- Tell me about your favourite event at sports day.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Volunteers

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

School dates

Summer 2 2026

Monday 20th July- Art Fortnight Exhibition for parents @ 3pm

Tuesday 21st July- Year 6 Leavers' Assembly @ 9.30am

Tuesday 21st July- Year 6 Afternoon Picnic

Wednesday 22nd July- School closes for the Summer @ 1.15pm



THOMAS HARDING ART FORTNIGHT

I was delighted to be invited into your school to teach some of your children how to use upcycled paper as part of 'Art Fortnight'. I live in Chesham and create jewellery, decorations, accessories and cards using discarded materials.

Groups from Years 5 and 6 created beautiful hanging birds, constructed from upcycled sheet music, maps and books – all unique – and learning what can be made from unwanted paper.

Papercraft workshops

I live in Chesham and run local workshops for adults now and then throughout the year. However if you have a small group of children (max 6-8) or children with parents who would like me to come and run a papercraft activity, please get in touch. Scan the QR code to see more info about my events & scheduled workshops etc.

Liz Turner

Lets be Cats Jewellery

letsbecatsjewellery@gmail.com letsbecats.etsy.com





SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUBS



Loads of activities. Tonnes of fun.
For children aged 4-12.



**BOOK
TODAY!**

**£45 + VAT
per day**



limited slots

SUMMER BAND CAMP

At Chenies School

27th, 28th, 29th July

9am-3.30pm

**To reserve a slot, or for more info
please email us at info@mdmusiclab.co.uk**





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!