



Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class



March 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Welcome to March's newsletter, as we head into the final week of this term. The children have been taking advantage of the light, sunny days and enjoying more outdoor learning. I hope this newsletter tells you about some key events in the life and work of the school, and gives you some dates for the diary. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about anything at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via the school office.

End of Term

Friday 31st March is the last day of term. Please note that school will finish at the earlier time of **2:30**.

Staffing News

This is Mrs. Audrey Grubb's last week at Thornliebank, as she goes off to pastures new. Thank you to Mrs. Grubb for everything she has done for our children this year so far, and we wish you all the best for the future. Miss Alex Maclean welcomed a beautiful baby boy. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Miss Maclean and wishing her and her family all the best.

Gaelic Medium Primary Education (GMPE)

Last week, we appointed our Gaelic Medium Principal Teacher, who we expect to start in May. His name is Mr. Adam McColgan- Smith, and he is currently Principal Teacher Sgoil na Coille Nuaidh (James Hamilton Gaelic School) in East Ayrshire. We look forward to him starting with us, and I am certain he will do a wonderful job of introducing Gaelic into our school community.

In terms of more information around the GMPE provision, we are still waiting on more information from the Scottish Government and the local authority. We have prioritised recruiting the Principal Teacher, as they will play a key role in preparing for the GMPE classes starting in August, and he will be involved in the recruitment process for additional Gaelic-speaking staff (initially the plans are for a part-time teacher and a Pupil Support Assistant).

I will continue to keep you updated as and when more information becomes available.

Parents' Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming you all tomorrow for parents' evening appointments. You will have the opportunity to talk with your child's teacher about their progress, and see their work. If you have missed the window for booking an appointment and would still like to come, we would love to see you so please call the school office who will be able to help.

School App

Coming soon! We are launching our new app, where you can access our contact details, lunch menus, school holidays, newsletters quickly and easily. We will send out more information about how to download and use the app, so watch this space!

Thornliebank Together – Participatory Budgeting Grant

Thank you to everyone who came down to Thorntree Hall on 18th March to vote for our school and nursery to receive participatory budgeting funding. We applied for money to help us buy an Operation Play Outdoors 'loose parts' hub, and also to buy sturdy storage for the nursery's wellies

NURTURE KINDNESS RESPECT EFFORT

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and muddy jackets. We were successful in both our bids, and I am delighted to share with you that we were awarded a total of £4000!

In addition to this, the Parent Council applied for money from the Humanitarian Fund and were successfully awarded this too! This money, plus the £2000 from the event at Thorntree Hall, should be enough to fund the Operation Play Outdoors hub! I am sure you will see the excited faces when this arrives through our Twitter pictures.

Cultural Celebration

Thank you to Mrs. McGarvey and the Diversity Champions group, who have organised different ways for the school community to share in Ramadan and Eid celebrations. This week, lots of children have been bringing in extra snacks to donate to our 'spare snack' box. Classes are learning information about Ramadan and making traditional decorations and cards.

We are planning a Cultural Celebration Day on April 28th to mark Eid, where everyone is invited to come to school wearing clothes that represents their culture. In the afternoon, families will be invited in to share food from all cultures and share in our celebrations.

Developing our Outdoor Space- Help Wanted!

We are looking for a team of volunteers to come in and help us to do some gardening and developing our outdoor space. As you may remember, we were successful in gaining a £2000 grant at the end of last year to develop a sensory garden/ outdoor space, and now we have some nicer weather on the way we would like to get started. If you would like to be involved, please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/TeXni8RvW9jFpzEL8>

We will also be asking people to sign up at parents' night tomorrow.

Food Larder/ Supermarket Vouchers

As we head into a school holiday, we know that for some families this presents additional costs. Please remember that we have our food larder every day on Bangorshill Street, which includes sanitary product, washing tablets and other consumables. Just ask if you don't see what you need! We also have a stock of Farmfoods vouchers available for any family who needs them. This is, of course, completely confidential- if you think some extra food vouchers would help your family out, please get in touch via email and we will pop them home in a discreet envelope.

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates in the diary for the rest of the session. I will include this in each monthly newsletter, and add any other dates as they come up.

Wednesday 29 th March	Parents' Evening
Friday 31 st March @ 2:30	School closes for Spring Break
Monday 3 rd April – Friday 14 th April	School closed for Spring Break – school reopens on Monday 17 th
Thursday 20 th April	Parent Council (7pm)
Friday 21 st April	Rescheduled Friday Fun Zine 2:30 -4:00
Friday 28 th April	Eid Celebration Day
Monday 1 st May	School closed- holiday
Tuesday 2 nd May	In-service Day
Friday 5 th May	P2 class assembly
Friday 5 th May	Coronation Fun Afternoon (more details to follow)
Monday 8 th May	King Charles III Coronation Day- school closed

Friday 26 th and Monday 29 th May	School closed- May holiday
Thursday 1 st June	Woodfarm Induction Day
Friday 9 th June	Whole school trip- Dumfries House
Wednesday 14 th June	P7 Leavers' Party 6pm – 7:30pm
Friday 16 th June	P7 leavers' ceremony Friday Fun Zone 2:30 – 4pm
Friday 23 rd June	End of term

Get in touch!

Find us on Twitter (@ThornliebankPS) and on our website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Thornliebank/>

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Kind regards,

