

THREE PAGES THIS WEEK

Thurlstone Primary School

# The Shuttle'

19/12/2025

## AUTUMN TERM COMPLETE

Well that's the AUTUMN TERM complete! And what a term it's been! All our new children and families have settled into life at Thurlstone so well! It's like they have always been here!

Our new and very lovely co-headteacher, Mrs Baker, has also settled in well and is a joy to have as part of the Thurlstone Team.



### This term has been such a busy one!

We have welcomed a number of new children, both in the Rockets and in other year groups too. They have all settled well and are happy and enjoying their learning and social time.

We have also welcomed our wonderful new co-headteacher, Mrs Baker. What a perfect match she is for the school! With our shared vision, we are excited to be leading our happy and successful school from strength to strength.

We have appointed two senior staff members; Mr Peace and Mr Hughes, who now have a major role in further developing assessment and inclusion (Mr Hughes) and Behaviour, wellbeing and inclusion (Mr Peace).

After Christmas we are implementing **myHappymind** - a new PSHE programme, which we know will be a hit for the whole school community, and better meet the needs of our children.

We are really excited to have received funding which will be used to 'enhance the educational provision' here at Thurlstone! We will keep you informed about projects in the pipeline as a result of this funding allocation. We have launched our half termly newsletters - 'Spotlight on Safeguarding', 'Together We Grow' (inclusion) and 'Curious Not Furious' (our 'all things behaviour') newsletters.

Thank you for all your support this term - we've received so much positive praise from parents and carers which is lovely: it makes us feel so very much appreciated.

**SO - HERE'S TO ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL AND EXCITING TERM AFTER CHRISTMAS!**

### A WONDERFUL TERM IT HAS BEEN....HOWEVER.... IT IS WITH SADNESS THAT WE ARE SAYING FAREWELL TO OUR LOVELY MRS STOKOE!

Mrs Stokoe has been the most wonderful teacher, colleague and friend to us for many years! Thurlstone will not be the same without her! Please join us in wishing her all the very best and **LOTS OF HAPPINESS** in whatever she decides to do next!

**GROW TOGETHER: LEARN TOGETHER: FEEL LOVED**

# GROW TOGETHER: LEARN TOGETHER: FEEL LOVED



## A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to our fantastic P.T.F.A team

Once again they have worked their socks off to provide a wonderful range of fun and exciting fundraising events for the children and whole school community!

Without their efforts, and your support, our children would miss out of so much!

**So please join me in wishing them a very MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



Thank you also to the very wonderful **HELEN LAWTON** and **THE REAL SANTA** for their time and talent at Cubley Hall this week! They were a great hit with everyone! Without fab people like this our events would flop!

I do believe SANTA is making a special appearance for us today here at school! **WHOOP!**

*You're*  
**THE BEST**

### DIARY DATES

**MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JAN**  
**INSET DAY**

**TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JAN**  
**BACK TO SCHOOL**

**WEDNESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JAN**  
**KS2 PANTO!**



The Trans Pennine Trail 2025 Christmas Holiday Activity Pack is bursting with festive fun for families and children and is available FREE to download from our website.

You'll find nature-themed challenges like a winter scavenger hunt, creative crafts such as making a bird feeder, and a delicious cake pop recipe to try at home. The pack also features sensory games, puzzles, and a heart-warming story adventure with the Trail's friendly mascots, encouraging everyone to explore the great outdoors.

With colourful characters leading the way, this activity pack inspires kids to discover winter wildlife, get creative, and enjoy the magic of the outdoors. There are opportunities to share their adventures and to earn a digital certificate.

The packs are ideal for Key Stage 1 and 2, but there's something for everyone – whether you're a teacher, parent, or young explorer. They're perfect for use on the Trail, in your local park, or even indoors on a rainy day. Every pack is designed to help everyone learn, play, and make memories while exploring the outdoors.

The activity pack can be used 'on the go' by downloading it to a mobile or can be printed at home. **We'd obviously prefer parents to download the pack themselves so if you could share the link with them, it would be appreciated.** But we can send out printed copies to people who don't have a printer or are unable to access the website if they get in touch with us.

Download it from our Children's page at: [TPT Activity Packs | Trans Pennine Trail](#) or by clicking the image above:

# GROW TOGETHER: LEARN TOGETHER: FEEL LOVED



# ONLINE SAFETY GUIDE

Helping families navigate the online world safely.

DECEMBER 2025



As Christmas approaches, many parents/carers will be looking to buy their children the latest gadgets and technology, from phones, tablets to gaming consoles. While these gifts can bring joy and open new doors for learning and entertainment, it's essential to remember the importance of online safety. With children and young people spending more time online, parents must ensure they understand the risks of the digital world, like cyberbullying or inappropriate content. It's important to set up parental controls, have open conversations about internet safety, and support your child to recognise potential dangers and create a safer online experience.



## TOP TIPS

### HEALTHY ONLINE HABITS..

Taking a break from social media over the holidays can be a refreshing way to focus on real-world connections, reduce stress, and prioritize your mental well-being.



### SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

Talk to your child before setting up parent controls, discuss why they are in place. Be open and honest.

Use a parent control app such as Family Link app, Family Microsoft or google account.

Set up safety controls on your WIFI Router. You can do this in your WIFI settings or contact your internet provider for support.

Enable safe search filters on Google and YouTube or turn onto restricted mode.

Using a parent control app allows you to limit screen time, approve apps and games before accessing and monitors browser history so you can see what your child is accessing online.



Make sure your child knows you want to help them build digital resilience not just limit their online behaviour!

18+

16+

12+

Some social media apps/games will help with safety settings when your child downloads an app/game and makes an account, so it's really important they are always honest about their age online so the apps/games they use can help keep them safe! Even with settings in place, there is still a risk of seeing/hearing things online that may upset them or make them feel uncomfortable, worried or confused. Make sure they know how to block and report content they don't want to see and let them know you are there to help and talk about their life online whenever they need you!

### DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILD IS ACCESSING ONLINE?

While children and young may be tech-savvy in some areas, they often lack the experience and judgment needed to navigate the risks of the internet effectively. Children and young people may not fully understand the potential dangers, such as cyberbullying, online predators, or sharing personal information.

- Talk regularly and openly
- Set up parental controls & monitoring tools
- Monitor social media and messaging apps
- Review browser history and device usage
- Set clear rules for online behaviour
- Stay informed about new trends and apps



### DID YOU KNOW?



Most games and apps that children and young people access have a chat function allowing children to chat, voice message and send/receive pictures/videos from anyone they connect with online! Even with parent controls and restrictions in place, you can't always ensure their safety!

