

Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 81

Gymnastics Expertise in Year 5



We have been very lucky to have Vicky Leighton, a PE specialist, team teaching gymnastics to all children in Year 5.

At the end of her half term of teaching, Jacob from Pelican class said, "It was really good fun doing gymnastics with your partner because you can do a lot of balances and counter balances. It was even better when we got out the apparatus and benches. The best bit about it was everything! It was amazing!"

Gymnastics is an important part of our PE curriculum at Thorndown and the children have benefited from Mrs Layton's expertise. Mrs Burke

Baby News

Congratulations to Mrs Dunsdon and Mrs Dabbs, who both had baby girls during February. Both mums are doing well and we look forward to welcoming them in to see us all soon.

Rotary Club Quiz



Excited and intrigued, we gradually entered the main school hall. After all of the Year Sixes that could make it had arrived, we sat down onto the

mats and listened to John and John - from the St Ives Rotary Club - explain the rules. Basically, if you knew the answer you had to raise your hand and if John picked you, you would say your answer.

There were three rounds, consisting of a history one, an entertainment one and a pot luck one. This was our favourite as it had the most variety of questions! Our team managed to answer most of them but a few of them were extremely difficult; there was one about the presenters of Newsround! After each round, we had a ten minute interval in which we could have a quick drink of water and a chat. Once all the rounds had been successfully completed, we waited for our placing in the quiz (the highest placing Thorndown had ever achieved was 3rd place) via phone call and...

It turns out - WE WON!!! Everyone cheered, the parents clapped; Thorndown School were victorious once again!

By Beatrice, Keeley and Lily, Year 6

Stone Age Clothes

All pupils in Year 3 have been learning about the Stone Age this term. As part of the topic, they have been writing instructions about how to make Stone Age clothes. A few examples were chosen by the Norris Museum to put on their display. Do look out for Thorndown writing if you visit!

Gardening



The school is looking for an adult to run two gardening sessions from 1.30pm until 3pm on two afternoons a week. During the afternoons you will be expected to work with the children from all over the school planting and looking after our garden allotments by the Foundation Stage playground. We can pay a very small amount per hour and you will be subjected to enhanced DBS check.

If you think that from April to October this could be the role for you, and you have very green

fingers, then please make an appointment through the school office to meet with Miss Godbold.

Parents' Evenings 2019-2020

On our yearly parent questionnaire we asked you about your preferred length of appointments during parents' evenings 2019-2020. The majority of parents voted for a long 20 minute slot in the Autumn Term and a 10 minute slot in the Spring Term.

Therefore, we will now be setting a date for a consultation day in November of the next academic year. This will be added to the Whole School Academic Dates Schedule on our website as soon as we have confirmed it.

Thank you for your voting and for your comments on parent evenings.

Book Week 2019



Last week was Book Week at Thorndown. Our school has been focussing on 'The Lost Words' book. Lion class has been looking at the word 'Newt'. Every other class has done a different word from the book. We have all written an acrostic poem and done a piece of art for our word. Then we put two pieces from every class into Thorndown's own version of the book. On Friday, we all dressed up as an animal for World Book Day – even the staff dressed up. Watch out for Granny - or is it the wolf!

Olivia, Year 5



The Lost Words Book is by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris and was produced to

demonstrate and showcase several words which are slowly disappearing from children's spoken and written language. These words are tightly linked to nature, such as wren, newt, heron and ivy, and the book aims to bring these words to life through beautifully written and illustrated poems. Children are beginning to spend less time outside exploring and understanding nature and, as result, are losing lots of these precious words which should not be forgotten. At Thorndown, we have spent the week exploring a word in each class from this book and created our own Lost Words book, containing poems and art to ensure these words don't get lost!

Mr Peel

Thank you for the imaginative costumes you all found to dress up in.



Snowman Donation



I was delighted, even whilst dressed as a giraffe, to receive a £100 cheque from the Snowman Festival committee last week. In November, the school made over 200 snowmen to support this community event in St Ives town.

The money will be used to pay for more art and DT equipment throughout the school.

Thank you for thinking of us.