

# Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 77



*We have come to the end of a very, very hard working term and pupils throughout the school have achieved so much in their learning. Everyone should be proud of the work they have done. Well done!*

*It was good to see so many of you at the FOTS' Craft event, The Early Years' Christmas Extravaganza and all of the Christmas Plays this year.*

*I'd like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019.*

Miss Godbold

## FOTs Christmas Fair



To kick off our Christmas celebrations here at Thorndown, FOTS organised a very successful craft making session after school on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. It was really, really well attended and great variety of Christmas creations were made by children and adults alike.



Thank you to all the FOTS team and volunteers who made such a wonderfully crafty, creative and fun event happen. Glitter was everywhere!

## Year 1 and 2 Productions of "The Hopeless Camel"



On Wednesday and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December, we held our Year 1 and 2 productions of the Hopeless Camel.



The story told of a Camel who is on a journey to find the baby Jesus with other camels and the Three Wise Men. The story had laughs, lots of animals and much, much confusion!



Thank you to all who ensured that every child was on stage and performed to their best ability. It was really enjoyed by all the relatives who came.



### Foundation Stage Production 2018



On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, our Reception pupils put on two performances of 'The Wiggly Nativity'.



Thank you to all of our teacher and TA teams in the Foundation Stage and KS1 who have worked so hard to produce such wonderful plays in which all children had the opportunity to go on the stage and experience the feeling of performing to an audience.



### Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2018

*Thorndown Primary School and the Sixth Form at St Ivo School have been working together to support a small charity to collect shoeboxes filled with wonderful and useful presents to give to children in Moldova, who otherwise would be going without.*



*The generosity and support from the Thorndown community was heart-warming! There were toiletries and gifts galore for all ages of children. We worked together to wrap shoeboxes and tried*

*to fill each one with something to use to wash and brush teeth, an item of clothing, something to cuddle and a toy for the younger boxes. For the older recipients, more luxury body lotions and deodorants were included. Also, each box had something nice to eat and contained a Christmas card. At least 10 items were put in every box.*

*Thanks to the kindness of Thorndown children, 44 boxes from Thorndown are currently making their way to Moldova. They will be distributed to users of the charity CR2EE soup kitchens, putting a smile on the faces of many, many young people. We do have a few items left; these will be distributed locally.*

*A huge thank you for your support and generosity.*

Mrs Bralee

### The Education Life Bus



On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November, Pre-school and Year 4 visited the life bus. Year 4 focused on '**All about me**' and looked at how to keep to themselves safe. Pre-school focused on how to **stay healthy**. The Year 6 visit was unfortunately postponed due to illness and so the bus will be back in in February. We could not afford this without the very, very large donation from the St Ives Rotary Club. Thank you very much for the generous donation, without which, this important learning would not happen.

### St. Ives Rotary Club Musical Instrument Project



*We have been very privileged this term to have been asked to participate in a scheme run by Mr Acton and his colleagues from the Rotary Club. The scheme involves instruments being donated to the club who then recycle, repair and donate these instruments to local schools like us.*

*We were extremely lucky to receive a range of violins, a flute, a clarinet, and a piccolo. In addition to this, the Rotary Club purchased 30 brand new recorders and 5 ukuleles which they also donated to our school. We are hugely grateful to Mr Acton and the Rotary Club for these donations and know that they will be put to excellent use.*

Miss Medlow Music Lead

### **Parking**

I am having lots of complaints again from local residents about the places parents park when collecting and dropping off their children. This includes in front of residents' driveways. Can I ask that all parents parking near to school to think about where they park and treat parking spaces as if they were outside their own homes. Thank you.

### **Live music in assembly**

It is important for musicians who learn their instruments in school to get a chance to show case them in assembly. Over the last two weeks we have been treated to a few live sessions.



Sidney in Year 5 showed us his drumming and our Choir and Drummers also gave a wonderful concert to the children showing their hard work this term. We have very many pupils and music teachers who work very hard to develop their skills at Thorndown, with great results!

If your child would like to learn piano, violin, drumming, trumpet or join the choir, then please contact Mrs Cook in the office for more information.

### **Snowmen Judging Duties**



*On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December, I joined St Ives' Mayor, Tim, and three of our pupils to judge the best snowman in St Ives' Snowman Festival. We visited*

*every shop with a snowman in the window and gave it a mark out of 10.*

*The standard of snowmen was very high and our judging team had a very difficult choice.*

*It was also a great opportunity to look for our snowmen that are tied to the lampposts. We spotted many of friends' and even our own snowmen!*

*Thank you to Mayor Tim for inviting us to help. We had a great time and really enjoyed marking like Strictly Come Dancing!*

### **Christmas Dinner**



On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, we held our annual Christmas Jumper Day combined with a yummy Christmas Dinner. I'd like to say a huge thank you to our super cook and her team, who cooked over 500 meals.



### **Staff Baby News**

Mrs Dunsdon and Mrs Dabbs both begin their maternity leave during our Christmas break. I will bring you more news when the babies arrive 😊.

Mrs Lally is returning from her maternity leave in early March and will be working with the Bat Class in Year 1.

Miss Collins will become the KS1 Team Leader whilst Mrs Dunsdon is on her maternity leave.

### **Pantomime and Father Christmas visit**

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December Years 1 to Year 6 were treated to a pantomime called "Pinocchio". This was funded by selling all of our Christmas cards this term.

Thank you to all who bought the cards for such a great morning's fun. We all loved it, even if we had

lost our voices after so much audience participation!

Father Christmas will be visiting our younger children later on this week. More pictures to follow! Their presents were also funded by our Christmas card sales.



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### School Shoes and PE Kit reminder

If you buy or replace your child's school shoes this Christmas, can I please remind parents that school shoes should be dark or black in colour. Thank you. Thorndown PE kit is a white t-shirt with navy or black shorts. All children need trainers to change into for outdoor PE. In winter, children will need a tracksuit to keep them warm during outdoor PE and this should be in dark, plain colours. For safety, please note that tracksuit tops without hoods are preferable. No jewellery should be worn and long hair should be tied back.

### EYFS Christmas Extravaganza



*Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Christmas festivities. There was bobbing for baubles, pin the nose on Rudolph, tasty treats to eat and face painting. Many children had to make*

*a big decision when making reindeer food. Did they want kind, strong or fast reindeer? Many children sensibly decided all three – a big decision! A particular highlight was Father Christmas who came and read stories to children in his grotto.*

*A fabulous time was had by all. Thanks to your kind donations, we raised lots of money to buy resources for Reception and Pre-School.*  
Mrs Hamilton

### Year 6 go to Hilltop

*On Tuesday 13th of November, most of Year Six went on an amazing residential trip to Hilltop. While we were there, we took part in some absolutely bonkers activities!*

*First of all, we boarded the coach and set off on a tedious two hour drive. Finally, we arrived at the resort. We were sorted into our rooms, and unpacked our luggage, before setting off for lunch in the quiet room. After lunch, we were assigned our afternoon activities: Tree Top Trail, Archery and Crates and 3D Maze. After that, we had a scrummy dinner, before we went for a spooky dark walk through the forest. We sang campfire songs and were scared out of our skins by our instructor and his blood-curdling ghost story about a fisherman and his dog (Woooo!)*

*The next day, we had an absolutely smashing full English breakfast and then went off to our morning activities (Treetop Trail, Archery and Crates and the 3D Maze) before having another delectable lunch.*

*In the afternoon, we took part in the Journey, Powerfan and Climbing and Bikes. We then had our dinner and set off on a magical adventure into the Enchanted Forest, which was exhausting. (We spent the whole time sprinting up and down hills.) Afterwards, we came inside and snuggled up to watch Toy Story.*

*Next morning, our group went off on the Journey (the rest of us did other activities). In the evening, after another delicious dinner and lunch, we had an amazing disco and watched another film.*

*On the last day, we went home and saw lots of family and friends, who were waiting for us when we returned.*

*Overall, we had a fantastic time and many of us conquered our fears!*

By Jason and Josh, Year 6