

Thorndown Newsletter

Number: 83



Happy Easter

I'd like to wish every member of Thorndown's school community a very Happy Easter and hope you have a chance to relax and get ready for another busy term.

I hope to see everyone again on Wednesday 23rd April as we start the Summer Term.

Vicci Godbold

Golf

Matt Leach, from St Ives golf club (near Needingworth), has been teaching our Year 3 children golf this half term. The children have really enjoyed using the mini plastic putters, and wedges to develop their co-ordination and skills. Over the weeks, the children have definitely improved their striking ability and accuracy of aim. Now they can get their ball on to the green, near a flag and have been scoring points for chipping onto lily pads proving that golf is not just for adults!



Year 3 go back to the Stone Ages!

*On Thursday 21st March, the Year 3 children took a trip back to the stone age to have a go at making their own den. The classes have been reading *Stig of the Dump* and tried to create a home fit for Stone Age man. Children sourced natural materials to build their structures, relying on team work and perseverance.*

A good time was had by all, although I fear many would get very wet if they tried to live in them!

Mr Lemmon

Year 4 Production 2019 Midsummer Night's Dream



On Tuesday 2nd April, Year 4 performed a version of Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream.

All of Year 4 stood on the stage and wowed their families with clear voices and excellent singing; they made us all very proud. There was real feeling of team spirit with everyone doing their bit for the production. Well done to all the children who took part and a big thank you to their Year 4 teachers and TA team.



Mother's Day Foundation Stage Celebrations



The children in Reception celebrated Mothering Sunday by inviting their mothers to

the small, hall where the children performed poems and sang songs. The mums then returned to the classroom to receive the cards and gifts that the children had made themselves.

Year 3 are Hoodwinked!

On Thursday 4th April, Year 3 gave two excellent performances of the play Hoodwinked. This play is based on the tale of Robin Hood and links in with traditional tales, which was the focus of Year 3 reading work this term. This was traditional tale with a very modern twist.



I know all the families who attended enjoyed seeing their special people on stage.



Again, I was very proud seeing them all enjoy being on stage and speaking and singing very clearly. Well done to all pupils involved and for the Year 3 teaching and TA team who made this happen.



Year 6 Shelter Box

Toucans and Leopards (Year 6) have spent approximately 10 weeks learning about natural disasters, how they impact our earth, people living in the places affected and how the charity ShelterBox provide support in natural disasters.

We have been fundraising for ShelterBox and invited Janet (a volunteer from ShelterBox) and Keith (a member of the Rotary Club) to Thorndown to tell us more about the work of this charity. We already raised £150 with a cake sale and donated a blanket to be displayed in the ShelterBox visitor centre in Cornwall. Each member of Year 6 contributed to the mosaic of brightly coloured pictures and messages of hope stitched together to form this blanket - messages such as "Stay strong", "Be positive", "The light will shine through again", "You're special wherever you are" and "It's OK to be afraid - you're safe now".



We sat spellbound as we saw pictures of the effect of flooding and the relief on the faces of the people who have received vital aid. We also saw first-hand the iconic big green ShelterBox containing a tent to house a whole family, blankets, tools and other household items.



We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Janet and Keith for visiting us and sharing their knowledge.

The Year 6 Team

Gym Competition Part 2

The Thorndown Gymnastics squad from Year 3 and 4 were very proud to attend the Cambridgeshire Primary schools final on 28th March. We were against 10 other schools who had also won their regional heats and the competition was fierce! The Thorndown squad all vaulted to a very high standard. After a nerve-racking wait, the children performed their floor routines, again with great strength and flexibility. When the scores were announced, we were thrilled to be only 6 points behind the winning team and placed 8th overall. Well done to all the gymnasts who took part and to the parents who helped train and support the children. If your child is interested in taking part in gymnastics at Thorndown, we have a very successful gym club, "Amy's Acro", running after school every Monday. Details can be found on Mrs Cook's Summer Term Club handout.

Mrs Burke, PE Lead



Year 5 Go Viking Mad!

We had our Viking day on Monday and it was one of the best experiences we have had. The day was mostly about the Vikings and what they did.

Did you know that being a Viking was just something they did, not the actual name of the people? In the afternoon, we enjoyed the story about Grendel and we got to re-enact scenes from the story. We also enjoyed being part of the powerful Raven and Wolf tribes, attacking one another with our battle cry! During the day, we also got to touch and handle precious artefacts from this time period.

By Lara Year 5



Mexico presentation in Year 1



Thank you to Ellie's mum this week. She read all of Year 1 a story in Spanish and taught us how to sing head shoulders knees and toes. It was a lovely end to our day all linked to our Mexico topic.
Miss Goulding

Morning Sessions

As soon your child/ren arrive at school in the morning, the pupils start their day with 'early work.' This includes handwriting practice, mental maths work and problem solving. **If your child arrives after 9am, they will lose over 50 minutes of valuable learning time a week, which is equivalent to 9500 minutes – or 158 hours- of learning time in an academic year.**

We open KS1 doors at 8.50am and, to prevent congestion, open the KS2 stairs doors from 8.45am.

Hair and Jewellery

I would like to please remind all pupils and parents that long hair must be tied up during school time. This includes boys and girls.

Small stud like earrings can be worn but must be able to be removed for PE. If your child is going to get their ears pierced, please can this be done during a long holiday, as pupils cannot do PE with earrings in. Not being able to remove them means they are not having access to the entire curriculum, which they are required to do. This is a Cambridgeshire County Council policy.

Thank you for your help.