

# Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 58

## Anti-Bullying week 2017

The whole school joined in with national Anti-Bullying Week on 13th-17<sup>th</sup> November. During Anti-Bullying Week, all of the children learned about the definition of bullying. They also discussed what to do if they feel that they have a problem or worry. The children accessed the subject the subject of bullying, at an age appropriate level, in many different ways. For example, Year 6 shared the text, 'Wonder' by R J Palacio and Year 3 children created lovely cups of kindness to share positive comments about each other.



At Thorndown, we have a clear Anti-Bullying Policy. This can be found on our website, together with a handy parents' leaflet on what to look for and how to contact us with any problems your child may have.

## Do you know what is on your child's phone?

We have also been looking at Cyberbullying in our assemblies and in the older children's lessons. I wonder if you know what apps your child has on their phone, or whom they regularly text. Parents often feel that child's phone is private and that only their child should look at it. However, a phone is often a place where children can be cyberbullied.

By not looking at your child's phone regularly, you will be unable to spot if your child is getting e-mails or texts from unknown people, putting photos of themselves online, watching unsuitable YouTube content, or being

cyberbullied. You have the right to keep them safe and monitor their phone use.

A phone can give children huge independence, but can also make them vulnerable to the outside world, even within the confines of their own home.

## New Inter-house Sports Competition

*Every child will now take part in an inter-house sports competition within school. We have just completed a fortnight of competitions, where each child was able to score points for their house. The competitions included rugby, ball skills, dance and netball, and mostly reflected the PE topics that year groups were learning about. At the end of the competitions, points are totalled and the winning house will have an afternoon playtime as a reward. Some younger year groups are busy practising nativities, so they will take part in inter-house competitions later in the academic year. There has been a real buzz in the air in anticipation of the events and the competitions that have already taken place have been great fun. We know this addition to PE at our school will give our children a greater enjoyment of sport.*

Mrs Burke

## A science visitor



On Thursday 30th November, Year 4 had a special visitor from Mundipharma, Lisa Taylor. Lisa comes into schools to promote future jobs in science. She came to do a workshop on

digestion, which is the topic that Year 4 have been studying in science. They were taken on a journey of how food travels through the body. They began with a banana sandwich and ended up with...! The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and some were even a little bit squeamish! We are hoping to book Lisa again for future hands on science workshops.

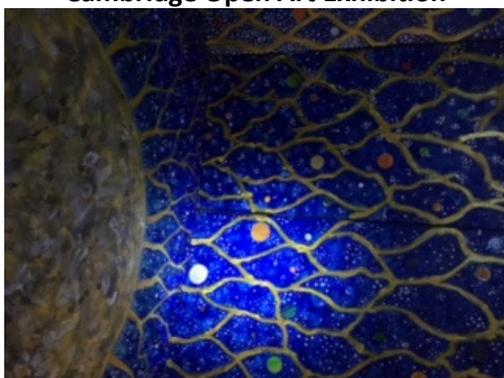
### **Children in Need 2017**

This is the day the school turned upside down! Children became teachers and teachers became very unruly pupils! Assembly was full of teachers and very few pupils. Below is wonderful picture of me...or is it!



Thank you to you all for the effort involved with costumes and wigs, and for your donations. It was a Children in Need day to remember and we raised over £350 for this very worthwhile charity.

### **Cambridge Open Art Exhibition**



Mrs Patrick was lucky enough to go to the Cambridge Open Art Exhibition, at Swavesey Village College. She had the chance to see the installation that some of our Year 5s had worked on with the artist, Steve Ferris. The project's theme was outer space and people

viewed it by torch light. The effect was amazing; it really felt like you were floating around in a different atmosphere. Our children should feel very proud of their achievements.

### **School Shoes**

Just recently, there has been an increase in the amount of children coming to school in trainers and other multi coloured footwear. Our uniform policy is very clear that only black shoes should be worn. Pink, red and other colour trainers, no matter how fabulous and wonderful, should be saved for after school, discos and weekends. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Our School Office**

As we approach one of the busiest times of the year, we are still one member of staff down in our school office. I'd like to ask you all to be patient and give the office staff enough time to respond to any requests.

Also, when reporting a pupil's absence in the morning, please press 1 and leave us a message, rather than selecting the option to speak to a member of staff.

Thank you for your help.

### **St Ivo Dancing Support**



In preparation for their forthcoming Christmas production, our Year 1 pupils have been getting help with their dance chorography from two St Ivo pupils. Thank you, ladies, for your patience and flair. We can't wait to see the final performances!