

Thornbury Primary Newsletter

January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers, a Happy New Year to you all! It has been a very busy few weeks, so there is much to share with you all.

Firstly, many congratulations to Miss Hounslow who was married at the beginning of term and is now Mrs Stelmaszczyk. We wish her and her husband much happiness and joy as they start their new life together. We must also say congratulations to Mr and Mrs Mantell on the safe arrival of their son, Harry. We are looking forward to meeting him in school at some point in the future.

This term we welcome Mrs Swaffield to the team as our newly appointed Sunshine Club Leader, MTA and TA. Mr Taylor, who has been volunteering all year in preparation for teacher training, is also now working in Y2 as a TA.

You will be aware that we have now launched the Facebook trial. So far, so good. We have received positive feedback on it to date.

On Friday we launched the Trim Trail, with the Eco-Committee, Mrs French and I, the Friends of Thornbury, and Tessa Price from the Local Authority having an opening ceremony. It looks fantastic and we are now awaiting training to be delivered and timetabling to ensure we are using it safely. The Eco Committee are devising rules to share with the rest of the school. There will also soon be a picket fence around the area. Thank you for your cooperation with ensuring it is not used before and after school. Thank you also to you and the Friends for the money raised to make this happen!



You should have received a Safeguarding Update letter this week about our new electronic reporting of First Aid incidents. This will be launched on Monday 29th January. Please see the letter to see exactly how and what will be reported to you. We are hoping this will be a smooth transition from paper and oral reporting to electronic.

The change over to the list of trusted adults you have sent in to school has happened smoothly. If one of these adults is collecting your child from school, you will no longer need to inform us in advance. The details are also on the Safeguarding Update letter. Should your nominated adults ever change, or your email address or mobile phone number, it is very important school knows as soon as possible as the system relies on us having up to date contact details.

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

Yours sincerely, *Claire Hardisty*

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.

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. 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.** We would also appreciate club drop off not to use the emergency drop off space.

All parents: 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. Thank you

Wonder! - We have been exploring the items in the Cupboard of Wonder, which is set up in the entrance hall. We used problem solving skills to tackle the brain busting puzzles and asked lots of questions to find out new information. At Thornbury we are encouraging the children to develop a sense of awe and wonder. Mrs Stelmaszczyk would like to ask if you have any objects that you would like to donate to our cupboard. This could be something natural which you have found on a day out i.e. seeds or a beach find, something scientific which might generate questions i.e. something which is not often used (typewriter, telescope, mechanical equipment) or a brain teaser puzzle. Anything to initiate discussion, provide challenges and generate questions, thank you!

Sunshine Club

If you are having a clear out, Sunshine Club are always looking for donations. Any good quality games, arts and crafts, toys and books would be greatly appreciated.

Thankyou, Mrs Swaffield, Sunshine Club Leader

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)

Fri 26 th Jan	Y3/4 PA Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Fri 9 th Feb	Coffee Morning 9am
	Y2 HT Class Assembly - 2.30pm
	Last day of term
	<u>Mon 12th Feb - Fri 16th Feb - School Closed</u>
Mon 19 th Feb	Children return to school
Fri 2 nd Mar	Y1 BS Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Tues 6 th Mar	Y5 Fusion Visit to Tor Bridge High (Provisional date)
Fri 9 th Mar	Y5 NL Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Fri 16 th Mar	Y5 RF Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Thurs 22 nd Mar	Y3/4 Party - 3.00-4.30pm
Tues 27 th Mar	Parents' Evening
Wed 28 th Mar	Parents' Evening
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

School News - January

Foundation - Miss Gerrard, Mrs Phillips & Miss Potts

We have been having a fantastic time exploring some traditional tales. We have learned the story of The Three Little Pigs which we can now perform with actions, built them a new house from junk modelling and even 2D shapes!

Our role play has been transformed into the Giant's castle from Jack and the Beanstalk where we can now cook with giant ingredients and re-tell the story. We have been on a winter walk to find out if there are still any leaves on the trees or flowers in bloom. We brought the leaves we found back to the base to do some leaf rubbings and have had fun learning more about plants by investigating kitchen herbs - our base smells delicious!

Year 1 - Mrs Stelmaszczyk & Miss Summerfield

We have been inspired, enthralled and completely mesmerised by the U.K's very own superhero Tim Peake. The children have created some fantastic work inspired by his mission and we have been using this to get them excited about all their curriculum subjects. The children have become real scientists and planned and carried out an investigation into waterproof materials. In literacy, we have been using what we know to make our own imaginative and creative story predictions. We can't wait to find out what our book is about.

Year 2 - Mrs Turner & Mrs Aspen

We have launched into our space project by watching Tim Peake's mission! We are now making our own fact files about his work on the space station. In Literacy, we have been reading funny poems about aliens. We have been using adjectives to describe our own 'made up' aliens and are going to use these to write our own poems. We are really excited about 'Times Tables Rock Stars' and have been busy learning about the 10 and 2xtables in Maths. We have all been on the 'Challenge chair' to try out our 10xtables!

Year 3 - Miss Dymond & Miss Anthony

Year 3 and 4 had a disaster day this term where everything seemed to go wrong! The lights went off, the classroom was destroyed, and our work had the answers on. Miss Dymond even fell off her chair! We have used this day to inspire our recount writing in Literacy. We have named these recounts "the day that went wrong" and have been working hard to include lots of writing features, for example a range of conjunctions. In maths we have been working on 'juggling' our numbers, making sure we use all the things we know to help us solve a range of problems. We have focused on finding patterns and using If I know...then I know.

Year 4 - Miss Walsh & Mr Abraham

In our project we have been learning about our country, county and city. We have found out what makes each of these different and how to describe their geographical features. As part of now learning about the city of Plymouth we are comparing how it looks now to how it used to look. This will take us into our new project focus of Plymouth in the Blitz.

In Science we have been identifying materials as being a solid, liquid or gas and comparing each. We also took part in mini investigations using custard, candles, ice and chocolate to see how these states can change!

Year 5 - Mr Line & Mrs French

In R.E, Year 5 have been studying the 'Journey of Life', looking at significant events in their own lives and relating this to how different religions celebrate and hold festivals for their own significant life events.

In music, Year 5 have been exploring how to create their own musical compositions on the theme of 'winter'. Children learnt about musical notation and worked collaboratively to perform their masterpiece to an audience.

In literacy we have been studying information texts in order to produce a fact-file of invertebrates found in the outdoor area.

Year 6 - Mr Wallis & Miss Ives-Owen

Year 6 have been looking at 'Forces' in their science lessons, measuring Newtons and drawing diagrams to illustrate balanced and unbalanced examples.

In project, we have been looking at 'The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China' and are beginning to understand the social hierarchy of the time whilst drawing comparisons to other periods in history.

There have been some interesting creations in literacy ahead of their non-chronological report writing. The children have created 'fused' animals to write about using the dreaded 'spidermingo' as a model!