

Dear Parents

Welcome to the September edition of our school newsletter, our first one of this academic year. We hope that you all had a relaxing break and managed to enjoy the glorious weather. Please see the following information which may be of interest to you.



Welcome Everybody:

We have been thrilled to welcome several new pupils across school and very impressed by how quickly they have settled in, it's as though they have been here for years! As you would expect, the rest of the children have eagerly welcomed them into class and extended a huge Team Thingwall welcome to each and every one of them. Our first two groups of FS2 pupils have started school this week and we are very pleased with their enthusiastic, kind and sensible attitude to school already – well done FS2, we look forward to our final group of FS2 pupils starting school this coming Monday.



Staffing Update, 2025/2026 Staffing:

Just as a reminder, the 2025/2026 classes are as follows:

FS2 – Mrs Harvey supported by Miss Durn and Mrs Gillooly

Year One – Mrs Waddington/Mrs Leyland supported by Mrs Flanagan

Year Two – Mrs Goulding supported by Mrs Hutchinson

Year Three – Miss Yandle supported by Miss Foster

Year Four - Mrs Beesley supported by Miss Yardley and Ms Skelton

Year Five – Miss Arden supported by Mrs Smith and Mr Rees

Year Six – Miss Taylor supported by Mrs Peel-Price and Mr Rees

As usual, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Sheridan will be providing Teacher PPA and Management Cover across school.



Pilot Ofsted Inspection:

We received notification this week that Ofsted would like to visit our school to conduct a pilot Ofsted Inspection on the 14th and 15th October this half-term. This is to enable them to trial their new framework, which is due to be published on Monday and will be a mutually beneficial opportunity for professional development. At present, we do not yet know what the new Ofsted framework will look like but we do know that it will be a 2 day visit that will not be given a published official report or graded with an outcome. As it is a trial, we have been told that the usual parent survey will not be required. We will be in touch with details nearer the time but we are looking forward to discussing the many positives of Thingwall Primary with the inspection team.




Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Starkey:

We are thrilled to announce that Mrs Starkey gave birth to Baby Joshua James at the start of the summer holidays (five weeks early and weighing 5lbs 10 oz). Team Starkey are all doing very well and Joshua is blooming. Mrs Starkey wanted us to thank you all for your good wishes, cards and gifts at the end of last term, she really appreciated it. Mrs Starkey also wanted to give a HUGE shout-out to two of our Year Four mums, Miss Dodd and Miss Hellon who were on the neo-natal ward night and day, giving herself and Baby Joshua the very best of care and attention – THANK YOU ladies! We hope to see Mrs Starkey and Joshua very soon, as they will be collecting cousin Madelynn from school occasionally.



Class Responsibilities:

At this time of the Autumn term, we begin to allocate pupil responsibilities across all of the year groups. This week, the children have been nominating their peers to be our 2025-2026 School Council, Eco Warriors and Ethos Reps. Please find the results below, thank you to everyone who voted and all of the pupils who put their names forward for consideration.

	School Council These children will act as the spokesperson for their class. They will meet half-termly with Mrs Waddington and they will offer suggestions about how we can improve our school. They will also occasionally be asked to lead votes with the class for example, to purchase new wet playtime equipment or decide on a class charity. These children have been voted in by their classmates.	Eco Warriors These children represent their class to help make the school more environmentally friendly by promoting energy saving, waste reduction and recycling initiatives. They might lead school-wide projects such as litter picks and road safety assemblies and they will also help Mrs Waddington maintain our green flag eco-schools award when they hold their half-termly meetings. These children have been voted in by their classmates.	Ethos Reps These children will have been chosen for their kindness and their friendly supportive attitudes. They will help promote the school's 4 key values of collaboration, inspiration, expression and citizenship and they will contribute to initiatives that support our school, local, national and global communities. They stand for fairness, inclusivity and belonging and they embody the Team Thingwall approach. These children will meet half-termly with Mrs Beesley. These children have been voted in by their classmates.
FS2	Our reception class will settle in first and vote for their class reps next half-term, once they have settled into the routines and daily school life.		
Year One	Fredrik and Rosie	Rosa and Tommy	Albi and Millie G
Year Two	Alex and Seb	Isabella and Louis	Imogen and Tommy
Year Three	Ivy and Gabriel	Jack and Jewel	Felicity and Andrew
Year Four	Oscar and Leila	Oliver and Seth	Luca and Grace
Year Five	Leo and Elsie M	Theo Ch, Maisie and Harley	Daniel and Kalea
Year Six	Grace P and Annabelle	Bella, Ted and Lucy	Toby and Robyn

Next week, we will begin the process of our Year Six pupils canvassing for votes from the whole school to become the 2025-2026 Team Captains for the Romans, Vikings, Saxons and Normans. Watch this space as we will report the new team captains in our next newsletter. These children will be voted in by the whole school.

This month, we will also nominate this academic year's Head Girl, Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy. These children will be voted in by the whole school staff.



Parent Survey:

Thank you to those of you who completed and returned your reply slips from your child's 2024-2025 annual reports and top those of you who voted for your preferred method of social platform communication. Your views were incredibly useful to us, as we had noticed a significant drop in followers on Twitter/'X'. It was a very close vote but Instagram won by a narrow margin. Therefore, over the next few weeks we will skill ourselves up and hope to be Insta ready by the end of the month.



Enterprise Updates:

The £10 Enterprise Challenge has been launched again this week and we hope to build on the amazing successes of last year, as we raised several hundred pounds for various charities in each year group. The School Council pupils' first job will therefore be to help their class decide on the 2025-2026 charity they'd like to support by organising a vote at some point next week.



Celebration Corner (OR HUGGS – Huge Unbelievably Great Goals!)

This area of the newsletter is so we can celebrate children's achievements outside of school. If you would like your child to appear in this area of the newsletter, please let the school office know with the relevant details.

Our Celebration Corner will be in our main September newsletter at the end of this month.

Congratulations to all these pupils, who exemplify the MAT values of **collaboration, citizenship, inspiration and expression** with distinction and pride. We are immensely proud of **all** of our Team Thingwall pupils, they are **all** outstanding ambassadors for our school and try to reflect our values in **all** that they do.



With best wishes to you all

Mrs D L Evans