# Thurton
Church of England VC Primary School

# Thurton CE Primary School News

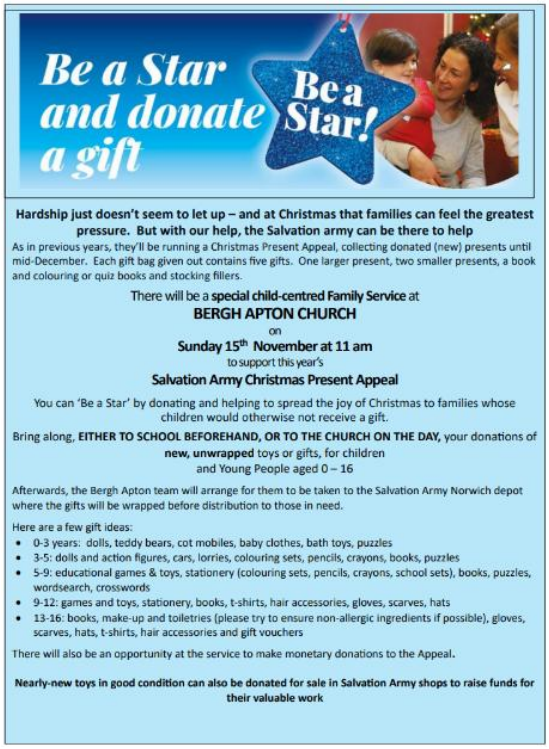
## Thursday 22nd October 2026

### We're Appealing!

As part of our Autumn Term Ambassador project, all classes are again supporting the Salvation Army 'Be A Star' Christmas present appeal, to make Christmas special for those who may have little or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning. If you'd like to donate to this and make a child's Christmas special this year, please bring your gift of new (or nearly new), UNWRAPPED toys, books, games or gift tokens to school by Wednesday 11th November.

For gift ideas and more information about the Appeal, zoom in to see the poster below or visit the Salvation Army Website (link below). Thank you for your support.

https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/christmas-present-appeal




### We Will Remember Them

Poppies and other items will be on sale in aid of the Royal British Legion from Monday 2nd November at drop-off and pick-up.

### Harvest Festival

Yesterday, we celebrated Harvest Festival in school with a service led by Gary, our Youth for Christ worker. His theme centred around 'gleaning' and the importance of sharing food with others. Some of the children took part by helping to find some missing pumpkins, while others shared prayers of thanks and poetry. Thank you to Gary for yet another engaging service, and to our families for their kind donations to the Norwich Foodbank.

### Free Half Term Activities…

With October half term just around the corner, we wanted to share a resource from Home-Start Norfolk.

They have put together a free Half-Term Activity Pack, full of fun, simple ideas and activities that families can enjoy together at home, whatever the weather.

You can view the pack here:
https://heyzine.com/flip-book/FreeHalloweenActivityPack

### Stars of the Week

Our usual Stars of the Week will return in the next newsletter. We look forward to celebrating our stars then!

### *Birthdays*

This week our Birthday wishes go to **Matilda** and **Ray** - Happy Birthday to you!

### Thurton Wellbeing Service

**Try Something Retro!**

When did you last write a proper letter? Not a text. Not a WhatsApp message. Not an email. A real letter – written by hand, folded into an envelope and sent through the post.

In a world where communication is instant, there can be something wonderfully calming about doing things the old-fashioned way. Letter writing gives us a reason to slow down, put our phones aside and spend a little time thinking about someone.

**Why not try The Sunday Letter Project?**

The Sunday Letter Project is a global initiative encouraging people to write one handwritten letter every Sunday. It's free to join, and you can write to a friend, family member, someone you haven't seen for a while, a stranger – or even your future self. You can also receive a gentle creative writing prompt each Sunday to help you get started.

There is also a lovely Letter Keeper network. Independent bookshops, stationery shops and cafés around the world act as safe collection points, allowing people to find a pen pal and exchange letters without sharing their home address.

**Why is this good for wellbeing?**

Letter writing can create a little pocket of calm and reflection in an otherwise busy, screen-filled day. It encourages us to slow down and think about what we actually want to say rather than firing off a quick response.

For children, it can also be a lovely way to practise putting feelings and thoughts into words. They might write to a grandparent, a friend, a family member who lives far away – or simply write a letter about something they are grateful for.

And there's something special about receiving a handwritten letter too. Someone has chosen the paper, picked up a pen and given their time to write specifically for you. It's a small reminder that you matter to someone.

You don't need beautiful handwriting, fancy stationery or lots of time. A piece of paper, a pencil and a few words are enough.

Perhaps this week, instead of sending a quick message, try writing a letter. You might just discover that 'going retro' can sometimes help us feel a little better.

Find out more about The Sunday Letter Project:
https://www.thesundayletterproject.com/

Best wishes,
*Claire Cookson*
*(Pupil & Parent Support Advisor)*
psa@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk

# Thurton
Church of England VC Primary School

## Week Commencing Monday 2nd November 2026

| | In School | After School |
|---|---|---|
| **Mon** | • PE | • Premier Dance (Yrs 3-6) GRP B<br>• Gardening (Yrs 1/2) GRP B |
| **Tue** | • Lauren Talford Music Lessons | • Premier Dodgeball (Yrs 1/2) ALL |
| **Wed** | • | • Aem Hai Karate (Yrs 1–6) ALL |
| **Thu** | • Bandwagon Music Lessons | • Premier Dodgeball (Yrs 3-6) GRP B |
| **Fri** | • PE<br>• Forest School | • NCSF Football (Yrs 1/2) GRP B<br>• Forest School (Yrs 3/4/5/6) GRP B |

## PTA Points

A big thank you to all the families who kindly donated cakes for our Autumn Bake Sale. We raised **£75**! Another big thank you to the Greasley family, who very kindly donated over 40 home-grown pumpkins!

## Dates for your Diary

| | |
|---|---|
| Fri 23/10/26 - Fri 30/10/26 | • Half Term |
| Mon 2/11/26 | • Children Return to School |
| Wed 4/11/26 | • September 2027 New Intake Open Evening |
| Thu 5/11/26 | • PTA Elfridges order deadline |
| Mon 09/11/26 | • Cluster Basketball (Yr 3/4) |
| Sun 15/11/26 | • Be A Star Christmas Present Appeal Service, Bergh Apton Church, 11am (Ambassadors) |
| Wed 18/11/26 | • September 2027 New Intake Open Evening |
| Thu 19/11/26 | • Swimming Gala (Yrs 4, 5 & 6) |
| Fri 4/12/26 | • Sugar for Shelters donation deadline |
| W/c Mon 07/12/26 | • Last Week of After School Clubs. |
| Thu 10/12/26 | • Christmas Jumper Day - Part 1!<br>• PTA Elfridges Event |
| Tues 15/12/26 | • Christmas Church Service 10.00am |
| Wed 16/12/26 | • Key Stage 2 Christmas Performance (9.30am) |
| Thu 17/12/26 | • Key Stage 1 Christmas Performances (9.30am & 1.30pm)<br>• Key Stage 2 Christmas Performances (2.30pm & 5.00pm) |
| Fri 18/12/26 | • No PE<br>• Christmas Jumper Day - Part 2!<br>• Christmas Lunch<br>• NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROVISION<br>• End of Term |
| Tue 05/01/27 | • Children Return to School |

Have a lovely Half Term!

Enjoy, Achieve, Believe