



### Happy New Academic Year!

It's great to see all the children back, raring to go. A special warm welcome to all our new children and staff – it's great to have you all as part of the team. Speaking of great teams, the theme for this year is 'Avengers Assemble': all THS BIRDS will be displaying their 'super powers' throughout the year; working together; supporting each other and achieving momentous feats of heroic proportions! Watch out for more information. 2023 – 2024 is going to be a corker!

#### Swimming:

Swimming starts for Year 5 next Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September. 5 Hazel will be leaving promptly at 8:45am so be sure to arrive in plenty of time. Remember to come 'swim ready' and ensure everything is labelled and packed in a bag. If you haven't yet made payment, please do so as soon as possible and remember to return any outstanding reply slips.

Please don't forget to clearly label your children's uniform. School jumpers are not cheap, and they regularly go missing. Simply writing your child's name on the label will ensure it gets back to them. Please do this for all school clothing, including coats (when we need them – phew, it's soooo hot isn't it!)

#### Autumn Term Clubs:

The staff are currently generating the clubs offer for Autumn term. Clubs will commence the week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> September. Look out next week for the sign-up letter with a full programme of clubs and make sure to return it as soon as possible so we can start the allocation process.

#### Secondary Transfer Test (11+):

The 11+ is next Tuesday and Thursday. Tuesday's session will take up to 2 hours, and Thursday's will take most of the morning. For those children who are sitting the test, please encourage them not to worry and to have a restful weekend. Please remember if you would like to withdraw your child there is still time. Please inform the Year 6 team via the [dl@thomashickman.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:dl@thomashickman.bucks.sch.uk) email. If you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

#### Attendance:

The 97Up Club is back!

Consistent, regular attendance is imperative in order for your child to learn. Hence good attendance and punctuality is essential for success. So, will your child be part of the 97Up club?

Every child whose attendance is calculated to reach 97% or above for the term will be rewarded with a voucher. Zoomania vouchers will still be presented to Years R-4, but for this year we are changing the voucher for the older children who may have outgrown the ballpit park.... Watch this space, the content of the voucher will be revealed soon...

Please be reminded that the gates close at 8:45am for a prompt start to learning. The school day ends at 3:15pm with the gates closing at 3:30pm to allow for a less congested pick up. Please stick to these timings to support the staff and your child's learning.

#### Attendance Reminder:

If your child is unwell, please **call the school** (01296 485683) before 8:50am as per usual procedures. Emailing in is not compliant with our safeguarding procedures - you must phone in. If your child is just a little under the weather, we would suggest you bring them in and we will monitor them. Remember Jo Lyons, our medical officer, is available to support and answer any queries.

#### Uniform Swap Shop:

Don't forget we have the Uniform Swap Shop in the Acorn Centre. For those new to the school, this is a collection of pre-loved uniform items which have been donated by our parents/carers. All items are freshly washed and hung up ready to be hand-picked and used again. If you have any good quality, pre-loved donations please don't hesitate to bring them in.

Please remember that all long hair should be fully tied up for school and that children are not permitted to wear jewellery to school. Watches may be worn, but they are the responsibility of the child concerned. Children with pierced ears may only wear plain metal studs which should be removed on PE days.

#### School Photos – say cheese!

Individual school photos will be taking place on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** and sibling photographs will take place later on in the term. Please make sure your child is in full school uniform, looking spick and span for their snapshot!

#### School lunches

For the benefit of new parents/carers, and as a reminder for all, the school dinner booking window opens every week on a Friday and closes on the following Wednesday at 9am. No orders can be accepted after this time.



# DATES FOR THE DIARY...

Please note this will begin to build up over the year.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b><u>11<sup>th</sup> September</u></b> 'Be our Guest' for Reception parents 8:50am in the hall	<b><u>12<sup>th</sup> September</u></b> Year 6 11+ practice test	<b><u>13<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>14<sup>th</sup> September</u></b> Year 6 11+ test Year 5 swimming starts	<b><u>15<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>
<b><u>18<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>19<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>20<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>21<sup>st</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>22<sup>nd</sup> September</u></b> Y2 science workshop Y4 History workshop
<b><u>25<sup>th</sup> September</u></b> Clubs start this week	<b><u>26<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>27<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>28<sup>th</sup> September</u></b>	<b><u>29<sup>th</sup> September</u></b> Y3 Chiltern Open Air Museum Macmillan coffee morning
<b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> October</u></b> Tempest – individual photographs	<b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> October</u></b> Y5 Ashmolean visit	<b><u>4<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Year 3 – 6 African drumming workshop Nursery Forest School	<b><u>5<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Y6 Workshop	<b><u>6<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Flu Vaccination
<b><u>9<sup>th</sup> October</u></b>	<b><u>10<sup>th</sup> October</u></b>	<b><u>11<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Nursery stay and play	<b><u>12<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Y2 Stoke Mandeville trip Y6 Pit stop @ 2:15	<b><u>13<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Y3 Harvest Festival Y2 Pit stop @ 2:15
<b><u>16<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> No clubs this week due to parents evenings	<b><u>17<sup>th</sup> October</u></b>	<b><u>18<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Parents Consultation Meetings	<b><u>19<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Parents Consultation Meetings	<b><u>20<sup>th</sup> October</u></b> Break up for half term



Where  
CURIOSITY  
HATCHES.



We know...

THOMAS HICKMAN SCHOOL IS A

**'KNOW NUTS'**

SCHOOL!



We know that we have children with severe, life threatening nut allergies in our school  
 We know that although we might love nuts ourselves, we must not bring nuts in to school  
 We know we should try and avoid having a nut-spread, this could be chocolate spread too, in our sandwich.  
 We know that we should not share our food with our friends in case it contains nuts  
 We know to wash our hands before and after eating  
 We know not to bring sweets in without checking with our adults in school in case they contain nuts  
 We know to tell an adult if our friend doesn't look well - if they have swollen lips, or can't breathe  
 We know all the above information keeps our friends with a nut allergy safe, happy and well.

We know we are all BIRDS and no BIRD flies alone.