

# The Thornton Times



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11/10/2024

Hello everyone

A very BIG thank you for all your support this week—joining us for our ‘time to talk’ coffee morning on Tuesday, attending parents’ evening on Wednesday and being a fantastic audience at the Year 6 Harvest assembly today! We are excited to let you know that we will be hosting the ‘time to talk’ coffee morning every Monday on the first Monday of each month from 8.45am to 9.30am, with the next one on Monday 4th November.



**IMPORTANT UPDATE:** The **school comms messaging service number** you receive text messages from Thornton will be changing to **07507276708** on **11th October 2024**. **Please save this mobile number as Thornton Primary School and please do not block the number.**

Thank you to everyone who is super respectful of the brilliant job our lollipop ladies do for us on Washwood Heath Road and Alum Rock Road. I know you will agree with me that they really do show us the very best care and we are very grateful to them — they should only be spoken to in a way that reflects this, thank you!

Year 4 parents are invited to the **Buddhist Assembly** on **Friday 25th October at 9am**, where Year 4 will be sharing all their new learning.

Have a great weekend everyone!  
Cathy Grace, Headteacher

**NHS**  
Birmingham  
Community Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

**SCHOOL NURSE VIRTUAL  
DROP-IN CLINIC**

Every  
Tuesday and  
Thursday  
from  
4:30-5:30pm

Birmingham School  
Health Support Service

Your School Nurse is here to help you feel healthy, happy and safe during your school years and to get the best from your education.

Join using the QR code to talk with a School Nurse. We provide a confidential and friendly service.



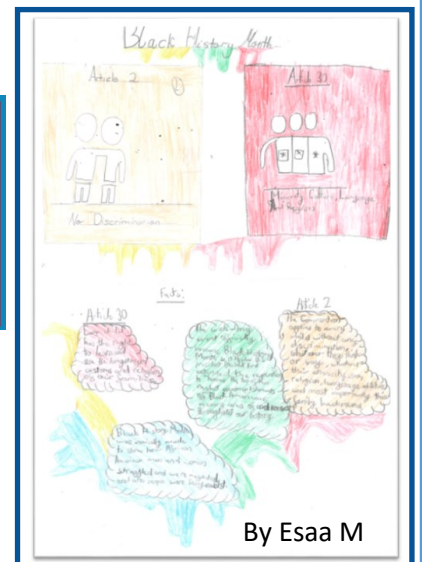
To join from a web browser:  
[nhs.uk/vc/BCHC/C-F/SchI-Nurse/Drop-In](https://nhs.uk/vc/BCHC/C-F/SchI-Nurse/Drop-In)

## ARTICLE OF THE WEEK Article 2

The article for this week was **Article 2 (non discrimination)**. The article is linked to Black History Month. Black History Month is a month dedicated to learning about Black history and culture. Article 2 links to this month in particular as it is important not to discriminate or show any prejudice against people regardless of their age, colour, gender or disability.



It also links to **Article 30 (children have the right to learn about different customs, religions and cultures)**. It is important for children to learn about different cultures and to develop the value of respect.



By Esaa M

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace  
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason  
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone and Mrs Mazar  
Chair of Governors—Mr Subat Ali



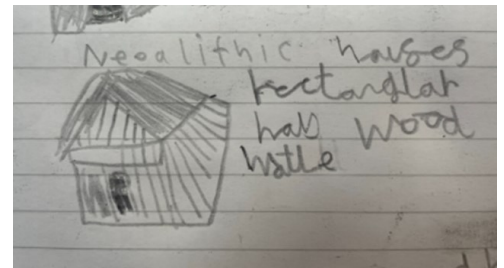
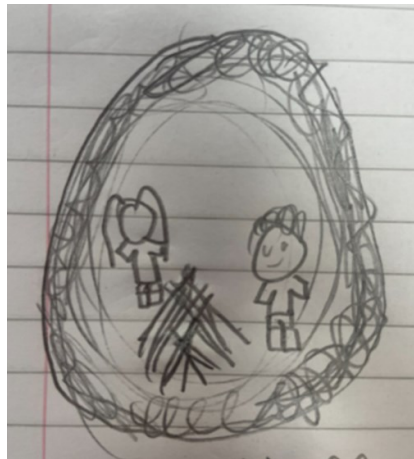
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## Year 3



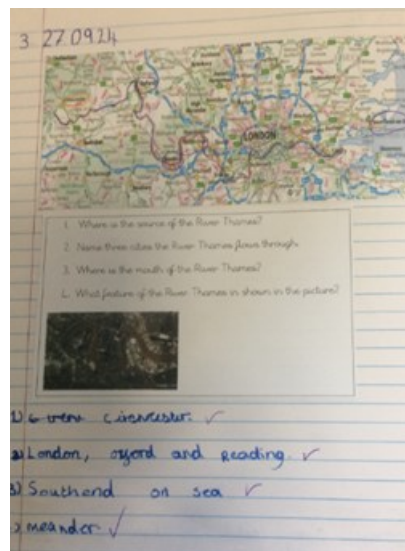
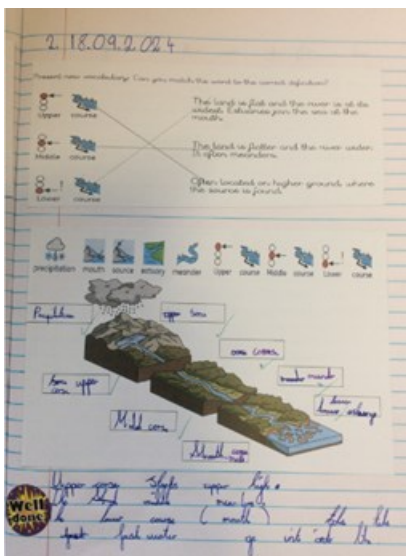
This week in Year 3, we have been learning more about **Stone Age life** by exploring how their homes changed over the different periods of history.

We learnt how resourceful Stone Age people were for finding uses for materials they could gather from around them, from wood, animal bones and stone, to turf, midden and wattle and daub. Why not ask a Year 3 child to find out more about the processes they used? Here is a selection of some of the illustrations we did to demonstrate our understanding.



## Year 4

In Year 4 this half term, we have been focusing on **Rivers** for our topic. The children have learned that a river has three main stages: the upper course, middle course and lower course. They have worked collaboratively to explore making their own river using a variety of materials. Using Digi Maps they have located and identified features of the River Thames, in London. Challenge your child to name the features of a river!



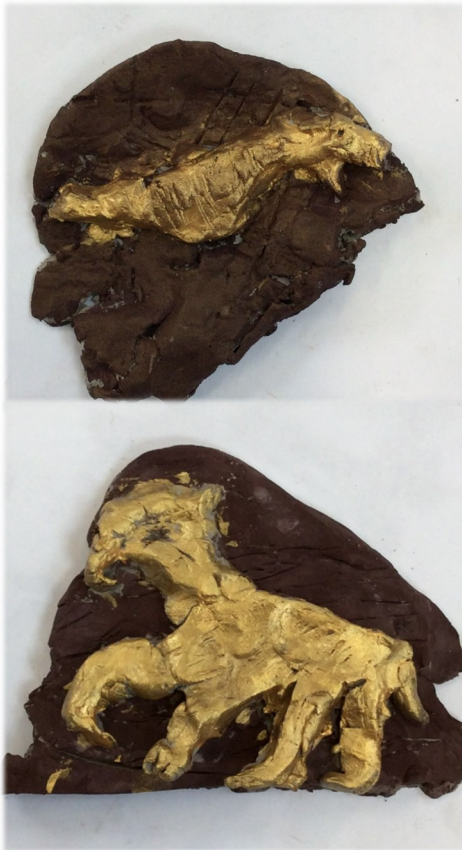
## Year 5

Year 5 have been exploring **Anglo Saxon arts and culture**.

The children learnt about the discovery of the Staffordshire Hoard and sketched their own designs during Art lessons.

They then created models based on their designs out of clay.

Finally, they painted them to look as if they were made out of precious metals. Here are some of the designs that the children made.



## Year 6

On **World Mental Health Day**, the children in Year 6 were asked to think about all the things that make them feel happy.

They came up with some wonderful examples.



Many said that playing with their pets definitely cheers them up when they are feeling sad. Some children said that playing football, going on a bike ride or drawing also distracted them from their worries.

The children were asked to doodle what makes them happy and here are some fantastic examples. I wonder what makes you feel happy...



# Academic Year 2024-2025

## Term dates

Half-term: Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024

Term 2 starts Monday 4 November until Friday 20 December 2024

*Christmas holidays*

Spring Term 2025

Term 1 Starts\*: Tuesday 7 January 2025 until Friday 14 February 2025

Half-term: Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025

Term 2 starts Monday 24 February 2025 until Friday 11 April 2025

*Easter holidays*

\* Teacher training day - Monday 6th January 2025

## PE TIMETABLE

Monday 14th October  
Year 4

Tuesday 15th October  
Swimming for 4NG and 4AA.  
**4NG MUST** be in school  
for 8.25am

Wednesday 16th October  
Year 3

Thursday 17th October  
Year 5

Friday 18th October  
Year 6

## Parent Pay

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of each week. If you need any support with payment please contact the school office for support. Thank you.

**Dinner money and Club money must be paid in advance via Parent Pay, thank you.**

**Dinner money is £2.60 per day and £13 per week.**

**Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day and £1.00 for any siblings.**

**After school club is £4.00 per day and £2.00 for any siblings.**

**There is a late pickup charge (£4) for pupils picked up after 4pm.**



## Firework Feast Menu

Miquil, our school caterer, will be hosting a special Firework Feast Menu on **Monday 6th November** for all the pupils that have a school meal. If your child usually brings a packed lunch to school and would like a special Firework Feast school lunch, please call the school office to book the meal. **The cost is £2.60 per meal and will need to be paid using ParentPay our online payment**



## Attention all Year 6 Parents!

### Secondary Transfer 2025

Applications for your child's secondary school place in September 2025 are now live on the following website:

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-admissions>

The online application is very simple and quick but if you need support completing the form please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.



## Healthy Snacks

Children can bring a healthy, **nut free** snack to have at break time. For example, children can have a piece of fruit or a nut free cereal bar during break time. **Strictly NO NUTS are allowed in school as we have children with severe nut allergies.** Please do not send your child to school with unhealthy snacks such as crisps and chocolates.

**Break time snacks really help give the children a boost of energy until lunchtime!**  
**Thank you for your support.**

Our school attendance last week was  
**95.2%**

**Congratulations** to class **6ZB** for achieving **100%** attendance last week and exceeding our school attendance target of 97%. The class received a surprise visit from Mrs Grace and were awarded a £25 gift voucher to purchase new classroom resources.



Well done also to the following classes who achieved our school attendance target of 97% and above for the last week!

<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
<b>3ST</b>	<b>4AA</b>	<b>5BA</b>	<b>6HB</b>
	<b>5ZY</b>	<b>6NI</b>	

Congratulations to all of **YEAR 6** for **exceeding** the school attendance target by achieving the highest year group attendance last week. The attendance for Year 6 overall was 96.8%.

## Golden Ticket Initiative



### How will the Golden Ticket Attendance Initiative work?

Everyone has an opportunity to win a **Golden Ticket** for an amazing and fun attendance treat!

**Autumn Term Bronze Award – Pupils need to achieve 97% above to qualify - Mrs Grace will be announcing exciting details of the reward later this term...**

### Tips from school on how you we can work in partnership to help your child achieve this award:

1. **Avoid booking appointments** during the school day whenever possible and always bring your child to school before/after appointments.
2. Arrive to school early – **from 8.30am**
3. Make sure your child **gets to bed on time** and set your alarm 10 minutes earlier.

The children are much happier and settled if they attend school every day consistently without taking any days off. **Good attendance will ensure that your child can reach their full potential.** Absence disrupts the education of not only your child but the whole class Thank you in advance for working in partnership with us to make every day count in your child's education

The table below shows just how much a child with low attendance may miss:

Attendance for academic year	Number of days absent	Approximate number of weeks absent	Number of lessons missed
<b>90%</b>	<b>19 days</b>	<b>3.8 weeks</b>	<b>95 lessons</b>
<b>80%</b>	<b>38 days</b>	<b>7.6 weeks</b>	<b>190 lessons</b>
<b>70%</b>	<b>57 days</b>	<b>11.4 weeks</b>	<b>285 lessons</b>

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