



The Thornton Times

Autumn Term 2 2019

www.thornton.bham.sch.uk

Friday 20th December 2019

Hello everyone,

We have at last reached the end of a very long term but I must say it has been so rewarding, with lots and lots of highlights including parent workshops, sporting events, community events and special assemblies and performances. We have literally had hundreds and hundreds of parents in school and it has been a pleasure to share your children's Thornton Journey with you.

I hope you are all looking forward to some quality time over the next two weeks—please make sure you supervise your children online so they are safe and not at risk of online abuse. You can visit www.thinkyouknow.co.uk if you are worried about anything that has happened online over the holidays.

All that is left now is for me to wish you all a happy and restful holidays and every good wish for Christmas and the New Year from all the staff at Thornton.

See you all in 2020!

Sue Simmons, Headteacher.



Year 3 Nativity

Wow! What a fantastic performance by our Year 3 children. I am sure we will be seeing some of them on stage as professionals in years to come. We are so proud of all of the children who sang and acted so well. During the performance we had over 30 speaking parts and many different scenes and the show was seamless - what an achievement! Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard to help with costumes, staging, organisation and supporting the children during rehearsals. Parents, we value your support immensely - thank you so much for attending the show and helping prepare the children for the performance.

We can't wait to start practising for our Eid assembly next year!



The school newsletter for children, parents and carers of Thornton Primary School.



Christmas Dinners

Last week we had our annual family Christmas dinner across two days and it was a great success! A BIG thank you to everyone who joined us for the festive food and fun at lunchtimes!

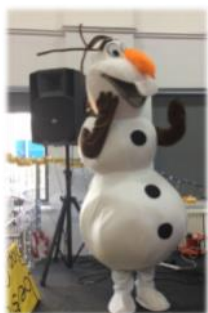
The dining hall was transformed into a winter wonderland which was filled with banging crackers and lots of excited chatter.

A special big thank you also to Darren, our Head Chef, and his team for providing a delicious Christmas meal, and making the many festive boxes for the children



Christmas Fayre

Our wonderful annual Christmas Fayre was held last week on Friday. The halls were filled with music, delicious food and fun activities for the community to enjoy. The children enjoyed meeting Santa in his grotto, visiting stalls and having their face painted. A huge thank you to the Friends of Thornton and all of staff that helped organise the Christmas Fayre



Christmas Jumper Day

It was lovely to see so many of the children and staff wearing their Christmas jumpers for the 'Save The Children' charity. Your generous donations on the day have helped us to raise **£357.16** Thank you for your support!





Golden Ticket Attendance Initiative



Well done to the **373** pupils who have achieved the **Bronze Golden Ticket attendance initiative**. All the children have achieved the school attendance target of **97% and above for the autumn term**. This is a fantastic achievement. The children will receive a special invitation in January to watch the 'Wizard Of Oz' pantomime in school. Look out for your child's invitation



Best Class Attendance and Magic 20 Raising and Punctuality Rewards Assembly

Congratulations to **Eagle Owl 6** who won the best class attendance award with **97.06%** this term. The class opted for a VIP Cinema Experience in school.

Well done also to all the children who achieved the Magic 20 Raising Attendance and Improving Punctuality Award this term. The children received their awards on Monday at our special attendance assembly. Well done everyone, including parents, for this great achievement.



reading plus

If your child is in **Years 4, 5 or 6**, they now have an account with Reading Plus. This is an absolutely fantastic resource which gives children online tailored reading tasks. It is accessed at <https://login.readingplus.com/> - you don't need to download an app to log in. Using it regularly boosts children's reading fluency, understanding of vocabulary and helps their general knowledge grow. Children have regular opportunities to use the website in school but to get the most out of it, they need to be using it at least five times in a week. If you don't have internet access at home, please inform your child's class teacher. Don't forget that they can come to Homework Club to use the computers in school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 8.15am - ideal if they can't access a computer at home.

It is really important that children have the chance to work on these tasks in a quiet place where there aren't any distractions. They need to focus and pay close attention. They are designed to be used independently: tutors and other adults giving too much coaching will hold your child back. Sometimes a little adult guidance can help them to keep working at a task but they should be able to tackle most tasks on their own. If you encourage your children to put in a little effort to complete a 'story' on Reading Plus every day, we should see their reading improve rapidly.

While using Reading Plus is a fantastic way to help the children progress, it does not replace reading whole books and sharing those at home. Please continue to support your child by reading with them and talking about what they've read. I hope lots of you will get to visit our public libraries over the holiday to enjoy more books for free. Thanks so much to all the parents who sign the diary each night to record how their child read. It is clear how this involvement helps your child to make their best progress.

Happy reading over the holidays. I look forward to hearing all about it in January.
Ms Evans, English Lead

Don't forget...

The first day back for the children is

Tuesday 7th January 2020

With a prompt **8.45am** start!



Updating Contact Information

It is very important that the school has up to date contact details for parents and other trusted adults for safeguarding purposes. Please inform the school office immediately of any telephone number or address changes. Ideally we need at least 2 further contact numbers who we can contact during an emergency if we cannot get hold of parents.



Termly School Meal Changes

If you would like to change your child's meal option, please remember this can only be changed at the start of each term. You must contact the school office prior to doing so.

Dinner money must be paid in advance and not in arrears.

Dinner money is £12 per week (£2.40) per day.

If you are having any issues with payments please contact the school office.

Dates for your diary

Last day of Autumn Term 2— **Friday 20th December**
we close at **2.30pm**

Teacher Training Day—**Monday 6th January** (school closed to pupils)

School Re-opens to pupils — **Tuesday 7th January**

Golden Ticket Attendance—Bronze Award — **Monday 20th January** — **Wizard OF Oz Pantomime**

Year 3 Roman Museum— **Friday 14th February**
9am until 9.45am

Year 4 Egyptian Museum— **Friday 14th February**
9am until 9.45am



Year 3 and Year 4 Museum

On **Friday 14th February** Year 3 and Year 4 will have a wonderful display of their work in the school hall from **9am until 9.45am**. Save the date in your dairy!

Year 3 Roman Museum

Year 4 Egyptian Museum

