

Hello everyone

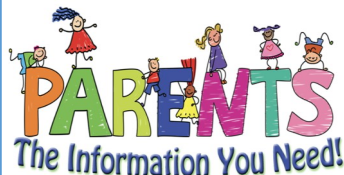
We would like to offer **a very warm welcome back to school to everyone!** It has been fantastic to see everyone looking so smart and enthusiastic. Our new Year 3 in particular have settled very well into our #thorntonfamily — **well done Year 3, we are very proud of you**, and years 4, 5 and 6 have made a very positive start too! A **special Thornton welcome** also to **Miss Lescott, Teacher in 3SQ**, and **Mrs Pinder, TA in 5TR!**



The children have all had fun, whilst working hard, in this first week back reading and enjoying a whole school book **'Every Child a Song' by Nicola Davies**. As part of their work, the children have created mini sketch books with observational drawings of birds inspired by this book!

An **extra special thank you** to all those children who worked incredibly hard at home over the summer holidays to produce some **outstanding creative homework** linked to their new topic. We can't wait to see more CREATIVE homework as it comes into school as the term goes on.

Over the next 2 weeks, we are looking forward to welcoming parents/carers into school to our **'Parent Welcome Meeting'** to hear all about how to support your child's learning at home. Each meeting gives you chance to find out about what your child will be studying this academic year, and how you can help. You will also be able to find out about trips and experiences planned for them, as well as meet your child's teacher, the Inclusion Team and the Senior Leadership Team, and ask us lots of questions whilst having a cup of tea!



Wednesday 10th September 9-9.45am — Year 4 Parent Welcome Meeting

Thursday 11th September 9-9.45am — Year 6 Parent Welcome Meeting

Wednesday 17th September 9-9.45am — Year 3 Parent Welcome Meeting

Thursday 18th September 9-9.45am — Year 5 Parent Welcome Meeting

Some other important dates for your diary are:

Tuesday 9th September — 4AA and 4TW Swimming lessons start (every Tuesday 8.30)

Tuesday 15th September—School photographer taking individual pupil photographs

Monday 29th September — 5BA & 5ST National Space Centre Leicester trip

Wednesday 1st October 3.45-6.15pm — Parents' Evening for all (letter to follow with more details)

Friday 3rd October — 5TR & 5GJ National Space Centre Leicester trip

Wednesday 8th October 3.45-6.15pm — Parents' Evening for all (letter to follow with more details)

Friday 17th October — Year 6 Black Country Museum trip

Have a great weekend everyone, and don't forget to wear a waterproof coat with your name on it to school next week for playtimes, thank you!



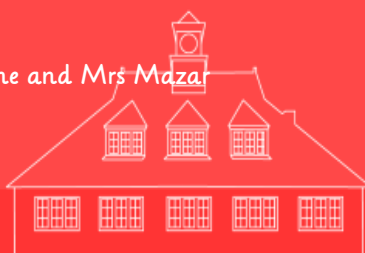
Cathy Grace, Headteacher

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace

Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason

Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone and Mrs Mazal

Chair of Governors—Mr Subat Khan



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Author of the Month 'September'

Nicola Davies is an acclaimed English author and zoologist known for her engaging children's books that often blend themes of nature and environmentalism.

Background

Nicola Davies was born on May 3, 1958, and has built a career that combines her passion for wildlife with storytelling. She was one of the original presenters of the BBC children's wildlife program The Really Wild Show, which helped park her interest in communicating about nature to young audiences.



Nicola Davies



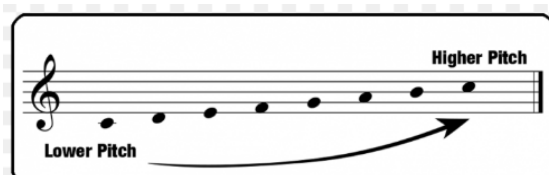
Scan the QR code below to access Nicola's Website!



Musical word of the month...

Each month, we like to share a new musical word for everyone to learn about! The musical word of the month for September is:

Pitch - how high or low a musical note is



Invite you to share in a Harvest Lunch

Saturday 13th September 2025

12pm – 2.30pm

Dolphin Centre Café

Ward End Park B8 2HB

You are invited to enjoy a homegrown lunch that has been prepared and served at The Dolphin Centre Café.

The WASH Project and Friends of Ward End Park have worked with HMP Birmingham at Winson Green. They have grown vegetables from seeds, which they passed onto us to continue growing and serve to Ward End community.

RSVP by the 8th September to Jayne at urbanharvest@nortonhall.org.uk or call Jayne on 0797 073 0646. Numbers are strictly limited, please book soon.



The school year starts in September. There are 195 school days in each year (39 weeks).
Pupils spend 190 days (38 weeks) in school each year; 5 of the 195 days are reserved for training teachers and support staff.

School Year 2025 to 2026

Autumn Term 2025

Term starts: **Monday 1 September 2025 (Teacher Training Day 1)**

Pupils start: Tuesday 2 September 2025

Half-term: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025

Teacher Training Day 2 - Monday 3 November 2025

Pupils start: Tuesday 4 November 2025

Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Term starts: **Monday 5 January 2026 (Teacher Training Day 3)**

Pupils start: Tuesday 6 January 2026

Half-term: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026

Bank Holiday: Monday 4 May 2026

Teacher Training Day 4: Thursday 4 May 2026

Half-term: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Pupils last day: Friday 17 July 2026

Term ends: **Monday 20 July 2026 (Teacher Training Day 5)**

P.E.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately as lessons may take place outside (weather permitting). It is really important that the children have as much time exercising outside as possible. We would be really grateful if you could support us by making sure your child comes to school in appropriate P.E. kit on the day they have P.E..

We do not expect children to wear normal uniform on their P.E. day.

A perfect P.E. kit consists of the following:

Blue or black jog bottoms or shorts

White Thornton t-shirt or a plain white or blue t-shirt

Trainers or black plimsolls

Warm blue or black round neck jumper or tracksuit top



PE TIMETABLE

Monday 8th September

Year 5

Tuesday 9th September

Swimming for 4AA and 4TW.

Wednesday 10th September

Year 4

Thursday 11th September

Year 6

Friday 12th September

Year 3

Contact Form

We urgently need you to **complete and return the contact form** that was sent out this week. Please complete the contact form with your updated details and return it to your child's class teacher on Monday, thank you.

This form is extremely important as it is used to safeguard your child/children.



Dinner Money Price Increase

Dinner money for school meals has increased to **£13.50** per week from 1st September 2025.

1 day - £2.70

2 days - £5.40

3 days - £8.10

4 days - £10.80

5 days - £13.50



Healthy Snacks

Children can bring a healthy, **nut free** snack to have at break time. For example, children can have a piece of fruit or a nut free cereal bar during break time. **Strictly no nuts are allowed in school as we have children with severe nut allergies.** Please do not send your child to school with unhealthy snacks such as crisps and chocolates.

Break time snacks really help give the children a boost of energy until lunchtime!

Thank you for your support.

Parent Pay

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of each week, thank you. If you need any support with payment please contact the school office who will be happy to talk with you.

Dinner money and Club money must be paid in advance via Parent Pay, thank you:

Dinner money is £2.70 per day and £13.50 per week.

Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day and £1 for each siblings.

After school club is £4 per day and £2 for each siblings.

The late pickup charge is £4 for each pupil picked up after 4pm.



Healthy Packed Lunch

Please ensure you send your child to school with a healthy packed lunch consisting of a:

Healthy Sandwich

Piece of Fruit

Yogurt

Healthy drink (not fizzy or energy types!)

Thank you for your support.

