



Thrupp Primary School Newsletter

January 2026

Dear Parents

We hope that your term is going well. January is always such a long month; we are nearly there. The light is beginning to increase so I feel we are on the turn. We try and get outside for play and lunchtimes, even when bitterly cold, so please ensure children have plenty of additional layers to put up to stop them getting cold.

Community Group

The local community are all working together in the aftermath of the fire on Boxing Day morning in Brimscombe. I am part of a 'Community Welfare Cell' where I meet with other local groups weekly to discuss what our communities are needing. These groups include the Fire Service, Counselling groups, Parish Counsellors and other local Headteachers to name a few. If there is anyone within our school community who needs further support, please reach out to me and I can signpost you to support. For example, the Fire Service are providing free Safe & Welfare checks and checks to smoke alarms to all residents in the Stroud area. This group are organising Community Conversations, which will be based at Minchinhampton Youth Club on Monday 16th February and The Long Table on Friday 20th February. The purpose of these are to welcome families, to provide fun activities for children and professionals around for those that would like to have a conversation or ask questions. I will send a flier with more details next week but hopefully, if you feel appropriate, you will try and get to one or both of these.

Young Voices 2026

Our key stage 2 children and teachers enjoyed an exciting and memorable day out in Birmingham on Monday 12th January, singing their hearts out and dancing their socks off at the Young Voices Concert. They all made us extremely proud, finally having the chance to put all their practice into action, alongside a Young Voices choir of 5,700 on our evening performance. What an incredible experience to be part of and a day we hope they will remember for years to come. A special thank you to all our families for supporting the day.

myHappymind

This term we have begun the second *myHappymind* module: **Celebrate**. In this chapter, children learn to recognise their own unique character strengths and understand why these strengths matter. They explore what makes them special, how using their strengths helps them feel good, and how to spot and celebrate strengths in others too. This module is a wonderful way to build confidence and self-esteem as the children begin to appreciate what makes them who they are. I have purchased a number more myHappyminds books which are in the office. If you have not yet had chance to flick through these I highly recommend that you borrow one. Don't forget the parent app too.

Problem Solving in Maths

Our staff have recently taken part in dedicated maths training alongside colleagues from our partner hub schools, with a shared focus on strengthening problem-solving approaches. This collaborative work will hopefully help us bring fresh strategies and greater consistency to the way we support children's mathematical thinking. We are planning a Maths Problem Solving Parent Workshop later on this term. We will invite you in so that you can see how we teach problem solving in maths and how wonderful your children are when faced with tricky challenges. Mrs Catt will be in contact with you soon with more details.

January in Fledglings

Fledglings are enjoying their new topic, learning all about different animals, where they live and what they eat. They have enjoyed special days, bringing in their favourite animal cuddly toys for a picnic lunch in nursery and learnt lots during a visit from Claire (one of our wonderful Kestrels parents). She brought her 10-year-old tortoise, Rochelle, to meet them, as well as Mrs Whitewings the chicken and Kevin the rabbit. She will be back again soon to visit with her pony so that the children can meet her and ask lots of questions!



Geography Day

On Thursday 22nd January our children went on a trip around the world. The children were split into 6 mixed age groups and visited 6 different countries from 6 different continents. The children travelled with a passport and learnt some geographical facts about each as well as engaging in some fun activities based on the country they were in. These included some samba dancing in Brazil, learning some basic Polish phrases and many more. The children all came out of the final assembly discussing their new found knowledge with such enthusiasm! A successful day at Thrupp!!

Clean Air

A parent has been in contact with me about Clean Air Campaign and I wanted to share this with you. You may have seen press about the impact of domestic solid fuel burning on health. Burning wood and coal for domestic heating is now the largest contributor to particle pollution in the country and in Stroud there is a particular concentration of these appliances. If you can smell wood burning, you are breathing in very harmful particles and there are concerns about the impact that this is having on children. If you would like more information please visit the website here <https://www.actionforcleanair.org.uk/campaigns/clean-air-day>

Donna Mylechreest

Doing Our Best To Be Our Best