

# Thornbury Primary Newsletter

December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you have managed to catch a glimpse of our own Poppy Wave in the entrance hall inspired by the memorial poppy wave which was on the Hoe. Our poppy art day was a huge success and our 'Thornbury Poppy Wave' even featured in the Herald on Saturday 8th November. Every child should be proud of the poppy they created in a range of mixed media, which is now on display in the entrance hall. The children led their learning and chose the type of poppy they wanted to create, they also worked collaboratively across the whole school. There was a buzz of creativity felt across the school all day. Well done to Y6 who led a very thought provoking remembrance assembly; we had very positive feedback from Johnny Mercer, our MP, who attended.



Christmas Performances - everyone should have had their booking form for ordering tickets to the Christmas performances. Please return to the class teacher by the agreed date as each team is allocating and sending out their own tickets this year. Please could resident parents make sure any apart parents have an allocation. On the evening performances, children need to be here at 5.40 (and no earlier please, as staff are having a break up to this point.)

Trim Trail - With the help of Mrs French, and the pupil Eco-Committee, we are really excited to announce that the new trim trail will be going into the school grounds after Christmas. This is largely using funds raised by the Friends, which has enable us to apply for a match funding grant. We are sure the children will enjoy playing and getting fit on this new equipment.

**URGENT** - Authorised people to Collect your child / media permissions and visit forms - we are still awaiting for a few of these forms to be returned. Could you please complete and return these as soon as possible.

Currently we are planning to launch the Facebook site after Christmas. It will be for information sharing purposes only and will be on a trial basis.

## School Dinners

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, especially as we move in to the winter months.

**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](http://www.thornburyprimaryschool.co.uk)

## 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. I am 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 - Important

**Can we please remind you to be considerate of our neighbours with your parking, especially as we get closer to the evening Christmas performances.**

May we also remind you that 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.**

## Changes to the CaterEd Menu

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December

- Vegetarian Sausage Hotdog or Jumbo Sausage Hotdog, Chips or pasta, Peas or beans
- Jacket potato with the usual toppings
- Jelly

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Dinner

- Turkey and Chipolata Sausage or Vegetarian Parcels
- Variety of seasonal vegetables
- Variety of Christmas treats

**Please note there will be no jacket potatoes served on this day. There will be a letter sent home in bookbags to pre-order the Christmas dinner. Please return completed to school by 11<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

## Last Day of term - Christmas Jumper Day

£1.00 donation please for Save the Children and for Jeremiah's Journey. Those not wishing to wear a Christmas jumper may wear their 'own clothes' jumper.

## DATES for your Diary

(Full dates are published on the school website)

Thur 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Fayre - 3.15pm
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y1/2 Christmas Productions 2pm & 6pm
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Productions 2pm & 6pm
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y5/6 Christmas Productions 2pm & 6pm
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Foundation Stage Nativity 9.30am & 2pm Coffee Morning 9am Y1/2 Party - 3.00-4.30pm Y5/6 Winter Party event 3.00 -4.45pm
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Choir Carol Service Christmas Lunch and Jumper day Last day of term
<b>Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec - Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 - School Closed</b>	
Thur 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Children return to school
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Y1 JH Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Open Morning - Focus: Maths/Rich Curriculum
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Y3/4 PA Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Coffee Morning 9am Y2 HT Class Assembly - 2.30pm Last day of term

# School News - December

## **Foundation - Miss Gerrard, Mrs Mantell & Miss Potts**

We have had lots of fun exploring the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' this term. In literacy, we enacted the story using masks and then we made a change to the story to create a new character. In maths, we have been counting out the right number of buttons to match numbered gingerbread men. We have also been looking at 2D shape and have found these in the environment. Across the curriculum we have learnt about different Festivals and Celebrations, including Diwali, fireworks and now Christmas. We are now getting ready for our Nativity production and are busy learning all of the new songs.

## **Year 1 - Miss Hounslow & Miss Summerfield**

Our topic this term has been ship to shore. We learnt about an event in local history and explored the sinking of the Kodima. We found out all about the timber that was washed ashore and how it was reused to make something beautiful. We made our own found object art in our school grounds. In literacy we wrote our very own seaside poems using verbs and adverbs. We have also been getting to know the story of 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch.' We even had a visit from Chris the RNLI coastguard, who talked about being safe at the coast. We are now working hard on our Christmas production and can't wait to share this with the school and wider community.

## **Year 2 - Mrs Turner & Mrs Aspen**

Year 2 have really enjoyed learning about the ship 'The Kodima' in our project 'Ship to shore'. We also had Mr Turner from the RNLI who came in to talk to us about beach safety and the role of the lifeguards & coastguards.

In Literacy we read the Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. We have come up with our own ideas to stop the seagulls and are going to use these to write our own stories.

## **Year 3 - Miss Dymond & Miss Anthony**

Year 3 have been working hard this term on their story writing. We have been learning the Saxon legend of Beowulf, to do this we created a story map and made actions to retell the story to a partner. We have now written our own version with a new monster, we made sure to include expanded noun phrases and exciting adjectives to describe how our monster looks and moves. In maths we have been learning all about operations. We have explored many different strategies to help us solve a range of problems. We have been drawing out our problem before we use jottings to solve it to make sure we understand what we are being asked. Our focus has been on problem solving using what we already know and what we can see in the problem. We are now working on our Christmas production. Each class is working on a poem-we are excited to share this!

## **Year 4 - Miss Walsh & Mr Abraham**

Our Literacy and project this term has linked to the Saxons. In Literacy we have studied and written stories linked to the legend Beowulf. In project we thought about what the Saxons looked for before they settled in our country. We then went into our school grounds to consider where we could make a settlement there and reasons why. In Science we were visited by Professor Arnold who made a claim about which materials are electrical conductors and which are electrical insulators, we then made circuits to investigate whether we agreed with his claim. We are now working hard on learning traditional Christmas carols and poems which describe the Nativity for our Christmas performance.

## **Year 5 - Mr Line & Mrs French**

This term our children have been extremely fortunate to experience the outdoor area. We investigated the local habitat under the guidance of Plymouth University's 'Citizen Science' programme - lots of worms, insects and bugs were found and the resulting data analysed. In Maths we explored factors and are learning how to work systematically to solve reasoning problems. In literacy the children have been creatively writing a quest story, focusing on character and setting description. In P.E. the children thoroughly enjoyed experiencing the ancient game of Kabaddi, which saw them excel in their communication skills. The technical footwork required transferred into their hockey house games. Finally, in preparation for Christmas, we have been busy making and decorating gingerbread biscuits (putting in to practise our food hygiene skills) to sell at the fayre - make sure you try them!

## **Year 6 - Mr Wallis & Miss Ives-Owen**

Year 6 really enjoyed their 'Remembrance Assembly' and wanted to say a big thank you to those who came. We are now working on some Christmas Stockings that we are stitching patterns onto ready for sale at the Christmas Fayre. It is safe to say threading a needle is probably the hardest part! In literacy we are writing our own non-linear quests, which despite being hard to wrap our heads around at the beginning, we are now getting into the swing of. Christmas rehearsals are also underway - be prepared for a show!