



Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class



August 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Welcome back!

I would like to offer a very warm welcome to all our new families in the nursery and the school, and to welcome back our returning families for another school year. The children are settling back into their new classes, and it has been lovely to see them so excited about coming back to school.

Introductions

I would like to introduce myself as Mrs. Gayle McDonald. I am delighted to have taken on the role of Acting Head Teacher while Mrs. Jenni Miller is off on maternity leave. I have previously worked in Thornliebank, and I am very excited to be part of the team again. Thank you to all who have made me feel so welcome since I joined, and I look forward to getting to know everyone in the school community. My priority as Head Teacher is to reinforce the school values of nurture, kindness, respect and effort, and to ensure that Thornliebank continues to be a nurturing, safe and fun learning environment where all children can meet their fullest potential. Please feel free to get in touch if I can help you with anything. My direct email address is mcdonaldg2@thornliebank.e-renfrew.sch.uk or through the school office using the contact details at the bottom of the page.



Gayle McDonald

Leadership Team

If you would like to speak to a member of the Leadership Team about anything, here are the details of who looks after each department:

Depute Head Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Wilson- P4 to P7

Principal Teacher: Mrs. Janine McGarvey- P2 and P3

Principal Teacher: Mrs. Amanda MacAskill- Nursery and P1



Janine McGarvey



Jennifer Wilson



Amanda MacAskill

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs. Miller, who welcomed a healthy baby girl over the summer. I am sure you will join me in sending her and her family our best wishes at this exciting time.

We have welcomed 3 new staff to the team this session. Miss Lindsay Ferguson joins us as a newly qualified teacher, and she is teaching P5 this year. Mrs. Audrey Grubb joins us from Calderwood Lodge Primary, and she will be offering support for learning within the school. Miss Gemma Parker joins the Nursery as a Modern Apprentice.

Meet the Teacher- 24.8.22

Our Meet the Teacher event is on Wednesday 24th August at 6:30pm. You will have the opportunity to visit your child/ children's classrooms and hear more about what to expect this session. To give families with more than one child the opportunity to visit all classes, the teachers will run 3 presentation slots of 20 minutes each (6:30 – 6:50, 6:50 – 7:10 and 7:10 – 7:30). A bell will ring to indicate the start of the next presentation slot. We look forward to seeing you there.

P7 Lockerbie Manor Information Evening- 25.8.22

There will be an information session for P7 parents on Thursday 25th August at 6:30 at **Giffnock Primary**. We take part in the Lockerbie trip each year with the other cluster schools, to give the children extra opportunities to meet each other during this transition year. In the past, we have always found these information sessions to be very useful for both the P7 child and the parent, in order to begin the preparations for the excursion. General information about the content and nature of the week will be shared so that you can make the final decision as to whether or not you would like your child to attend. In previous years, almost all of our children have attended and we do hope that this will prove the case again.

P1 Lunch with Parents – 24.8.22

P1 parents have been sent a separate letter with the arrangements for the P1 taster lunch on Wednesday 24th August. We hope you can make it along to see what lunchtime is like in the 'Thornliebank Restaurant'!

School Improvement Priorities

Our School Improvement Plan has been written and it will be available on the website as soon as possible. The main priorities this session are continuing to raise attainment, ensuring equity for all, and involving families more in the life and work of the school. Over the past 2 years, we have really missed the opportunities to invite families into the school, and we are looking forward to having you in to visit regularly, and spending more time together as a community.

School Uniform

The children have all arrived to start the term looking very smart, so thank you for your support in encouraging them to wear uniform. Children in Primary 1 to 5 can **choose** either to wear a white shirt and Thornliebank tie, or a yellow or black polo shirt. Children in Primary 6 and 7 should wear a white shirt and Thornliebank tie. Plain black bottoms should be worn (not grey) and a plain black sweatshirt/cardigan (again, not grey). On a PE day, children should come to school wearing their PE clothes. We have a fantastic eco-friendly uniform rail, which is well stocked with all sizes available. We will have this rail on display at events such as Meet the Teacher, but it is also available all year round- just ask and we will be happy to help you find what you need. Making use of these great condition clothes (new or as-new condition) prevents landfill waste, and also saves everyone money!

Parent Council

We continue to be thankful for the ongoing work of the Parent Council here at Thornliebank. The first meeting this session is scheduled for Wednesday 7th September, online using Zoom. The Parent Council chair for this year is Andrea Shaarani and the contact email for Parent Council is thornliebankpc@gmail.com if you would like to get involved.

Gaelic Medium Primary Education Proposal

As some of you may already be aware, there is currently a consultation underway around a new provision of Gaelic Medium Primary Education (GMPE) within East Renfrewshire. Thornliebank Primary School has been identified as a potential location for this new provision, from next session (2023-24). You can find more information about the proposal, and share your views through the following link. The consultation will run until 30th September.

<https://getinvolved.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/education/consultationgmpe/>

We will, of course, keep you updated about any new developments as the consultation progresses.

Latecoming and Absences

If your child arrives late, please bring them to the school office so we can sign them in and help them to order their lunch. If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school office as early as possible to let us know. If they have an appointment during the school day, please let us know so we can get them ready to be collected at the office.

Dates for the Diary

Please find below some key dates for term 1:

Wednesday 24 th August- 6:30pm	Meet the Teacher
Thursday 25 th August – 6:30	P7 Lockerbie Manor information session at Giffnock Primary
Wednesday 7 th September – 7:00	Parent Council Meeting online (Zoom)
Monday 12 th September	Loose Parts activities all week provided by 'Operation Play Outdoors'
Tuesday 20 th September – 2pm	Find out more day/ open afternoons
Friday 23 rd September	Holiday- school and ELCC closed
Monday 26 th September	Holiday- school and ELCC closed
w/b 26 th September	Maths Week Scotland
Thursday 6 th October	Parents' Evening
Monday 17 th October	October week holiday- school and ELCC closed all week
Monday 24 th October	In-service day- school and ELCC closed for children
Date TBC	Parent Council Halloween Disco
w/b 14 th November	Book Week Scotland Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 23 rd December	Last day of term
Thursday 5 th January	Back to school!

Get in touch!

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. We also post regular updates on our Twitter page (@ThornliebankPS) and on our website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Thornliebank/>

Contact details for the school:

Telephone: 0141 570 7440

Email: schoolmail@thornliebank.e-renfrew.sch.uk

We are always here to help with any of your queries or concerns, so please get in touch!

Kind regards,

