

# Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 73

## Year 5 Wow Starter Day



*The 7<sup>th</sup> September, was the start to our topic about World War 1. We went out of our classroom and when we came back it was 1901. Mr Peel had a wooden ruler in his hand because in the 1900s, if you did anything naughty you'd get hit on the hand. Mr Peel was funny and a tiny bit scary because he acted completely differently than normal.*

*In Mrs Patrick's class, we added felt onto wooden pegs and created our own people/dolls. It was fun and difficult because some of the parts were really fiddly and small. When we went to Miss Hoque's class, we looked at what they did for games and fun. We played blow football, using straws to move the ball, snakes and ladders, charades, marbles and we made some paper boats. It was fun!*

By Zara, Year 5

## Year 1's Picnic Lunch



Year One had a great kick-start to their 'Let's Play' topic when they had a toy picnic on the

school field. The children brought in toys from home to take out with them for lunch. The toys were also used as the basis of some great discussions and many children produced super writing.

## Silver Artsmark Award



**Artsmark  
Silver Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

We are delighted to have been awarded a Silver Artsmark award in recognition of the arts that Thorndown has provided for our pupils over the last couple of years. Our children are offered equal opportunity to participate in a broad range of arts and cultural experiences including Art, Music and Drama.

Thank you to Mrs Patrick for all the hard work and effort you have put into this.

## Gold Games Award



We are delighted to have been awarded the Gold School Games award this year.

This reflects the large amount of PE offered and encouraged at Thorndown through clubs, participation in events out of school, inter-house PE events and high quality PE lessons in school. Well done to everyone and thank you Mrs Burke for making all this happen.

### **TTRockstars**

We have re-launched TTRockstars for Years 4, 5 and 6. This is a great online resource to help children increase their confidence and speed when learning times tables and division facts. Each week, we award a certificate and our new TTRockstars turtle to the child who has scored the greatest number of points. The turtle was chosen by our children, although he doesn't have a name yet! We also have a weekly 'Battle of the Bands' competition. Leopard Class won the first battle and were awarded the blow up guitar!

In addition to the weekly awards, we have new certificates to recognise children who can accurately answer questions with an average speed of less than one second per answer. With lots of hard work and practice, four of our children have managed this remarkable feat and have therefore achieved 'Rock Hero' status. Their photos will be displayed in the hall to inspire others! Well done!



### **Stained glass Windows**



This term, Year 6 children in Toucan Class have been making their own stained glass windows. They learnt about the process and the tools used, dating back to Medieval Times.

They discovered interesting facts about the bombing of Coventry Cathedral during WW2, resulting in the modern cathedral building and a stunning window designed by the artist John Piper. They realised that some people can even make a living from their creations, such as the designer Charles Rennie Mackintosh, so closely associated with the Glasgow School of Art. The children might just be able to tell you the fascinating derivation of the word window!



### **Rainbow Recall Parent Workshop**



We were delighted to welcome some of our Key Stage 2 parents to a maths workshop last week. Parents learned about how we are using our new rainbow Recall programme to develop the children's understanding of key number facts. We also played some games that we use in school to help develop the children's confidence and fluency in a fun and engaging way. Parents took some game boards away with them, so that they could try these games out at home too.

If you missed the workshop, you can find the games on our website or by following a link on Facebook. We'll also be looking at how we develop children's fluency in maths across the school at our next Parent Forum on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October, and will include information about Rainbow Recall. If you were unable to attend our workshop, come along to Parent Forum! We look forward to seeing you.