

Thorndown Newsletter

Number:57

Staff news

We are sending our congratulations to Miss Buckby and her partner who are now the very proud parents of a little boy called Angus. We wish her new family lots of love.

Foundation Stage Outside Space



On the staff Inset Day in October, the reception team spent the day regenerating the foundation stage outdoor learning space after visiting an outstanding setting in Peterborough. They built a gravel pit and kitchen, a new stage area and a small world den. This could not have been achieved without some very generous donations from local businesses, most notably Cranbrook Plants who donated 900 litres of compost for our digging pit. The children have been delighted by the changes and have explored theatre, spoken stories and the catering industry in the gravel restaurant! Thank you.



Our English Day: Fantasy



On Monday 6th November, Thorndown Primary School enjoyed a Writing Day, focusing on fantasy. All classes completed several exciting activities at the start of the day, such as hot seating, acting, discussion and looking at settings in and around the school. This gave the children an excellent variety of ideas that they could use to then plan, experiment and write up a high quality piece of work in the afternoon.

Today we had lots of fun doing the activities that were planned for us. First, we let our ideas flow when drawing a class alien. Mr Peel gave each table some part of the body to create and then we stuck the alien together – we named him Howie! He looked weird with an element of cuteness. We used descriptive language to explain how he looked.

After that, we drew our own aliens or creatures; some were very different and bizarre. Just as we did with our class alien, we described our works of art, remembering to use our writing non-negotiables. Mr Peel wrote down some of our ideas for what we could write about (personality, appearance, hobbies etc)

Next we went outside with our whiteboards to write down some ideas for inspiration for our settings and once again we came back in and described it. Finally we drew and coloured in our settings for our aliens.

By Emilia – Lion Class (Year 6)

heart

Sleeps to Santa

On Friday 10th November, all of our Year 2s sang 'How many sleeps to Santa' as part of the Heart FM's Christmas celebrations and countdown in December. We sang that there are 19 sleeps, so listen out for Thorndown on the 6th December. I know I will be!

Girls' Football Tournament

On Thursday 11th November, an all-girls Year 4 football team represented Thorndown in a local tournament held at the Outdoor Centre across the road. Well done to all involved; you were all great!



Year 3s visit St Ives

Last week, all of the Year Threes went on a history walk around St.Ives town. We had a great time! We will tell you a little bit about it. We learnt that the whole of St.Ives was under the sea in dinosaur times and while Mrs Mills was talking, a ginger cat popped up in the middle of her speech to hear her speaking! We also learnt that St.Ives was actually called Slepe village. A while later we went back for lunch to the Methodist Church. It was so yummy! Fifteen minutes later, we learnt about the Church. We did a quiz about the Methodist Church from long ago and looked at sacred texts that Christians read. We felt a braille bible that blind people would read. We had an interesting and joyful day.

From all the Year Threes.

FOTS

Recently at our latest FOTs meeting, we were planning future events, including continuing our tradition of much loved discos and our summer fete.

FOTS desperately need volunteers. Without your help these activities cannot run.

If you volunteer at one event, it does not automatically mean that you will have to do another, or that you will be part of the events planning committee. You could just help set up after school for an hour without even attending an event!

If you would like to be included on an occasional basis, please e-mail the FOTS e-mail address and they will make ensure you do only what you are comfortable with. If all our 1000 parents just helped out once a year, we would be able to run the events planned and maybe some more.

Currently, we are fundraising to buy some new home reading books for KS1 and some sets of class books for KS2. Due to the tight economic climate in which we find ourselves at the moment, the school cannot afford these books and we really rely on the support and generosity of parents at our FOTS' events. Thank you.

Our Art in the Community



Some of our older children's sculpture pictures from are currently being displayed by the restaurant in Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. If any of your relatives are visiting, then ask them to keep an eye out for our work, which is already getting lots of attention from passers-by.

Snowmen Festival

Look out for our snowmen as they start to appear all over St Ives for the festival. Here are some of the events you can attend:

The Waits - 25th November at 5.30pm: Giant Snowman appears & carol singing.

Corn Exchange - 26th November at 10.30am: Snowman Festival Day and Christmas Gift Fair

The Quay - 2 December at 11am: Santa & the Chief Snowman arrive by boat.