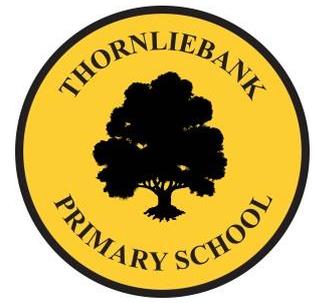




Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.



THORNIEBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL and EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE CENTRE (ELCC)



NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Nurturing Growth in our School Community

Excellent Education
Happy and Healthy
Respectful and Responsible
Caring and Considerate Community
Everyone is Equal
Inclusive and Integrated
Motivated
Supportive and Safe



Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to our November newsletter. I cannot believe how quickly the weeks are flying by and the recent icy cold weather has indicated that winter is well and truly here. We are making a big effort to ensure all of our children have time to learn, play and relax outdoors even when the weather is decidedly chilly and I would ask you to continue to ensure your child comes to school suitably dressed for the cold weather.



I wrote to you in October about our Adverse Weather Contingency Plan and would remind you that if the school and nursery require to be closed early during the course of the day we will alert you via text message, our school website and our Twitter feed. It is extremely important that we have up-to-date contact details for you- please inform the school office of any recent changes.

Our recent Parents' Night was extremely well attended and it was great to get the opportunity to catch up with so many of you. A huge thanks to all those who completed our family engagement and fluoride surveys and who took the time to update their e-mail contacts with us. If you were unable to make your Parents' Night appointment and have not yet had a chance to re-arrange, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

We are entering a very busy period in the life of a primary school and nursery and I would like to bring your attention to the following dates:

Date	Event	Time
Saturday 3 Dec	Parent Council Christmas Fair	10am-12noon (all welcome)
Tues 13 Dec	P5/6 Christmas Party	pm
Weds 14 Dec	P3/4 Christmas Party	pm
Thurs 15 Dec	P1/2 Christmas Party	pm (parents and carers invited to attend at 2.30pm)
Friday 16 Dec	Nursery Nativity	9.45am and 2pm (parents and carers invited to attend)
Friday 16 Dec	P7 Party and Woodfarm Cluster Ceilidh	am and pm
Monday 19 Dec	School Nativity and Concert	9.30am and 1.45pm (parents and carers invited to attend)

Please note that children may come to school in party clothes on the day of their Christmas party.

E-mail Correspondence

From January 5th, our main means of communication with parents and carers will be via e-mail and website posts. Text will only be used in extreme cases (as above). Paper communication will only be used when we require a signature of consent. If we do not have an up to date e-mail address for you, please contact the school office on 0141 570 7440 or print off and complete the tear-off slip below.



Staffing News

Congratulations to our Office Manager, Mrs Borland. After several years of dedicated service to Thornliebank on a temporary basis, she was asked to become a permanent member of the Thornliebank staff and thankfully agreed.

Congratulations also to Miss Lindsay who was successful at interview and secured a permanent teaching post at Calderwood Lodge Primary School. We are very

grateful to her for all her hard work, particularly in Primary 1, and wish her well when she takes up her new post in January.

October saw us waving goodbye to Mrs Carr. After many years as a very caring Pupil Support Assistant at Thornliebank, she truly deserves a relaxing retirement. We welcomed Miss Chung to the school as a pupil support assistant and M. Gouchez has returned as an additional teacher.

Parent Council News

The Parent Council's Hallowe'en Disco on October 28th was a great success with all those who attended enjoying a spooky night of fun and dancing. Many thanks to all the Parent Council members who helped to organise this event and to Mrs Mutrie and Sainsbury's for organising dooking for apples.



The Parent Council's next big event is the Christmas Fair on Saturday 3rd December. The fair is the ideal opportunity to pick up a Christmas bargain, have lots of fun and maybe even meet our bearded VIP guest. The fair opens at 10 am and entry is £2 per person. A huge thanks to all those who have made donations to our stalls and to our raffle and tombola prizes. There is still plenty of time for further donations which can be handed to your child's class teacher or directly to the school office (particularly in the case of bottles).

As always, all monies raised by the Parent Council are donated to the school to fund resources and initiatives that may otherwise not be possible. The Parent Council takes the lead in deciding how this money should be spent and is always keen to receive ideas and suggestions from the wider parent forum.

Sponsored Circuit Event Challenge

A huge well done goes to all the children of Thornliebank Primary and ELCC for their outstanding fundraising efforts during our sponsored circuit event challenge. Not only did the children develop fitness, build stamina and have great fun, they managed to raise an amazing £1200 for school funds and £143 for ELCC funds. This money will cover transport costs for a range of learning excursions and sporting events over the course of this session. Many thanks to Mrs McGarvey and Mrs Baxter for organising this event and to all of the extremely generous friends and families who sponsored our young people.

Cinderella Performance



M and M Theatre Productions visited the school on Thursday 27th October to perform their latest pantomime, 'Cinderella'. The all-singing, all-dancing performance, paid for from school fund, was extremely well received and is a perfect example of the special activities that your generosity allows us to provide for the children.

World of Work Week

Another recent success was our World of Work Week with many parent volunteers giving up their time to speak to our children about the employability skills they use on a daily basis. I would like to thank all the parents and members of the local community who got involved in supporting this. Children are learning about the skills needed for learning, life and work throughout the year in all that they do. This focused week is an opportunity to hear from experts about how these skills are put into action in specific jobs. It culminated in our fantastic 'Dress for the Future Day' where the children had the opportunity to think about a possible future career. Thank you to Mrs McGarvey and Mrs McDonald for organising this week and to Sainsbury's for inviting out Primary 5s on a 'behind the scenes' visit.



Right on Time Week

The week beginning 14th November was Right on Time Week and every class rose to the challenge of being the class with the highest overall average percentage of children arriving right on time at five to nine. Being on time helps our children start the day in a positive, relaxed way and ensures they get the best from their learning. We encourage being right on time throughout the year but use Right on Time week as a way of highlighting the importance of punctuality. The children did extremely well and the results were as follows:



P1- 95.4%

P2- 97.6%

P3- 94.2%

P4- 93.8%

P5- 93.3%

P6- 95.6%

P7- 96.4%

As you can see, Primary 2 was our overall winning class and the children have earned themselves an additional playtime for their efforts.

NHS Guidance

NHS guidance states that children with sickness or diarrhoea should not return to school until at least 48 hours after their last bout of illness. This is obviously very important within a primary school in order to prevent the spread of infection and I would be grateful if you could be mindful of this advice. Children who are sick in the evening or during the night should not attend school or ELCC the following day under any circumstances.

In order to prevent the spread of head lice, it is important to regularly check and comb through your child's hair.



Safe Travel

Our Junior Road Safety Officers will shortly be meeting to refresh and update Thornliebank's Travel Plan. If you have an interest in promoting safe travel and would

be willing to support staff and children in reviewing their plan, I would be grateful to hear from you.

It is important that we work as a community to promote road safety and I would urge all car users, particularly those dropping off or parking on Bangorshill Street, to use extreme caution when pulling in or away from the kerb. There have been reports of several near misses lately and it is important if you have to drive to school, you take full responsibility for all our children's safety. If you witness anyone driving carelessly and endangering our children, I would also urge you to contact the police as soon as possible.

Congratulations go to Aimee (P6) and Alex (P2) for achieving Highly Commended awards for their entries in East Renfrewshire's road safety competition.

Finally

If you have any queries, concerns or suggestions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. At Thornliebank Primary School and ELCC, we want your child's time here to be happy, safe and successful.

Kind regards,

Alasdair McDonald

Thornliebank Primary and ELCC- Parent/ Carer E-mail contact details

Pupil's/Pupils' name(s) and class(es) _____

Parent/ Carer 1 name and e-mail address: _____

Parent/ Carer 2 (if applicable) name and e-mail address _____
