Freethorpe Primary School

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AIM Federation: Small schools, big opportunities

Thursday 12th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of **Money Week** last week, children in Years 1–6 had the opportunity to take part in a series of fun and engaging financial education workshops, led by one of our parents who works for NatWest.

The sessions were delivered through **NatWest Thrive**, a free and impartial financial education programme designed to help children develop important money skills in an enjoyable and accessible way.

Through a range of interactive activities, games and discussions, the children explored different aspects of money and began to develop their understanding of financial awareness, making choices and managing money.

We would like to say a huge thank you to this parent for providing a fantastic opportunity to our children. It is wonderful to be able to draw on the skills, knowledge and experiences of our school community to enrich our curriculum and bring learning to life.

How can you continue learning at home?

There are lots of simple ways to build on what the children have learned:

- **Talk about money:** Discuss the different ways we pay

NatWest Thrive at home

Not sure where to start when it comes to talking to your child about money? Don't worry, we have a range of free activities to prompt conversations with

games – search for NatWest Thrive Parents and Guardians on the internet to find out more

How do I get started?





Our parent articles are a great way to get expert advice on key money topics - and once you're ready, there are a range of activities to start with your child. Try setting some time aside to cover the basics such as budgeting, saving and pocket money - you'll be amazed at how quickly your child starts to take an interest in money!

for things, including cash, cards and contactless payments.

- **Play shop:** Give your child a budget and encourage them to choose items, add up costs and work out any change.
- **Saving goals:** Encourage your child to save towards something they would like, talking about how much they need and how long it might take.
- **Compare prices:** When shopping, look at different prices and discuss which items offer the best value for money.
- **Needs and wants:** Talk about the difference between things we need and things we would like to have.

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Your child took part in the NatWest Thrive 'smoothie shop' workshop today



During this workshop, your child and their classmates became mini entrepreneurs as they were tasked with setting up their very own smoothie shop. This fun lesson taught them all about spending, saving and budgeting – and gave them a basic understanding of enterprise.

Questions you could ask your child:

- What did you learn about money today?
- What did you enjoy most about setting up a shop?
- If you had your own shop, what would you sell?



Family shopping

Now that your child has got to grips with the basics of spending and budgeting, why not ask them to help build your next family shopping list? There's a handy template on the NatWest Thrive website that canbe printed off and added to by the whole family. For more fun spending activities, visit the NatWest Thrive website and search 'shopping'.

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Your child took part in the NatWest Thrive 'It's party time!' workshop today



Your child had lots of fun today setting up a party and learning all about budgeting! From the cake and decorations to the entertainment and party bags – your child was in control of the budget and learnt how to make the most of it.

Questions you could ask your child:

- What did you learn about budgeting today?
- Did you enjoy planning your party?
- What are the most important things you need at a party?



Plan a playdate!

Next time your child has a playdate, turn it into a planning and budgeting exercise. Sit down and work out the snacks, drinks and activities they'd like for the day. Then take them to the supermarket and ask them to help you find the cheapest items. For more fun budgeting activities visit, natwestthrive.com

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Kind regards,

Mrs Kathryn Andrews
Head of School and SENDCo

Mrs Sarah Collier
Head of School and Class Teacher