

Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 72



Welcome back to a new academic year at Thorndown Primary School. I hope you and your families enjoyed the summer holidays and your children are ready to learn again. Our teachers and staff are rested and ready to go too!

We welcome some new teachers and support staff into the school: Miss Broadhurst, who is in Year 6 and is our Year 5&6 Team Leader, Miss Hoque, who is in Year 5, Miss Patterson, who is in Year 2 and Mr Cullen, who is in our Foundation Stage. Mrs Masterson, Miss Monkman, Mrs Wedvel and Mrs Colson have joined our TA team and Mrs Schreiber has joined the office team in the afternoons.

We also welcome 76 new pupils into our Foundation Stage, who have started part-time and 10 other new pupils, who are dotted all over the school.

We are all looking forward to a really hard-working year and I hope to you at our events throughout the term and the year ahead.

The Royal British Legion



At the end of last term, members of the St Ives Royal British Legion came into school to award a prize to Joshua, who is now in Year 6. The prize was to have his message on the wreaths being placed at Menin Gate in Ypres this summer as part of the GP90 Commemorations.

Joshua's message read: *Let's not forget the heroes of yesterday, but let's be inspired by them and let's be the heroes of today.*

90 messages were entered into the competition and Joshua was one of the two chosen winners. Well done Joshua.

All messages will be displayed in early November at the Norris Museum.

Growth Mindset

A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new. – Albert Einstein

At Thorndown, we follow the Growth Mindset ethos of learning through mistakes and dealing positively with challenges we face. I have found a great parent Growth Mindset explanation on YouTube called *Three Ways Parents Can instil a Growth Mindset*, which I have listed below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrdKuDGQ EoQ>

This is just another way of explaining our Growth Mindset Policy (which can be found on our website with a handy parent guide).

During Thursday assemblies over the next few weeks, we will be talking about Growth Mindset. Each week, we will be showing a video and there is a discussion guide which you are able to download. Look out for the regular Facebook updates with each week's link.

Nothing is impossible. The word itself says 'I'm possible!' – Audrey Hepburn

Teacher News

We are delighted that Mrs Dunsdon and her husband are expecting their first baby in January. Congratulations to them both.

Moonlit River

*The reeds squirmed and writhed
Like emerald snakes
Fighting for their lives*

*Sharp-edged, mossy rocks
Lazed in a bath of bubbles
Not bothering to feel empathetic
For the perishing fish*

*Crimson algae clung
To all the nooks and crannies
Of the steep river banks
Trying to escape
From being daintily nibbled
By jaws in the possession
Of river creatures*

*The crystal clear water
Glinted in the eerie glow of the moonlight
Dwarfing everything in the vicinity
Yet still looking incredibly majestic*

By Maya, Year 5

School Uniform

I'd like to thank every parent and carer for having such smartly dressed children on their start back at school. They look wonderful! Can you please, please, please label all items of clothing as we are finding that lots of very expensive uniform is ending up in our lost property bins already because we are not able to return to its rightful owner. Thank you.

Harvest Festival



The school is having a Harvest festival assembly on Friday 29th September. This year, as last, we are taking all the food donated to the St Ives Foodbank, who works with local St Ives families. The Foodbank is in need of good quality dry/canned foods such as tuna, custard, rice pudding, rice, pasta, tea bags, coffee, drinking chocolate, sugar, juice, squash and jams. Please don't send in fresh food.

The children can bring their food donations into assembly on the day to help celebrate Harvest, both in our county and abroad. Thank you for your help.

Parent Help

As last year, you may have read in the newspapers or heard on the television that school budgets remain very, very stretched. This is very much the case at Thorndown again this . We are only able to fund Teaching Assistants to support pupils with 1:1 needs or to run interventions. **So we need your help!**

If you could spare the time to listen to readers or play some educational games, or help teachers with photocopying or laminating resources, we would love to hear from you. Perhaps you could spare 15 minutes (or a little longer!) a few times a week, when you drop your children off in the morning. Perhaps you could spare a few minutes every day, or a morning or afternoon once a week. We would welcome your help throughout the school from Year 6 to the Foundation Stage at a time that is convenient to you.

If you have the time to volunteer then please contact Helen Cooper through the office for a volunteer pack and to start your DBS. Miss Godbold, Mrs Gerrard and Mrs Fox are always around in the mornings, if you have any questions.

Every hour you can offer will be much appreciated. Thank you.

Fruits of our gardening

Mr Vyas and Mrs Cook have harvested some of the vegetables from our allotment over the last few days and it has been for sale outside the office entrance. Any proceeds will go to buying new seeds for next Spring.



Radio Cambridgeshire

Did you hear some of our Year 4s on Radio Cambridgeshire's morning show on Thursday 6th September? They were talking about what they thought St Ives would be like in 50 years' time. You can still catch the podcast on their website. This radio broadcast was part of the St Ives Civic Society 50 year anniversary celebrations this month. We have sent many pieces of work for their exhibition at the Free Church.