

# Thornbury Primary Newsletter

October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We are really pleased that we managed to go ahead with sports day. The children really enjoyed the activities, and it was a great day all round. Thanks to Mr Abraham and the Y5/6 sports council for organising this event.

Last week, a number of Y5 and 6 pupils went on residential to Grenville House, taking part in lots of challenging activities such as sailing, coastering, and even bed making! Y5/6 who didn't go to Grenville House also had a great activity week in school. Thanks to Miss Walsh and all the staff who made these opportunities possible.

Year 6 yesterday went on an aspirations day at Leigham, and joined together with our other Y6 Academy Trust pupils - they had a great day.

Look out for the letter about Behaviour Watch, our new computer system for logging first aid and other incidents.

Every school has a development or improvement plan. This year, the key focuses for our School Improvement Plan are around maths reasoning, and writing. You can really help us with this by ensuring your children practice at home with their homework, and also continually keeping times tables and number knowledge on the boil. We will be maintaining our rich curriculum, as you will know from last year, for example the science fair, arts days, trips and visitors to school.

Y6 will also write and lead our Remembrance service on the 10<sup>th</sup> November. Y6 parents, and service parents are very welcome. Johnny Mercer, our MP, and an ex-service man is also hoping to attend.

Please also let any parents you may know, with children due to start in September 2018, of our visits - see the dates box.

Yours sincerely, *Claire Hardisty*



**Hands up for  
Plymouth play!**

We are celebrating the new BMX track  
at **Miller Way**  
on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 11am - 2pm**

**There will be BMX demonstrations and FREE  
bike maintenance workshops!  
So come and join us...**

For more information e-mail the Natural Infrastructure Team on: [play@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:play@plymouth.gov.uk)  
Tweet: [HandsUpforPlymPlay](https://twitter.com/HandsUpforPlymPlay)  
Or find us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/NaturePlymouth](https://www.facebook.com/NaturePlymouth)

**Harvest Festival** - Year 5 will be leading our Harvest Festival on 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. We will be holding an Outdoor Mufti Day, accepting food donations, such as tinned tomatoes, tinned rice pudding, biscuits, UHT milk and breakfast cereals for the Plymouth Food Bank, rather than the usual 50p. We are sure you will agree this is a very worthwhile charity.

**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.

## 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. For those of you whose children are taking school meals, we would ask you to help them choose their meal in advance and help them to widen their choices beyond a jacket potato.

## School Crossing Patrol

We are very lucky to have a school crossing patrol outside of the main school gates. We did not have anyone for some years, and there were concerns about the safety of our school community both before and after school. It is therefore important that children and families cross with Mr Spicer along this stretch of Miller Way. We have had reports of many examples of parents crossing higher up the road. If you could, please use the crossing patrol when he is on duty - this would be much appreciated. It models to our children the safest way to cross the road, as in the future, many children will be making this journey unescorted, or already do so.

## Whole School Poppy Art Day - 31st October

Inspired by the memorial poppy wave currently on the Hoe, we have decided to display our very own version in the entrance hall. On the first day back after half term, the whole school will take part in a poppy art day to create a range of mixed media poppies.

## Parking

*Can we please remind you to be considerate of our neighbours with your parking.*

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.**

## DATES for your Diary

(Full dates are published on the school website)

Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y6 Fusion Visit to Tor Bridge High
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Foundation Stage Curriculum Meeting, 5.30-7.00pm
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y2 GA Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Visits for Prospective Foundation 2018 Parents 9.30am & 6pm (please phone school to book places)
w/c 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Parents' Evenings
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Outdoor Mufti Day (food donation for food bank) Coffee Morning 9am Y5 Harvest Assembly - 2.30pm Last day of term
<u>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October - School Closed</u>	
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Children return to school & Prospective Foundation 2018 visit (9.30) -please ring to book

# School News - October

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

In Foundation we have had a fantastic start to the new school year and the children are all settling really well. We have spent lots of time exploring our new base and discovering all of the fun things we can do. In literacy, we have been learning the story of 'Dinosaur Roar' and have added actions to help us to remember what happens - we are really scary dinosaurs! We have also enjoyed finding out all about the new season by going on lots of Autumn nature hunts. Well done Foundation!

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

We have had a busy start to Year 1. We have completed lots of work linked to our school project 'I'm Special, You're Special' including getting to know our oranges, writing our own 'It's okay to be different' class book and have even painted our own self-portraits in the style of Henri Matisse. In maths we have been learning poems to help us with our number formation and we are now exploring 2 digit numbers. Our favourite part of year 1 so far was sports day, where we could show the adults the new skills we have learnt.

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

In the first few weeks we have been learning about how we are all different but all the same. We have started making books 'All about me' and have written our own sentences: 'It's ok to...'

In Science we have been learning about how we grow and change. We have thought about things that we can do now that we couldn't do when we were a baby.

In Maths we have been using number lines and making 2 digit numbers.

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

Much of the learning which has taken place in Year 4 has linked to the theme of Heroes. In Maths we created hero Top trump cards and used these to explore place value. In Literacy we read and responded to poems about both real and fantasy heroes. We used these poems as stimulus for writing our own poetry. Our project work has explored real heroes such as those in the police force and how they represent one of the British values of law. We have further represented these values in drawing, painting, pastels and collage.

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

Recently, we have created self-portraits inspired by Picasso's cubist art works and explored ways in which we are all different. We have enjoyed using the outdoor area to act out the Old Testament story of Moses and the Exodus. In science we have been investigating the topic of 'Planets.' Children have come back from their recent trip to Grenville house full of exciting tales about their adventures whilst those who stayed in school had a fantastic time creating stories in action about the Thornbury Thumpstingler. We created sculptures and flat reliefs using clay and finished the week with a celebration around the campfire with hot chocolate and marshmallows.

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

We worked on the school project and in literacy, we have been reading 'The Mozart Question' by Michael Morpurgo, focussing on letter writing.

In our afternoons, we have begun trialling the intensive subject weeks whereby each class focusses on a different subject allowing for a more in-depth look. We have loved it! Most recently, Grenville house was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and those that didn't attend had a fun week with activities centred around the mysterious Thumpstingler.

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

We have had a busy start to year 3. In maths we were inspired by the Mayflower 400. We had to build a boat. We had a budget and only a few materials to help us. We filled our boats with pennies to see how many each boat could hold before it would sink. In Literacy we have been learning about poetry and creating our own poems titled "10 things found in a hero's pocket". We worked hard to include lots of exciting adjectives. In project we have been creating self-portraits and thinking about how we are all heroes in our own way.

## ☆ Grenville House Residential ☆

Last week 44 excited children from Years 5 and 6 attended the Grenville House residential visit. During the week the children challenged themselves in many varied ways. These included abseiling down into a quarry, building and sailing their own raft in a race into the harbour, making a leap of faith onto a trapeze bar, as well as putting a duvet into its cover, laying tables and washing dishes!

Blessed with wonderful autumnal weather, the children rose to all these feats magnificently, leaving the staff who accompanied the trip feeling extremely proud (and often quite emotional!)

The children further endeared themselves to the staff by how well they slept, meaning corridor patrols and shussing was kept to a minimum! The staff at the centre provided great skills, teaching and encouragement (as well as wonderful evening meals) and commented several times during the week how the children of Thornbury clearly showed resilience and determination to push themselves as far as they could go. They also said how well they supported and encouraged each other. All in all a great week. Many thanks to all the staff who attended this trip throughout the week, supporting the children in reaching their goals and having a truly memorable time.

## Friends of Thornbury

### ☆ Thurs 19th October ☆

Autumn Crafts for Foundation and Yr1

An hour of crafting, games and a fruit snack

3.15-4.15pm

Book early to avoid disappointment via Teachers2Parents invite

£2.50

### ☆ Wed 8th November ☆

Woodland Ball for Years 2, 3 & 4

Come and make your favourite woodland animal, crafts & games, with hot dog & hot chocolate

3.15-5pm

£3.50

### ☆ Thurs 7th December ☆

Christmas Fayre

Stalls and Games Galore.  
More details coming soon.

3.15 -4.30pm

### ☆ Thurs 14th December ☆

Winter Wonderland for Years 5 & 6  
Winter games, crafts, party room and food (to be confirmed) with festive hot chocolate.

3-4.45pm

We are very grateful to the Friends of Thornbury and the work they do to support the school and organise events for the children. There are further plans for the coming Spring and Summer terms that will be shared with you as we get nearer to the date.

Bookings and payments for these events will be made via Teachers2Parents in the usual way. You will receive a text message closer to the event with the link to click on to take you through to payment and bookings.