Thornden Wood BULLETIN

Headteacher Message

As we come to the end of another wonderful term at Thornden Wood, I would like to thank our children, families and staff for all of their hard work, positivity and support. This term has been filled with learning, achievement and memorable experiences, and we are incredibly proud of the progress our children have made both academically and personally. Our school values of **Grit, Opportunity, Respect** and **Wonder** have been evident every day, from the classroom to the playground and beyond. We wish all of our families a happy, restful and well-deserved break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back next term, ready for another exciting chapter in our school journey.

Mrs Espley - Headteacher

Attendance

The class with the best attendance this week has been **ELM** with an amazing **100%** attendance!!! A HUGE well done!! They will be rewarded with a special treat one day next week.

A fantastic **198** children still have **100%** attendance this year! Well done to all of these pupils for their commitment to coming to school every day and making the most of their learning opportunities.
Keep up the amazing effort!

We are excited to invite parents and carers to join their child for an OPAL Playdate at lunchtime. Please see the dates below and contact the school office to book your place. Limited spaces available. 😊

- 5th November
- 10th November
- 18th November
- 27th November
- 1st December

Upcoming Events

First Day Back of Term 2	Mon 2nd Nov
Parents Evening	Mon 2nd Nov
Parents Evening	Wed 4th Nov

INSIDE THE SCHOOL DAY

Willow Class Attendance Celebration

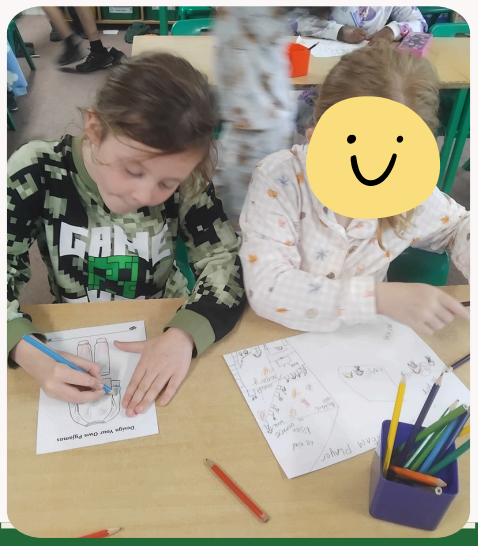
A huge well done to Willow Class, who were the winners of our attendance award! As their reward, they chose to enjoy a special Pyjama Afternoon, which they celebrated on Friday afternoon.

The children had a fantastic time relaxing in their pyjamas and enjoying this well-deserved treat. Congratulations, Willow Class, for your excellent attendance and for setting such a positive example. Keep up the great work! 🌟👏📚💙









Year 1 Fossil Hunters!

In Year 1, we have been learning all about Mary Anning, the famous fossil hunter. Inspired by her discoveries, we became fossil hunters ourselves!

Our teachers hid the dinosaur fossils that we had made in a previous history lesson, and we set off on an exciting fossil hunt in the digging pit. Equipped with our wellies, magnifying glasses and brushes, we carefully searched for the hidden treasures. The children showed fantastic curiosity and perseverance as they excavated their fossils, just like real palaeontologists.

We were thrilled to discover so many fossils and had great fun exploring the role of a fossil hunter while bringing our history learning to life! 🦕🔍🦴







INSIDE THE SCHOOL DAY

Year 6 Visit the Battle of Britain Museum

Year 6 enjoyed a meaningful Forest School session creating beautiful poppies for Remembrance Day. Each child carefully made their own poppy, which were then combined to create a stunning wreath. The children later visited the Battle of Britain Museum, where they had the honour of laying their handmade wreath as part of the Remembrance commemorations.

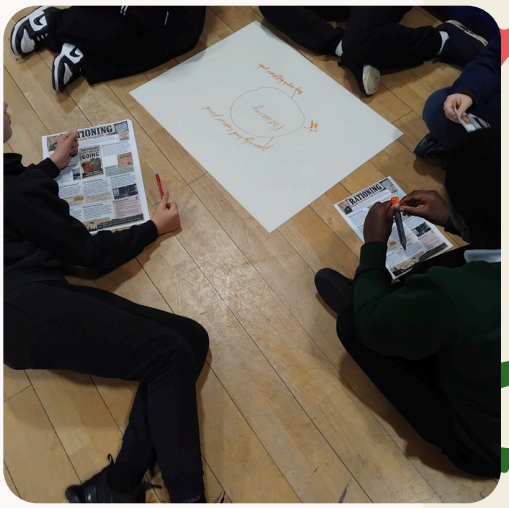
This special experience gave the children an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices made by others and show their respect. It was wonderful to see them combine creativity, teamwork and historical learning in such a meaningful way. The visit helped bring their learning to life and encouraged a deeper understanding of the importance of remembrance. 🌺

Chestnut Class took their English learning beyond the classroom this week and into the hall!

Working collaboratively in groups, the children created research maps all about rationing as part of our ongoing Allies in the Skies workshop. They shared ideas, gathered key information and worked together to deepen their understanding of this important wartime topic.

Using their research, the children then went on to write some fantastic non-chronological reports. Their excellent writing demonstrated just how effective teamwork and collaboration can be in supporting learning and helping everyone achieve their best.

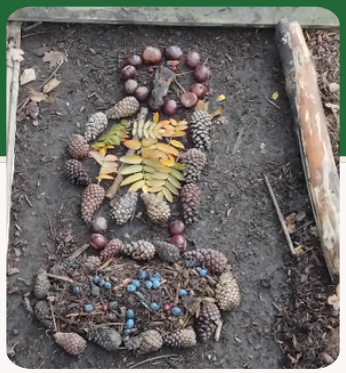
Well done, Chestnut Class, for your enthusiasm, teamwork and impressive writing! ⭐📚👏





FOREST SCHOOL

Year 4 have been exploring the art of Roman mosaics! During their Forest School session, the children used natural materials such as leaves, sticks, petals and stones to create their own mosaic designs inspired by Roman patterns. They showed great creativity and teamwork, carefully arranging their resources to produce some beautiful outdoor artwork. Well done, Year 4! 🌿🍂🎨🏛️













Year 6 Forest School

We are so proud of the beautiful Remembrance wreaths created by Year 6 during their Forest School sessions. Each child carefully crafted their own poppy, and together these were combined to make stunning wreaths full of thought, care and respect.







SOFTWARE SAFETY SPOTLIGHT



Call of Duty 4 - Modern Welfare

Although the game being discussed in the information below is rated as **18+** and is designed for adult users, not children, we felt it was worth sharing with families so that they are aware of reasons for this, and the risks it may pose

What is it?

The Call of Duty (CoD) series are gritty games about an American soldier, a UK operative, and a woman leading the militia in defence of her home in a fictional Arab country that is attacked by terrorists and corrupt Russian military.

Why should I protect my child from this?

The Video Standards Council (VSC) rated this game PEGI 18 only suitable for those 18 and over. This rating has been given due to violence against vulnerable and defenceless characters, the motiveless killing of innocent characters, graphic violence and the use of strong language.

VSC also highlights, with the In-App purchase descriptor that, “this game offers players the opportunity to purchase in-game items which some parents or carers may want to be aware of. It should be noted that the game can still be played without the need to purchase such items”.

How can I protect my child?

- You can set up Parental Controls on your gaming system to limit access to Call of Duty based on its PEGI rating so that playing the game requires a password
- You can also turn off graphic content like blood and some bad language in the General menu and specify whether to exclude Text Chat, Filter Profanity and turn off Dismemberment & Gore Effects.
- In the Audio menu, you can also disable Voice Chat so you can’t hear other players
- You can control access to the game based on its PEGI rating in the parental controls of your system. Similarly, you can control In-App purchases by restricting access to any credit card associated with it.

internet matters.org

REMINDERS

🌿 Forest School Clothing Reminder 🌿

To help your child make the most of their Forest School sessions, please ensure they come to school with:

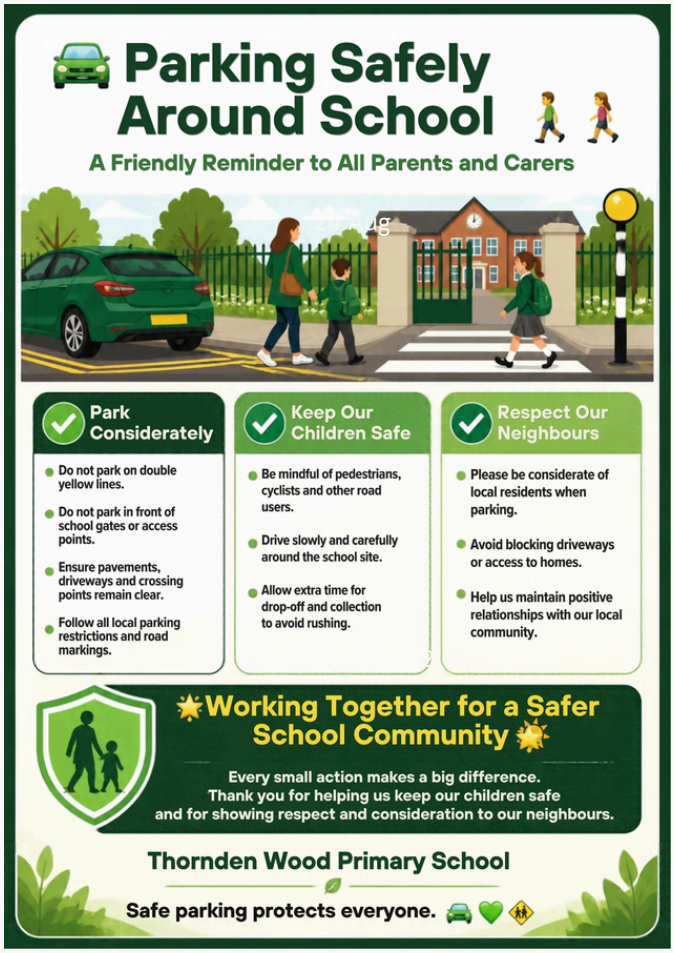
- ✅ Wellies or waterproof footwear
- ✅ A waterproof coat
- ✅ A spare set of clothes (where possible)

Please note:

- 🔥 As campfires are often part of our Forest School activities, we recommend that children do not wear shell trousers.

Your children absolutely love their time in Forest School, and having the correct clothing helps them fully enjoy every session, whatever the weather! 🍂🌳
Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. 😊





INFORMATION









INFORMATION







THORNDEN WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term Dates 2026/27

Term 1 - 2026	**Thursday 3rd September – Thursday 22nd October**
Half Term Break	**Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October**
Term 2 - 2026	**Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December**
Winter Break	**Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January**
Term 3 - 2027	**Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February**
Half Term Break	**Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February**
Term 4 - 2027	**Monday 22nd February – Thursday 25th March**
Spring Break	**Friday 26th March – Friday 9th April**
Term 5 - 2027	**Monday 12th April – Friday 28th May**
Half Term Break	**Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June**
Term 6 - 2027	**Tuesday 8th June – Tuesday 20th July**

Staff Development Days

School is not open for children to attend

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Friday 23rd October 2026
Monday 7th June 2027
Wednesday 21st July 2027

Bank Holidays (School Closed)

Friday 26th March 2027
Monday 3rd May 2027