



## Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class



### Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank

### March 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come into March, there is a glimmer of better weather after all the rain and wind at the start of this year! The sunshine we have seen over the past few days have definitely put a smile on all our faces. I hope that there will be more of this over the next few weeks and the children can make the most of all the new additions to our playgrounds. There is lots coming up in Thornliebank as you will see in this newsletter and, as always, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office if you have any other questions or concerns you wish to discuss.

Kind regards

Jenni Miller (Head Teacher)



### **Dates for your Diary**

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day P4 Swimming Lessons start
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday Fun Zone for P4-7
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	P7 go to Lockerbie Manor
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	P7 home from Lockerbie Manor Primary 1 Class Assembly - parents/carers invited
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Early finish - School stops at 2.30pm
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	HOLIDAY - nursery and school closed
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery and school reopen
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Primary 6 class assembly - parents/carers invited Whole school Eid Cultural Event

### **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

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## **Weekly Assemblies**

Every Friday we all come together in the hall to celebrate what has been happening across the nursery and school during the week. We hand out certificates to children who have been showing our school values and visible consistencies, as well as wider achievements that the children are proud of from out with school. If your child has any achievements that you think we should know about, please let Mrs Wilson know so we can celebrate them too. Assemblies are also a chance to find out more about what our committees are working on and what classes have been learning about. We have recently enjoyed Primary 4's assembly, which was all about Lunar New Year, and they were delighted to present to their parents and carers.

## **Gaelic Week Celebrations**

Our World Gaelic Week assembly was led by Mr McColgan-Smith and brought together a week of celebrations and events for World Gaelic Week. We had a very special visitor called Ruaridh, who played us some traditional music on a variety of instruments including the bagpipes and whistle. Mr McColgan-Smith and Mrs McLaughlin also joined in on their fiddles. We all loved tapping and clapping along! Miss Cameron gave us an amazing demonstration of Highland Dancing and Mrs Campbell led the whole school in a Gaelic song that we had learned throughout the week. Other events during the week included shinty tasters with Ms Hamilton and Gaelic-themed lunchtime clubs such as bingo and Duolingo. We are so lucky to host East Renfrewshire's Gaelic provision at Thornliebank and benefit from such a wide range of cultural experiences.

## **Pupil Council**



We have two newly established Pupil Council groups led by Mrs Miller. There is a P3-5 group and a P6/7 group. The children were appointed to the Pupil Council after filling in application forms showing they had a range of skills and qualities as well as some great ideas of how to improve our school. We look forward to keeping you updated with the work of both of these groups over the next few months.

## **Diversity and Inclusion Committee**



Mrs McGarvey continues to lead the Diversity and Inclusion Group, who help to arrange cultural events in Thornliebank, as well as looking at a range of issues that affect our school community. At the moment, they are talking about Ramadan and Eid, and looking into relevant news sources to help us understand world events. More information will follow shortly about our Eid Cultural Day, which will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

## **Involvement in Local Area Improvements**

We have been asked to contribute to some improvements planned for the local area and have had a visit last week from an architect and other people involved in the project. There are going to be some changes to the road layout on Main Street and Primary 4 are getting involved with planning some playground designs. We are delighted to be able to contribute to local improvements and will keep you posted as the project moves on.

## Thornliebank Road Bridge Replacement Works

You may have seen information on social media about the planned work on Thornliebank Railway Bridge. This is due to start in early April and is likely to have a significant impact on many of our families' journeys to and from school. Two in-person public drop-in events will take place at Thorntree Hall on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 March from 4pm - 7pm. Please click on these links to find out more and make sure you are prepared for the road closures that will be happening. <https://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/news/vehicles-to-be-diverted-as-gbp-5-5m-thornliebank-road-bridge-replacement-begins-in-april> and <http://firstbus.co.uk/greater-glasgow>

## Parents' Night Appointments

Thank you to everyone who came along to meet with your child's teacher at our recent parents' night. We were delighted to see so many parents and carers in school finding out about the progress their child is making in their learning. If you didn't get a chance to complete our quick feedback form at the time, the link will remain open until Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Please share your thoughts with us so that we can make any changes and improvements that are needed. [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4WjOKVQTctawUZKXAp\\_Hxw81xFij-62jWFGb1UQ0o0NOE1MkiTRkc2TTRTNVBNSENUWVBVRy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4WjOKVQTctawUZKXAp_Hxw81xFij-62jWFGb1UQ0o0NOE1MkiTRkc2TTRTNVBNSENUWVBVRy4u)

## After School Clubs

This term we have several after school clubs on offer, both here and at Woodfarm High School. We are very grateful to Mrs McGarvey and Craig Gordon (our Active Schools Co-ordinator) for organising these, as well as the volunteers from Woodfarm and our own staff for helping to run and supervise the clubs. Our pupils are enjoying volleyball, netball, dance/cheer and multi-games. Miss Khan is planning some more opportunities for next term - watch this space...



## Class Trips

Several of our classes have been out and about in the local area and further afield on their class trips. We are very grateful to the Parent Council who have covered all travel costs for these trips, which makes a massive difference as transport is the biggest cost involved with trips. We would not be able to make these happen for each class if it was not for the funds provided by the Parent Council. Recently we have had visits to Summerlee and the Glasgow Science Centre. We would also like to thank the parents and carers who have volunteered to come along to help supervise on the day - thank you!

## Parent Council

Our Parent Council continue to be an amazing support to the ongoing life and work of our nursery and school. As well as funding transport costs for all of our trips, they have been successful in securing a range of grants, which have helped us to make improvements to our outdoor areas. The children are loving the new wildlife/sensory garden in the upper playground, and we are delighted with our loose parts container which supports our learning across the curriculum, including in the STEM subjects. The Parent Council are currently applying to Thornliebank Together for funding to make improvement in the nursery garden and to facilitate an event for our nursery and their Grand-friends from Trust Housing. More information will be shared about how you can support these bids by voting at the upcoming Participatory Budgeting event.

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Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class    0141 570 7440    [schoolmail@thornliebank.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@thornliebank.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

## World Book Day



You should have received a separate email with information about World Book Day, which takes place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. We are looking forward to a range of book-related activities across the nursery and school, and will share pictures on Twitter and in our next newsletter.

## 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.

## Family Support

Nicola from the financial inclusion service is our link worker 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](mailto:financialinclusion@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk) or 07741937871 or you can find information about further support at [www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support](http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support)

## Playground Improvements

In addition to the works funded by our Parent Council, we have had a few new additions to our outdoor spaces, which have been funded by East Renfrewshire Council as part of the building works linked with the Gaelic Provision. We now have an outdoor classroom in the Primary 7 playground, a playhouse in the middle playground and a stage, tepee, playhouse and climbing wall in the infant playground. The children have been having a great time exploring all the new equipment and we are all so happy that our playgrounds are looking much improved and are providing a range of opportunities for imaginative and physical play experiences.



## Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank is Clas 1

### **Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2024 | World Gaelic Week 2024**

This was an extremely busy week across Thornliebank Primary and Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank, as we celebrated World Gaelic Week for the first time in the school. All pupils learned Gaelic songs and greetings. There were opportunities for pupils in P2-P4 to take part in a Gaelic Bingo club and for P5-P7 pupils to take part in a Gaelic Duolingo club. Some pupils from the Nursery and up to P7 had the opportunity to try shinty in PE as we borrowed shinty equipment from another school. We welcomed visits from Bun-sgoil an Iar in Paisley for story and song sessions. Clas 1 had the opportunity to visit Bun-sgoil an Iar and try some step dancing. There were other opportunities for all classes to explore Gaelic stories and song, this culminated in the whole school singing a Gaelic song together at assembly. We ended the week at a whole school assembly on Friday 23rd February when we had a visiting musician, Ruairidh Buxton, showcasing traditional Scottish music. Some staff even played some instruments or demonstrated their Highland Dancing skills. A huge thank you to all involved our first Seachdain na Gàidhlig!

### **Gaelic Bookbug Sessions**

It was excellent to see the launch of Gaelic Bookbug sessions across various East Renfrewshire libraries. Session dates and times are listed below and more information can be found here:

<https://www.ercultureandleisure.org/libraries/children-and-young-people/bookbug-and-early-learning-2/>

Thornliebank Library	- Tuesday 20th Feb, Tuesday 5th Mar and Tuesday 19th Mar at 10.15am
Giffnock Library	- Friday 23rd Feb 10.30am, Wed 6th Mar 2.15pm and Wed 20th Mar 2.25pm
Neilston Library	- Tuesday 27th Feb at 2.15pm
Clarkston Library	- Tuesday 27th Feb 10.30am and Wednesday 13th Mar 2.15pm
Barrhead Foundry Library	- Friday 1st Mar and Friday 15th Mar at 10.30am
Busby Library	- Friday 8th Mar and Friday 22nd Mar at 9.30am
Mearns Library	- Tuesday 12th Mar at 10.30am

Ceanglaichean Feumail | Useful links:

[LearnGaelic](#)

[Fàilte! - Gaelic4Parents](#)

[Cleachdi | Tachartasan Gàidhlig](#)

[BBC iPlayer - BBC ALBA](#)

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## NURSERY NEWS

### **Stay and Play**

We had a very successful Stay and Play where we shared our Froebelian approaches to both woodwork and creativity with our families. The children really enjoyed sharing their expertise with their families. We hope you enjoyed this event and are already planning the next one, which will have a focus on a different Froebelian approach.

### **Big Booky Breakfast**

On Thursday 7th March to celebrate World Book Day, we will be having a big Booky Breakfast where children can wear their onesies or pyjamas and bring their favourite book to nursery.

### **Family Bookbug**

Please join us on Friday 15th March where we will have a family Bookbug session in the nursery at 2.15pm. If anyone would like to volunteer to come and read stories anytime within the nursery please speak to a member of staff.

### **Grand friends**

A small group of children visit our Grand friends at Trust Housing each fortnight. Both the children and our Grand friends enjoy playing and learning together and have developed lovely warm relationships.

### **Nursery garden**

The children are enjoying watching the seasonal changes on our fabulous new Willow Den, which has lots of catkins appearing! We can't wait to play and hide in our den once all the leaves appear!

We are also always on the lookout for interesting objects to enhance this garden, such as:

- Plants, shrubs or trees, especially bamboo or grasses
- Plant pots/planters
- Pallets/planks or cable drums
- Tubing or pipes
- Old Pots/Pans or kitchen utensils
- Bicycle wheels or any other interesting object!

Any donations would be gratefully received.

### **Nursery songbook**

We are still looking for submissions for the Nursery songbook, which can be emailed or handed in for the children to learn. Once complete, we hope this will be a record of songs and rhymes that are special to the children.

### **Coffee and Chat**

The next coffee and chat will be on Tuesday 26th March in our Family Room. Please come along to this informal event to enjoy with other parents/carers and staff. Everyone welcome!

### **Nursery Fund**

Thank you to everyone who has paid this term's nursery fund. Payments should be made through ParentPay and are £2 per week or £20 for the Term (Jan-March). If you do not have your ParentPay information or need any help to logon to pay please speak to a member of staff who can help.

This fund is used to buy additional snack items, develop the environment and support learning experiences. Recent purchases include ingredients for baking children's birthday cakes, making playdough, fruit for smoothies and spring craft resources.

### **Clothing**

Please check your child's nursery bag to ensure that they have a full change of clothes - socks, pants, trousers, and tops - for changes, especially during the wetter months. We also encourage the re-use of old Nursery uniform, so if you have any nursery t-shirts or sweatshirts that you no longer use, in decent condition, please feel free to hand these in for other children to use.

**Many thanks for your continued support and we would like to wish you all a relaxing Spring break when it comes.**

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

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