



12
September
2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to what we hope will be another new and exciting year at Twyford! It is with great pleasure that I write my first newsletter as headteacher of the school and I am looking forward to getting to know you all. Thank you for the warm welcome that you have all given me during my first few days – it has been very much appreciated. We are now at the end of our first, very enjoyable, full week back.

Staffing:

As you will no doubt be aware, there have been some staffing changes in the school and these are outlined below. Mrs Genevieve Thurlow has now commenced her maternity leave and we wish her all the best for this new and exciting chapter in her life. In her place we welcome Mrs Marianna Joseph, who will be teaching Year 1 in the mornings and Year 1 and 2 in the afternoons during this academic year. Mrs Hannah Oakes has also taken over the role as our Nursery Leader. We wish them the best of luck in their new roles.

The School Day:

Timings of the school day at Twyford remain the same for this academic year. Doors will be opened in the morning at 8.40am for children from Reception to Year 6. The main gate will be closed at 8.45am, after which time children will need to enter school via the school office. The afternoon session ends at 3.15pm. Lunchtime takes place between 12.00pm and 1.00pm. Nursery sessions run between 9.00am and 3.00pm but children can start at 8.40am for the cost of £1.

Attendance, Holidays and Reporting Absences

At the start of the Autumn term, the school year seems to stretch out before us. However, it is also worth reflecting on how quickly the time goes and the importance of making sure that the children do not miss out on any of it. This includes making sure that your children arrive at school punctually, as there are always early work activities for them to get on with as soon as they arrive in class.

Should your child be unwell, please ensure that you contact the school office as soon as possible on the day of absence. If they have been sick or had an upset stomach, we ask that they stay at home for 48 hours to prevent any potential spread of infection.

Should you need to take your child out of school during term time, you will need to fill in an absence request form, which is available from the school office. All requests for holidays within term time will be unauthorised, in line with government policy, and may be subject to a fine.

Uniform

It has been fantastic to see all of our Twyford children looking so smart in their uniform so far this term! Wearing uniform helps to give each child a sense of identity and belonging at Twyford school, and it is expected that each child wears the correct uniform at all times. More details on uniform and the school uniform policy can be found in the Parent Information section of the school website. For safety reasons, the only jewellery permitted is a watch and one stud earring per ear.

Uniform can be ordered through our supplier, PL Schoolwear, but we also have a stock of pre-loved uniform in school. All items cost 50p each. Please ask at the office if there is something you require and we will do our best to

find it for you! Should you have any unwanted or outsized school uniform items at home (particularly those with a school logo on them), please bring them into the school office and we will add them to our pre-loved stock. All we ask is that items are washed first.

School Meals

School meals continue to be provided by Fresh Start Catering and can be ordered using the meal manager app <https://mealmanager.freshstartcatering.uk/> . Meals need to be ordered in advance by noon on the Thursday the week before the meals are required.

Wraparound Care

This year, NXT Level continue to offer breakfast and after school club sessions at Twyford, at very competitive prices. Sessions can be booked in advance through the NXT Level website.

Instrumental Lessons

Max from XYZ music will be teaching class music lessons every Tuesday this academic year. XYZ are also able to provide individual instrumental lessons in piano, guitar, woodwind and drumming. More information about this can be found on the school website, where there is a link to the enrolment forms.

Class Newsletters:

This year, we are trialling a more user-friendly approach to class newsletters and we hope that you like our new format. Class newsletters will be sent out this week, but we also publish them on the school website too.

Reading at Home:

At Twyford, we believe that is so important for every child to read regularly at home. Children will be provided with a reading diary to record their home reading and they are able to earn points for every day they read at home- as long as their reading diary has been signed. Reading awards are given out in our celebration assembly every Friday. It's never too late to get started!

Toddler Group Sessions:

Our very successful toddler group will continue to run on Fridays between 9.45am and 11am in the school hall. There is no need to pre-book sessions – just turn up and enjoy! We ask for a contribution of £2 per family to cover running costs and resources.

School Houses:

Every child at Twyford is in one of our three school houses: Churchill, Nightingale and Rothschild. Children can earn house points and each term the winning house is able to choose a treat as their reward. Every Monday, house assemblies are held and this provides an opportunity for the children in each house to meet together. At the moment, children who are interested in being house captains are preparing their pitches. We look forward to finding out who are new house captains will be!

Driving and Parking Near School:

We understand that many of you can't avoid having to travel to and from school by car. However, please be considerate of our neighbours when parking (for however short a time), ensuring that driveways are not blocked, that the roads are still passable for other road users and that your speed is sensible. Thank you in advance for this.

Diary Dates

All dates are available to view on the website school calendar [here](#).

New Diary Dates

The dates for staff training (INSET) over the coming year have been agreed and added to the school calendar. Please make sure you familiarise yourself with them because school will be closed to pupils on these days. We have our next INSET day coming up on Monday 29th September, which is earlier than in previous years.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Sam Thompson

Headteacher

We Learn Together; Grow Together; Achieve Together knowing that Jesus said:

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit."

John 15:5



TERM DATES 2025/2026

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|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Autumn 1 Term 2025 | 4 th September 2025 | 24 th October 2025 |
| Autumn 2 Term 2025 | 3rd November 2025 | 19 th December 2025 |
| Spring 1 Term 2026 | 6 th January 2026 | 13 th February 2026 |
| Spring 2 Term 2026 | 23 rd February 2026 | 27 th March 2026 |
| Summer 1 Term 2026 | 13 th April 2026 | 22 nd May 2026 |
| Summer 2 Term 2026 | 1st June 2026 | 21 st July 2026 |

**Twyford
C of E
School**



**School
Diary**



**12
September
2025**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| | | |
|--|-----|---------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 3rd September 2025 | | INSET Day – no children in school |
| Thursday 4th September 2025 | | School re-opens after summer break |
| Tuesday 9th September 2025 | New | Year 6 Transfer Test – Practise Paper |
| Thursday 11th September 2025 | New | Year 6 Transfer Test |
| Monday 15th September | | Bikeability for Year 5 |

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| Tuesday 16th September | | Bikeability for Year 5 |
| Monday 29th September 2025 | | INSET Day – no children in school |
| Thursday 2nd October 2025 | New | Year 5 & 6 Residential Trip meeting 6.30-7.30pm |
| Wednesday 22nd October 2025 | New | Harvest Festival 9.15am |
| Friday 24th October 2025 | | School breaks up for half term |
| Monday 3rd November 2025 | | School re-opens after half term |
| Tuesday 4th November 2025 | New | Parents' Evening 3.30-6.00pm |
| Wednesday 5th November 2025 | New | Individual Photographs |
| Wednesday 5th November 2025 | New | Parents' Evening 3.30-6.00pm |
| Tuesday 11th November 2025 | New | SEND Review Parents' Evening 3.30-5.30pm |
| Thursday 6th November 2025 | | Flu Immunisations Reception – Year 6 |
| Tuesday 9th December 2025 | New | Year 1 & 2 Nativity 2pm |
| Wednesday 10th December 2025 | New | Year 1 & 2 Nativity 6pm |
| Friday 12th December 2025 | New | School Christmas Dinner |
| Tuesday 16th December 2025 | New | KS2 Carol Concert 7pm |
| Wednesday 17th December 2025 | New | Reception & Nursery Christmas singalong 2pm |
| Friday 19th December 2025 | | School breaks up for Christmas holiday |
| Monday 5th January 2026 | | INSET Day – no children in school |
| Tuesday 6th January 2026 | | School re-opens after Christmas break |
| Friday 13th February 2026 | | School breaks up for half term |
| Monday 23rd February 2026 | | School re-opens after half term |
| Friday 13th March 2026 | | INSET Day – no children in school |
| Friday 27th March 2026 | | School breaks up for Easter holiday |
| Monday 13th April 2026 | | School re-opens after Easter break |
| Monday 11th to Friday 15th May 2026 | | SATs week for Year 6 |
| Friday 22nd May 2026 | | School breaks up for half term |
| Monday 1st June 2026 | | School re-opens after half term |
| Tuesday 21st July 2026 | | School breaks up for summer |
| Wednesday 22nd July 2026 | | INSET Day– no children in school |