

# Monthly Newsletter

## December 2025



Dear Parents and Carers, welcome to the December 2025 newsletter. Our last newsletter of the academic year. I would like to start this newsletter by saying a BIG thank you to everyone who attended our Open Evening on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025 - what lovely children and families. Please remember the deadline to apply for a Reception place for September 2026 is Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Places will be offered on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026. You can read more via the following links: <https://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/apply-reception-place-primary-school> and <https://eyes-par-portal.hartlepool.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>



This newsletter not only contains valuable information about what happened last month, it also contains important information about our upcoming events such as our festive Christmas celebrations!

### NEW PARENT GOVERNOR

I am delighted to announce that you have elected Ms. Amy Warnes as your new parent governor. Amy has already attended her first full-governing body meeting and made a significant impact. Here is a reminder of her pen-portrait:

Hi, my name is **Amy Warnes**, my son Jacob is in Year 3 at Throston. As a working parent, I'm passionate about every child feeling happy and confident! I am an Organisational Development & HR Manager on a Chemical Site. Focusing on people and their wellbeing whilst also looking at strategic growth and business development. I have experience as a youth worker and in my current role I actively promote STEM within school(s). I believe that my experience will add value to this role and can support promoting wellbeing and inclusion. I am excited for this opportunity. I will be an advocate for parents' voices. I believe my energetic, friendly, and empathetic attitude, along with communication skills and strategic thinking could support and add value to the school governing body.

### ABSENCE

Absence numbers are currently high across school, please be extra vigilant at home with hand washing and ensure you follow the 48-hour rule for Sickness and Diarrhoea. Thank you in advance.



## **VERY SAD NEWS**

Unfortunately, I am the bearer of incredibly sad news, our pianist and drama superstar Mr. David Gibson has passed away. As you may know he was battling illnesses and was hoping to be back to help in drama club in the new year.

Naturally, as a school we are devastated by his passing, he has been a great friend to the school for many, many years. Mr. Gibson has helped the school with every drama performance depicted in our school corridor. He was not only an exceptionally talented teacher, musician, and singer; he was a kind gentleman who inspired countless children to sing and play an instrument (not to mention his role leading choirs and other music events outside of school). His passing will leave a hole in the hearts of so many people that knew him. We will ensure the school has a fitting tribute to Mr. Gibson, our real-life musical superhero. Our thoughts are with his family at this time of sadness. We will let you decide if you wish to share this sad news with your children before we inform members of drama club during our Thursday rehearsals. Needless to say, we will support as much as we can.

## **WELCOME NEW THROSTIES**

A very warm welcome to all our new children who have joined us last month. We hope they are enjoying school, adapting to routines, and making lots of new friends.

- Our newest Nursery Throsties: Isaac Burgon, Phoebe Gustavson, Orla McIver, Aoife Richardson, Marcus Walsh, and Hallie-Jo Winlow.
- Our newest Reception to Year 6 Throsties: Liam Hart (Reception) and Lilly Hart (Year 3).

Last month we also said goodbye to Charlie and Maya Whitelock as they left us to commence a new journey. Good luck to the Whitelock family, we miss you!

## **BOOK FAIR**

Thank you to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair. We will soon let you know how much we raised. A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Feroz for organising this initiative.

## **CARDTASTIC**

Thank you to everyone who purchased items linked to their child's Christmas card design, so far, we have raised **£547.65** for the school (<https://classfundraising.co.uk/>).

## **NEW FLAG**

We hope you like our new flag, showing our Phoenix flying high!



## **HELPING AT CHRISTMAS TIME**

Our superstar Henry Winwood and former superstar pupil Alexis Winwood, are currently collecting donations of Christmas selection boxes and tubes of sweets for the Newcastle RVI Children's Cancer Ward. If you would like to donate to this very worthy cause, please pass any donations to the school office or our Phoenix Room. Thank you in advance! The cutoff date is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

## **WHEELY GOOD**

Thank you to everyone who brought their bike to Dr. Bike. We hope to run a similar event next year. The team did say our bikes were in good condition compared to other establishments they have visited. Well done parents and carers!

## **ROTARY CLUB COMMUNITY DRAW - 01/12/2025**

Thank you to our exceptional RotaKids who sold over **£500** worth of tickets, 90% of which comes back to the school. The 13 RotaKids are doing a fantastic job in their new role. Fingers crossed we have some Throstie Winners. Alan Lakey from 'The Rotary Club' stated he was blown away by the work of the RotaKids.



### ONLINE HEROES

Thank you to everyone who attended Mrs. Sharp's drop-in session on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025. If you still need help with your child's online resources, or need a device to access the Internet, please contact Mrs. Sharp via ClassDojo.

### POPPY HEROES

Well done to our entire school family who observed a 2-minute silence impeccably on Armistice Day during our special 'Poppy Day' assembly at 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. A special well done to Year 5 for reciting the war poem 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae and our RotaKids for telling us about the diverse types of remembrance poppy. Our Throsties will remember them. We will soon let you know how much we raised via the sale of poppy merchandise in our school.

### REQUEST FROM THE LA AND KIM ROWNTREE

<https://yoursay.hartlepool.gov.uk/childcare-survey-2025>

We would like to know your thoughts about formal childcare (this can be childminder, day care, nursery, school nursery, breakfast club, afterschool club, holiday club, family and friends are informal childcare). We want to know what you think about paid-for childcare even if you do not use it (however, we don't need you to tell us about informal childcare provided by family or friends). As funding for formal childcare varies depending on your child's age, we want to hear from parents and carers of children of all age groups. Your answers will help Hartlepool's Early Year Team make sure there are enough childcare places. If you need help to fill out this form, please call 01429 523195. Thank you for your help. The survey closes on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.



### WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH?

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Children from Year 3 and Year 4 (Lower Key Stage 2) participated in a fun sports festival at Brierton Sports Centre.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Well done to our two football teams who played in 'The Road to Wembley' tournament at High Tunstall. Both teams were unlucky to go out at the semi-final stage (the boys lost on penalties). We are immensely proud of all our players!



**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** On this day we had our 'Odd Socks Day'. We did this to celebrate our individuality and what makes us all unique.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Early Years participated in World Nursery Rhyme Week with Tees Valley Music Service. A big thank you to Mrs. Masshedar (our music lead) for organising this.





**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** On this day, some of our children in Key Stage 2 had the opportunity to listen to (face-to-face or virtually) the British tech journalist and television presenter Georgie Barrat. She talked about AI and what jobs of the future make look like.



**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Well done to our children who participated in a fun athletics event at Mill House. They all gave 100%.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Dear Parents and Carers, thank you so much for supporting our 'Pudsey' day. The children all looked 'SPOT-tacular'. We finished the day with a fun assembly, linked to the theme of 25 in 2025. We had 25 seconds of differing activities from jumping, to reading, to singing to dancing and even times-tables. Thanks to your help, Throston Primary School has raised an exceptional **£692.04** for Children in Need. Well done Throsties!

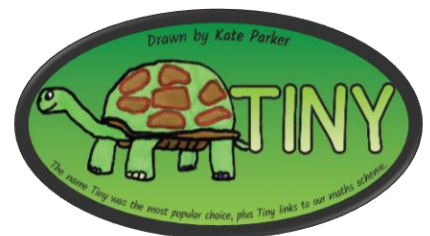


**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025:** Well done to our amazing swimming team, which came second in the large school annual swimming gala. There were also lots of individual and team successes.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025:** Well done to everyone that tried so hard during our 'England Rocks Times Tables' competition. The top twenty ranked children all received sweets and a book from our vending machine. The maths superstars are Alfie Donaldson, Hugo Shepherd, Harry Arnell, Finlay Wilkinson, Flynn Atkinson, Isaac Hicks, Evie Cussons, Lucan Picken, Henri Wood, Daisy Smith, Amelie Neill, Macie Woodward, Charlie Martin, Daisy Atkinson, Amelia Howe, Sidney Reeder, Grace Lilley, Thea Wass, Mia Bates, and Rose Banks.



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025:** On this day we announced the name of our tortoise. Kate Parker's picture was selected for our new sign, whilst the winning name was Tiny. All the children who suggested this name (and Kate) received a bag of sweets. The new sign will go above Tiny's home.



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025:** Can you spot our rockets? Thank you to everyone who participated and supported our 'Wintertide Parade'. A second big thank you to Miss. Younghusband our arts lead for organising.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Well done to our children who took part in a Sports Hall Festival at Mill House. The children successfully adapted to participating in so many different events.



**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025:** Well done to our footballers that braved the weather to take penalties during a half-time competition at Pools. Unfortunately, it was not our day. Nonetheless, it was great to hear of great collaboration and resilience.





## UPCOMING KEY EVENTS

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** Non-Uniform Day and Assembly for Danny's Legacy #forever31. Children are encouraged to wear black and white, the colour linked to Danny. There will be a special assembly at 9.45am.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** Online Bookings for our Christmas Shows commence (9.00am). Two tickets per show, per family.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** Catch-up Photographs (9.00am onwards). Deadline for ordering: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025, in order to receive images by Christmas.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** Year 4 at St. Luke's Church - Wreath Making (morning).

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** Snappy Christmas @ Mill House.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** 5-Year-Old Dentist Check (afternoon).

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** PINS Coffee Afternoon (2.45pm to 3.15pm).

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 to Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Clothing Exchange Week (3.15pm to 3.45pm). The P.T.A will be running a swap shop style stall for unwanted Christmas clothing. Instead of asking for payment for any items we would like a contribution towards our Christmas raffle, anything from biscuits to baubles or candles to candy canes! Any items left at the end of the event will be donated to one of the Alice House Hospice Shops.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025:** Rotary Community Raffle Draw (7.30pm).

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Dodgeball Competition in Billingham.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Deadline to purchase a disco ticket (12.00pm).

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Christmas P.T.A Disco.

**Early Years:** 2.45pm to 3.30pm.

**Years 1, 2 and 3:** 3.45pm to 4.30pm.

**Years 4, 5 and 6:** 4.45pm to 5.30pm.

£3.50 per child payable via SchoolMoney.



Each child will be provided with a goodie bag to take home. Thank you to our P.T.A for organising this event. If you wish to join and help organise future events, please contact the school office.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Throstie Tots Christmas Party.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Panathlon for Key Stage 2 at Queen's Campus Stockton-on-Tees.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day 2025.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Our school will be participating in a Reindeer Run to raise money for Alice House Hospice. If you would like your child to take part, we are asking for a payment of £2 per child. All children who take part will receive a reindeer nose and an antler headband. To take part in this fun, festive event, please log in to your SchoolMoney account and make your donation before Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** From 3:30pm till 5:30pm, Throston Primary School are having their Christmas Fayre which is linked to My Money Week. At the fayre, children will be selling Christmas products they have made, and you will have the opportunity to play games to win prizes. The year group who raises the most money will receive an individual medal. On the evening you will have the opportunity to meet Santa, who will be available for photographs, you will also receive a cookie from one of his elves.



### MY MONEY WEEK WINNERS

**2025 Winner:** Who will it be?

**2024 Winner:** Nursery (Mrs. Davies). Product: Photo Frames with a profit of £299.70.

**2023:** No winner due to the Coronation of Charles III and charity events.

**2022 Winner:** Nursery (Mrs. Oldfield). Product: Jubilee Slime with a profit of £116.00.

**2020 and 2021:** No winner due to COVID-19.

**2019 Winner:** Class 8, Year 3 (Mrs. Fleetham-Reid). Product: Snowman Flannels with a profit of £88.60.

**2018 Winner:** Class, Year 3 (Mrs. Fleetham-Reid). Product: Snow globes and tea light holders with a profit of £86.00.

**2017 Winner:** Year 6 (Mr. Molyneux, Mrs. Ord, and Mrs. Samuel). Product: World War II related items such as airplanes, candles, and paperweights with a profit of £154.35.

**2016 Winner:** Year 6 (Mrs. Ord, Mrs. Robins, and Mrs. Samuel). Product: Wristbands with a profit of £147.48.

**2015 Winner:** Class 12, Year 5 (Mrs. J. Bell). Product: Feed the Baby Ghost with a profit of £138.06.

**2014 Winner:** Class 10, Year 4 (Mrs. Mudgway). Product: Greek Tombola with a profit of £148.50.

**2013 Winner:** Class 12, Year 5 (Mrs. Mincher). Product: Airplanes and Marbles with a profit of £113.40.

**2012 Winner:** Class 10, Year 4 (Mrs. Moor). Product: Pyramids with a profit of £75.00.

**2011 Winner:** Class 7, Year 3 (Mrs. Robins). Product: Friendship Bands with a profit of £74.50.

**2010 Winner:** Class 9, Year 4 (Mrs. Fleetham-Reid). Product: Ice Lollies and Jelly with a Profit of £213.55.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Deadline to enter our Christmas Raffle. Tickets are on sale now for £3 each, linked to each child's SchoolMoney account. Additional tickets are available to purchase in the school shop. Any contributions towards prizes can be handed in to the school office. Thank you to Mrs. Kerr for her kind donations to start us off.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Year 3 to sing at Lynton Court (10.00am).

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Year 4 to sing at Merlin Manor Retirement Home (10.00am).

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Year 6 to sing at Hartlepool Hospital (1.00pm).

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Christmas Raffle Draw.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Stay and Play in the Phoenix Room (morning).

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Year 5 to sing at Hartfields (10.00am).

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Children break up for the Christmas Holidays.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026:** Children return to school after the Christmas Holidays.

#### **CHRISTMAS SHOWS 2025:**

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Year 5 9.15am and 1.30pm	Year 2 9.15am and 1.30pm	Reception 9.15am and 1.30pm	Year 1 9.15am and 1.30pm
Year 6 10.30am and 2.30pm	Year 4 10.30am and 2.30pm	Nursery 10.30am and 2.30pm	Year 3 10.30am and 2.30pm

#### **CHRISTMAS PARTIES 2025:**

Date	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Morning	Nursery (Party 1 of 2)				Reception, Phoenix Room and Year 3
Afternoon	Nursery (Party 2 of 2)	Year 6	Year 1, Year 4, and Year 5	Year 2	

#### **COMMUNITY POLICE DROP-IN**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025:** Police-Drop-in (5.00pm to 6.00pm).



#### **CHRISTMAS IS COMING!**

Please remember we break up for the Christmas holidays on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Children return to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. I am sure I will get the opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas at one of our many Christmas shows; however, if I do not, I would like to take the opportunity to wish all of our Throstie Families a very Merry, Safe, and Fun-filled Christmas!

#### **YOUR COMMENTS**

If you have any comments on this newsletter or any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to contact me.  
Kindest regards, Mr. Atkinson, Head Teacher.














# School Nurse Drop In

**Your School Nurses are  
Rebecca Smith and Mardia Ali**

We will be holding drop-in sessions in school on:

 EXAM WORRIES   MENTAL/EMOTIONAL WELLBEING   HEALTHY LIFESTYLES   SOCIAL MEDIA	 TOILETING   SLEEP	<p>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025</p> <p>Wednesday 21st January 2026</p> <p>Wednesday 25th March 2026</p> <p>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026</p> <p>All 08:45-09:45am Please come and see us.</p>	 BULLYING   HEADLICE   PUBERTY / BODY CHANGES   DENTAL HYGIENE   LGBTQ   BEHAVIOUR
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**HARTLEPOOL  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## 1 HART, 1 MIND, 1 FUTURE COFFEE MORNING




**Parent Carer drop-in coffee mornings 10.30am-11.30am**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2025  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2025  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026


**Our parent carer forum will be holding drop-in information mornings at  
Throston Primary School.**

**This is part of the PINs – Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools –  
Project.**

**NO DIAGNOSIS IS NEEDED**







## CODE OF CONDUCT

Below you can view our new parent and carer 'Code of Conduct.' Thank you in advance in helping to abide by the code. Please remember if you have an issue to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

**Support and reflect the school's rules and Throstie values through your behaviour.**

**1**

**Promote the health and safety of our school community**

For example, by not smoking or vaping on school grounds, making sure your child doesn't ride a scooter or bike on school grounds, helping to keep school clean and safe.

**2**

**Set a good example**

Through modelling how to behave with staff, pupils and other adults.

**3**

**Work with us**

Work together with staff members for the benefit of your child and to resolve any issues of concern by making an appointment to discuss any concerns.

**4**

**Communicate respectfully at all times**

Use ClassDojo, social media and the school telephone (including the school answering machine) appropriately.

**5**



## Pre-loved school uniform



**We have a small selection of pre-loved school uniform available to help our families and care for the planet. Please ask at the office if you would like to come and see what we have.**

**If you have any clean uniform in good condition that you would like to donate, please drop it off at the office.  
Thank you very much.**







## Online Safety and Online Learning Resources workshop for parents and carers

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January  
3.30pm - 4.30pm

In today's digital age, ensuring the safety of our children online is more important than ever. Join us for our Online Safety Workshop, designed to help you to protect your child in the virtual world. We will also show you some of the online learning resources you and your child have access to, to support their learning at home as well as at school.

No need to book - just come along.