

Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 97

Norwich City Football Club

We have been very lucky to have a Norwich City Football community coach come and work with us at Thorndown. Children from Chameleon and Kookaburra classes had a brilliant session on the field developing their balls skills with fun games involving ghosts and houses! After school, the coach worked with our Girls' Football Squad training them with tips and advice on marking and shooting. This is their second visit this year and we aim to continue this connection in the future.

Mrs Burke PE lead



Photography Competition 2020

Next year's Photography Completion will be running in the Autumn Term. However, as with previous years, I am telling what the theme will be in advance so that, when you are out and about, you can take a photo when the perfect moment arises. The Student Council have decided upon "sports" being the new theme. So if you are trying a new sport, doing something in this wet and muddy winter or enjoying the water sports in the summer then take your entry early. Happy Snapping!

Safer Internet Day 2020

On Tuesday 11th February, the whole school took part in Safer Internet Day, alongside the rest of the world. The internet came alive with children learning how to design a safe avatar for online profiles, information that can and shouldn't be

shared online, how free we are to be ourselves and how we can make the internet a safer place. Children from Reception to Year 6 journeyed from what to do if they see something they don't like on an iPad, to what is identity and even to protecting ourselves from identity theft! The children were able to share some excellent nuggets of information to help people on the internet.

"If people you don't know try to add you, don't accept them. Tell your adult and they will delete it."

"If you wouldn't say it or do it face to face, don't do it online."



Visit from a Buddhist teacher

In Year 6, children have been learning in RE about Buddhism. Sue Leeks, a Buddhist teacher, came to Thorndown to talk about her life. She explained how she has a shrine in her home and discussed each of the statues and portraits as well as their meanings. Similar to Christian Saints, there are many Buddhas, each with a specialist area such as health, happiness, calming and protection. A mantra or prayer is enclosed within the statue before the base is sealed. We also learnt about the seven bowls of water which are offerings; sometimes they may also include flowers, incense or even food. Sue brought with her a travel shrine box too. One Year 6 child said "It was more interesting to find out about the religion from someone who is actually a Buddhist. We could ask her any question we wanted and she was really knowledgeable." Another thought was: "It was better than finding out from our teacher"



She also showed everyone who wished to participate how to meditate. She encouraged children to consider their own well-being and talked about some benefits of meditation, and how this is an important factor of Buddhist values. "I really enjoyed the meditation and learning how to do it properly" one class member commented.



"Meditation can be useful to me. It was nice to relax and not think about anything else; I can see why Buddhists do it daily"

Mrs Bralee

Football News

A massive congratulations to the Year 6 and under football team who have reached the semi-finals of the Dickenson Cup after beating Godmanchester Community Academy 6-2 on the 12th February. It was an absolutely outstanding performance – the best they have played all season!

Also, can I say a huge congratulations yet commiserations to the Year 5 and Under team, which narrowly lost 4-3 in the quarter finals of the Walters Cup.



Both teams have done the school incredibly proud; the football they play is superb and they deserve a huge amount of success and plaudits for their unbelievable attitude! I'm very proud 😊

Mr Sweeney

Rugby Tournament



During the last week before half term, several schools joined together to play a rugby tournament. We took three teams from Thorndown – The Tigers, The Thistles and Thorndown Thunder! These children from Year 5 and 6 battled it out in two pools. There were excellent displays of pace and talent, as well as positivity and leadership from our children.



At the end of the mild February afternoon, lots had been learned and many skills developed. One of our teams came second overall and Miss Sibanda and I were very proud to have taken the pupils to the tournament. Rugby Club continues after half term on Wednesdays for Year 4, 5 and 6. A few spaces are still available; sign up on the Gateway if your child is interested.

Mrs Burke, PE Lead

