



Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class



Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank

October 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

October already, and it has been a busy few weeks! Thank you for your support and understanding while the school and nursery were closed for the strike days last week, I know it is not easy organising childcare and making alternative arrangements when you are working or have other commitments. I hope that this newsletter will give you an insight into what is happening in school and nursery at the moment, and we have more opportunities planned for you to come in and see for yourself. Partnerships with parents and carers are so important to us here at Thornliebank, and we want you to feel fully involved in your child's learning and the wider life of the school. If you have any suggestions on how we could further improve in this respect, please let us know.

As always, you can contact me via the school office if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards

Jenni Miller (Head Teacher)

Dates for your Diary

Friday 6 th October	Nursery Family Bookbug Event - parents and carers invited
Tuesday 10 th October	Parents' Evening (P1-7 and Clas 1)
Wednesday 11 th October	Nursery Stay and Play - parents and carers invited
Monday 16 th October	October week holiday - school and nursery closed all week
Monday 23 rd October	In-service day - school and nursery closed for all children
Tuesday 24 th October	Gaelic Medium Education Information Evening
Thursday 26 th October	Nursery Coffee and Chat in Family Room @ 2pm
Wednesday 1 st November	Parent Council Hallowe'en Discos
Friday 17 th November	1.45pm Primary 5 Assembly - P5 Parents and Carers invited 2.15pm Diwali Cultural Event - ALL Parents and Carers invited
Saturday 25 th November	Parent Council Christmas Fayre
Thursday 30 th November	Flu Immunisations in school
Friday 23 rd December	Last day of term - school closes @ 2.30pm
Monday 8 th January	Back to school!

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 - P5 to P7

Principal Teacher: Mrs Janine McGarvey - P2 to P4

Principal Teacher: Mrs Amanda MacAskill - Nursery and P1

Principal Teacher: Mr Adam McColgan-Smith - Gaelic Medium Class

NURTURE

KINDNESS

RESPECT

EFFORT

Parent and Carer Involvement Events

We have been delighted to welcome so many parents and carers into school already this year! The turnout for our Meet the Teacher event was excellent, and we hope you got lots of useful information about your child's class and their learning. Our first Open Afternoon was a great success and the children were really excited to have their visitors in class to share their learning with. Thank you to all of you who have supported these events. We now have almost everyone signed up for Seesaw, so you should all be seeing your child's learning experiences shared there regularly. Parents' Night is coming up next week and you should have received a separate email with the details on how to book an appointment - please contact the office if not. We have our first class assembly (Primary 5) and our Diwali Cultural Event planned for 17th November and we hope to see you there! Mrs McGarvey is also looking for parents and carers to join her Diversity and Equalities Group - if you are interested, please let her know.

Nut-free School



Please remember that we are a nut-free school, due to a number of children with severe allergies. Children should not bring snacks or lunch items containing nuts, including Nutella. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

School Uniform

For anyone still needing uniform items our recycled rail in the Family Room has lots of new and nearly new items - we are also currently accepting shoe, polo shirt and shirt donations. We have some vouchers for AC Schoolwear in Barrhead which entitles a pupil to a free uniform bundle and we also can do referrals to East Renfrewshire Uniform bank - please see Mrs McGarvey for any support with this.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council continue to work hard organising fundraising activities to help fund activities for children across the school. Last year, the Parent Council paid for buses for every class to go on an educational visit, as well as paying for the buses for the whole school and nursery trip at the end of the year. Without this help we would need to charge parents and carers considerably more for these trips, so we are very grateful for this support. Please look out for upcoming events including the Hallowe'en Discos and Christmas Fayre, and try to support the Parent Council wherever you can.

Building Works in the Main Building

As part of the development of our Gaelic Medium Education provision, some building work is currently taking place in the main building. The boys' toilets are being refurbished, followed by the girls', and some of the classrooms are having other improvements and adaptations. You will probably have noticed the site office and equipment in our staff car park since the work has started. Please be reassured that everyone is ensuring that the main building is still safe for all of our children while this work is ongoing.

Celebrating Achievements

We are always keen to share achievements in Thornliebank and have been doing this at weekly assemblies this term. Each week, a pupil from each class is awarded a Values Certificate for demonstrating one of our core values (Nurture, Kindness, Respect and Effort). We have also been celebrating wider achievements at assembly so please let us know if your child has something to celebrate from outside of school.

NURTURE

KINDNESS

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EFFORT

Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class 0141 570 7440 schoolmail@thornliebank.e-renfrew.sch.uk

Mike Gargrave is Retiring

Some of you may already know that Reverend Mike Gargrave from Thornliebank Parish Church is retiring at the end of October. Mike has supported our school and nursery for many years now, helping with RME lessons, contributing to assemblies, hosting assemblies in his church and running lunchtime clubs and afterschool clubs for our children. His Hot Chocolate Café has been a particularly big hit! We are going to really miss Mike when he retires and we would like to wish him happiness and health for the future. Mike will be joining us for one last assembly on 30th October.

School Absences and Latecoming

If your child arrives late to school and the children have already gone inside with their teacher, please bring your child to the school office and they will be taken to their class from there. Please remember, school starts at 9.00am. If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school office as early as possible to let us know. If your child has an appointment during the school day, please let us know so we can get them ready to be collected at the office.

Breakfast Cart and Playground Supervision

We are very fortunate to have a Breakfast Cart in Thornliebank, funded by East Renfrewshire Council, which is available for all children every morning between 8.45 and 9.00am. The children can come in via the gym hall door and help themselves to some toast or some fruit. Please note that there is playground supervision from 8.45am and we ask that children (especially younger children) do not arrive before this time without an adult as there will be no one in the playground to keep them safe.

Family Support

We have a new Family First link worker at Thornliebank. Seona Lawless has taken over from Julie Douglas and is in school, based in the Family Room on Fridays to offer a variety of support. We also have a new Bilingual Support Worker in school on Mondays. Faryal Choudhry is supporting some of our children for whom English is a second language, as well as linking in with parents and families to provide support. Nicola from the financial inclusion service is based in our school each Wednesday morning in the Family Room and can help with any claims for Free School Meals, Uniform Grants and other help with cost of living. She can also be contacted at financialinclusion@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk or 07741937871 or you can find information about further support at www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support

P1-3 Play Resources - Donations

We will happily take donations of old pots, pans and kitchen utensils for our outdoor mud kitchen, building resources such as wooden blocks, Lego especially base boards or materials such as KNEX or magnetix. Loose parts such as plastic bottle tops, corks, smooth pebbles, small card boxes, small pieces of material, ribbons, wool and buttons. Donations can be handed into the school office.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

We also post regular updates on our 'X' (Twitter page) @ThornliebankPS and on our website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Thornliebank/>

Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank is Clas 1

Gaelic Medium Education Information Evening

Here at the school we are hosting a Gaelic Medium Education (GME) Information session on Tuesday 24th October from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. This is an opportunity to find out more about GME and ask any questions you may have and about P1 registration for GME.

Clas 1 visit to our Nursery Class

Mrs Campbell along with Clas 1 pupils paid a visit to the nursery to sing some Gaelic songs with the boys and girls. This will be a regular opportunity for Clas 1 to share some of the songs they have been learning and for the nursery pupils to learn snippets of Gaelic through songs and stories.

Leugh is Seinn le Linda

There is going to be a 'Leugh is Seinn le Linda' session at Thornliebank Parish Church on Saturday the 18th of November. This session is an opportunity to learn some Gaelic through songs and listen to a story in Gaelic. Further details to follow.

Ceanglaichean Feumail | Useful links:

[LearnGaelic](#)

[Fàilte! - Gaelic4Parents](#)

[Cleachdi | Tachartasan Gàidhlig](#)

[BBC iPlayer - BBC ALBA](#)

NURSERY NEWS

Seesaw

We are delighted to say that we are now using Seesaw to share children's achievements with our families. You will receive frequent updates on your child's interests, development and progress. You can like and comment on your child's posts and your child can talk about their learning with you at home. Children also have their "Proud Patch" on the wall and their "Special Books" in nursery where they can put anything that they are proud of too.

Please register with your child's unique QR code to access your child's profile. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Talking and Thinking Floorbooks

At Thornliebank nursery class we put children at the centre of our planning process. Staff observe children's interests and listen to their voices during play to plan provocations to extend their learning and with the children record this in their Floorbook. Please ask the staff to show you and feel free to look through these at any time.

Football Taster Sessions

The children have thoroughly enjoyed having Coach Tommy from the Football Development Team delivering football taster sessions over 4 weeks. You will now have received an email with information for sessions that you can take your child along to.

Loose Parts

Each week the children have been exploring and designing with the new Operation Play Outdoors Loose Parts kit which is a new resource purchased for the whole school to share.

Families Reading Together

Our lending library is up and running and the children have been enjoying choosing a book to share at home. Please remember to return the book on Monday so that your child can choose a new book on Wednesday.

Childsmile

Children are now brushing their teeth every day at nursery. They are learning how to take care of their teeth and why it is important.

Learning Together

We have been enjoying playing and learning with our friends in Primary 1. This has been a great success and a highlight for the children is when we all join together for a Bookbug session.

We would like to invite nursery parents to join us for a Bookbug session on Friday 6th October.

Stay and Play

We would like to invite you along to stay and play in the nursery on Wednesday 11th October at 10am where you can play and share your child's learning for a day. If your child does not attend that day please feel free to bring your child along and join in.

Coffee and Chat

We had our first coffee and chat meeting which was well attended. It was suggested that we have them monthly for parents to get to know each other. The next coffee and chat session is on Thursday 26th October at 2pm please come along if you can.

Nursery Fund

At Thornliebank Nursery Class we kindly ask parents to contribute to our nursery fund this is £2 per week or £20 per term. This money is used to buy items for special celebrations, resources to support responsive planning with the children, activities like baking, cooking and gardening. The preferred method of payment is online via ParentPay. Our Business Support staff will issue login details if you do not already have an account. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to date.