



17th November 2023

# Thursfield News

## Class of the week— Y5

For their excellent work in mathematics. Great teamwork to support problem solving and reasoning.

### Dates for the Diary

- Monday 20th November—Non uniform day for the Christmas Fayre
- Wednesday 22nd November—Academy photos deadline
- Wednesday 22nd November—TT Rockstars Dress up
- Friday 8th December—New Vic Theatre Trip
- Year 5/6 Bikeability—12th & 13th December

If anyone has any pre-loved Christmas nativity costumes, please send in to school and we will share them out with KS1 and Reception.

### Art Block

If you have an old oversized T-shirt please send into school with your child next week, so they can wear this during the creative lessons, Thank you

To relaunch The Times Tables Rockstars, we will be holding a Rockstar day on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**.

Children are encouraged to dress up as a rock star on the day and will complete lots of exciting math challenges linked to Times tables and number bonds.

The focus of Times Tables Rock Stars is to: -  
Support children to learn their times tables and the associated division facts  
- Increase the speed of multiplication recall  
- Improve accuracy of multiplication recall

### Christmas at Thursfield



**Santa's Grotto & Christmas Fayre—Saturday 25th November 2023**

#### Christmas Dates

Early Years Nativity—Wed 6th 5.15pm & Thurs 7th 2.15pm December

KS1 Christmas Performance - Wed 13th 5.30pm & Thurs 14th 2pm December

Years 3 & 4 - Winter Workshop—Wed 13th December 2pm

### Non Uniform Day

Monday 20th November

Please bring in donations for the Christmas Fayre

Reception—Hamper Items

KS1— Chocolate or Sweets

KS2—Bottles

Reception Open Morning Event for Sept '24 - Tues 5th Dec @9.30am & Thurs 11th Jan @ 9.30am



### Children in Need 2023

Thank you to everyone who has donated to Children in Need 2023. On Wednesday the cake sale organised by the School Council raised £190.00. We will add this to the donations made via Arbor and share the total amount raised next week. Thank you for your support!

Please continue for Golden Book & E-safety

Congratulations to Tess for winning the Good to be Green for this week.



### Golden Book Winners for Writing

RRB— Archie M	3/4P— Leo H
RKT— Jacob B	4T— Noah H
1/2M—Olivia H	5M— Lily-Grace P
1/2R—Oliver M	5/6B— Frankie A
2O—Ada J	5/6R— Rafe K
3RT— Jake S	

### Whole School Attendance — 97%

RRB— 96%	RKT—99%	1/2M— 96%	1/2R— 100%	2O— 97%	
3RT—100%	3/4P—94%	4T—94%	5M—95%	5/6B—98%	5/6R— 96%

Last week's winners: 1/2R & 3RT

Please continue for E-safety & Children in Need

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.



### INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.



### REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.



### UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.



### A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.



### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.



## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.



### CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.



### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.



### CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.



### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

