

Thornbury Primary Newsletter

March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the Spring Term, there is lots to update you on.

The trial of Facebook has gone well to date. We will be continuing to trial this through the Summer Term.

Fundraising - The Friends of Thornbury organised a coin collection linked to the chance to name the new Trim Trail. Foundation raised the most money and have chosen the name - The Squirrel Run. The Squirrel Run is now in use across the school. The coin collection raised £335.32. Thank you all!

New date for your diary: Class Photos on Thursday 7th June.

Change of assembly dates: 2HT will be on 22/6 at 2.30pm, 3/4PA will be on 29/6 at 2.30pm.

We wish you all a very restful end of term break.

Claire Hardisty

The Lower Junior active learning project came to a lovely conclusion this week with a Tea dance. The children had been set up a brief to plan and organise an event which involved their community, raised money for charity and showed learning in history of wartime struggles and the Arts subjects.

The children invited residents from Pattinson Court, who they had previously visited, representatives from the Royal British legion and members of RAF Harrowbeer as well as Clearbrook villagers both of whom were met on their recent trip.

The Tea dance itself was a lovely celebration of what had been a very successful project. The visitors were very positive about the children's efforts. The exhibition of the children's work will be in the entrance hall until the end of the week.

This year's **Book Week** has been a great success. While reading has always been of the highest value and profile at Thornbury, weeks such as this give the children the opportunity to be immersed in books in many ways.

The visit from Steve Skidmore was very powerful across the school. As well as being highly entertaining, he gave the children really useful messages as writers including how good writers magpie ideas, the importance of editing and writing about what you love to read. Other book activities included a KS2 book quiz, story recital in the Infants, book pairing and sharing with mixed age classes from across the school, and of course sharing wonderful costumes linked to books the children had read. The classroom doors now reflect favourite books and authors for different year groups.

The sales of books was also really pleasing, with close to £700 worth of books sold across the week, including books written by Steve Skidmore which he signed.

We thank everyone for their efforts and wish happy reading to all!

There is an opportunity to work in the role of a crossing patrol at Thornbury; please contact roadsafety@plymouth.gov.uk for more details.

School Dinners and Uniform Orders

From Easter, school lunches are paid for via your Schoolmoney account, balances will be transferred from Parentpay on 29 March. Any queries, please call the office.

Uniform is also now purchased via school money; items in stock are available on the next school day after payment.

REMINDER - All children in the Foundation Stage and Year 1 and 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals and we would encourage you to take up this offer. The kitchen provides excellent cooked dinners.

Contacting school - 01752 302600

We are always happy to talk to families, so if you would like to help, or have any queries or worries, do speak to any staff member and we will do our best to help. Mrs Hardisty is around in school first thing, so after dropping off your child, come round to Reception if you would like to speak to me, or pass a note to the adult on the door and I will get back to you.

Parking on the school site - Important

REMINDER - the school car park is not for general use, unless dropping off your child for the Breakfast Club **before 8.30am**, or collecting from Afterschool club **after 3.30pm**.

- **Please do not use the emergency drop off space for parking unless it is an emergency.**
- **Parking should be in marked bays only.**
- **Please do not park on the cross hatched areas at any point - school SEN taxis are the exception to this rule.**
- **Please do not use the disabled parking space when dropping off or picking up unless you have a blue badge and are unaccompanied.**

Parking beyond the school site - Important

Please be considerate of our neighbours with your parking.

It has been reported to us on a number of occasions that cars are being parked and left blocking neighbours' driveways and on the verges which is obscuring the view across the road, making it dangerous to cross.

We receive regular complaints about this from our neighbours and have been advised that they should in future call the police directly.

PLEASE NOTE: A reminder that our latest newsletter is always posted on the school website which can be accessed through the school website: www.thornburyprimaryschool.co.uk

DATES for your Diary

(Full dates are published on the school website)

Thurs 29 th Mar	Last day for children
	<u>Fri 30th Mar - Fri 13th Apr - School Closed</u>
Mon 16 th Apr	Children return to school
Fri 4 th May	3/4 CW Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Mon 7 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
Fri 11 th May	2 GA Class Assembly 2.30pm
Mon 14 th - Fri 18 th May	SATs week for year 6
Fri 18 th May	Coffee Morning 9am
	Y1 JH Class Assembly 2.30pm
Fri 25 th May	Foundation Stage Assembly - 2.30pm
	Last day of term
	<u>Mon 28th May - Friday 1st June - School Closed</u>
Mon 4 th June	Children return to school
Thur 7 th June	Class Photos
Mon 11 th June	Transition Visits for new Foundation Stage 2018
Wed 13 th June	New Foundation 2018 Parent Meetings, 3.15pm & 6.15pm
Fri 15 th June	3/4 AD Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Fri 22 nd June	2 HT Class Assembly - 2.30pm NB Date change
Fri 29 th June	3/4 PA Class Assembly - 2.30pm NB Date change
TBC	Y6 Transition visits to Tor Bridge High
Week of 2 nd July	Annual Reports to be sent home
Thurs 5 th July	Foundation Stage Sports Afternoon

School News - March

Foundation - Miss Gerrard, Mrs Phillips & Miss Potts

Foundation Stage have been finishing their traditional tales this half term with Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

We have been looking at using mathematical language to describe size for Daddy bear, Mummy bear and Baby bear's belongings.

We have also been investigating height and ordering rockets that we have measured from shortest to tallest.

We have also been 'challenge champions', extending our learning independently!

Year 1 - Mrs Stelmaszyk & Miss Summerfield

We have enjoyed our 'out of this world' topic this term. The highlight was when we discovered a UFO had crashed into our school, we wrote questions to find out new information, we used a loud and clear voice when asking PC Mike about the event and finally used drama to recount what happened in the style of a news report. Even in maths we have been exploring space related measurement. We had to order the weight of moon rocks, measure the length of the comet tails, order Tim Peake's activities linked to time and estimate the capacity of Tim Peake's containers. We have impressed our teachers with our resilience.

Year 2 - Mrs Turner & Mrs Aspen

Year 2 are coming to the end of their 'Infinity and beyond' space topic and we had great fun launching our rockets on the school playground! We have been looking at pictures from the book 'Man on the moon' by Simon Bartam. We have been using the pictures to describe the setting and what the aliens are doing. In Maths we have been finding fractions of shapes and numbers and have used pizzas and sharing out sweets to help us with this. In Science we have been on a Spring walk, have made tally charts of what we saw and are now putting this information onto pictograms and bar charts.

Year 3 - Miss Dymond & Mrs Kitchenham

Year 3 and 4 have been looking at World War 2 this term, as part of this the children were given a brief. They had to organise an event, which involved the community, and showed their learning about the Blitz in Plymouth. After much discussion, the children chose to organise a 1940's style tea dance. In preparation for this event, the children made cakes, designed decorations and artwork, learnt songs and dances and even made some spitfire shaped invitations! The event was a great success with local community members commenting on how brilliantly year 3 and 4 had presented their event.

As part of our project, we have been studying Friend or Foe by Michael Morpurgo in Literacy. We have been focusing on a choice that the two main characters had to make: whether to help the crashed German pilots or hand them into the army. We discussed our feelings and used what we knew about the characters to decide.

Year 4 - Miss Walsh & Mr Abraham

We continue to work really hard to learn our times tables, with many of us now on to the last tables to practice, the 11x and 12x and some of us are now even onto the mixed practice. We are helped by regular use of Times Tables Rockstars and our tables booklets which we each have.

The Year 3 and 4 recent trip to RAF Harrowbear and Clearbrook village was a great success. We had the chance to go into shelters, see wartime vehicles and many artefacts. In Clearbrook we met local people who we pretended were potential evacuation families. We told them why we would be good to have as an evacuee. We were delighted that so many of our new friends and 'family' made it to our Tea dance.

Year 5 - Mr Line & Mrs French

In **maths** we have been using different resources to understand improper fractions and mixed numbers. The children have worked really hard to get to grips with a difficult concept and have shown their ability to explain and justify their solutions to a range of reasoning problems.

In **science** the class have been investigating the circulatory system and how a healthy lifestyle is important to maintain. With this in mind, in **literacy**, we have been learning to write balanced arguments about whether or not the school should have a cycle path built, and whether or not more children should walk, cycle or scooter to school. Our **human geography** unit has given the class the opportunity to look into different types of land use and discuss the importance of international trade links.

Year 6 - Mr Wallis & Miss Ives-Owen

Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Marjon to watch the musical 'Honk' performed by students. They asked interesting questions of the cast to learn more about performing arts.

During book week year 6 absorbed knowledge from a workshop based around story writing delivered by Steve Skidmore.

Combining their science and ICT skills, year 6 have created working computer models to explain the journey of a blood cell through the heart. They have also this term, been creating some interesting writing pieces using the story 'The Three Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig' as a stimulus.