



Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class

Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank

September 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

September already! It has been a full-on start to this school year with lots happening across our school, nursery and Gaelic provision. We were delighted to welcome so many of you along to Meet the Teacher a couple of weeks ago, and hope it gave you lots of useful information as well as a chance to have a look around the learning environment where your child spends their time in school. There will be a range of opportunities for you to come into school this year and be involved in your child's learning journey as well as the wider life of the school - you will find more information on this as you read through this newsletter. We are also getting Seesaw up and running and have most families linked up - if you haven't returned the permission slip, please do so as soon as possible so that we can give you the QR code to access your child's account and see what they have uploaded so far this year. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or the relevant member of staff via the school office.

Kind regards

Jenni Miller (Head Teacher)

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 - P1 to P3

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

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 26 th September	Non-uniform Day
Friday 27 th September	HOLIDAY
Monday 30 th September	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 8 th October	Parent Council Meeting @ Woodfarm High School 7pm
Wednesday 9 th October	Parents' Night
Friday 11 th October	In-service Day
Monday 14 th - Friday 18 th October	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 29 th October	Parent Council Discos

Our School Values

From the very start of the new school year, we have been promoting our core values of NURTURE, KINDNESS, RESPECT and EFFORT. Our values are central to everything we do here at Thornliebank, and are key to our approaches for promoting positive relationships and behaviour. Each time we have an assembly, we celebrate children who have been consistently demonstrating some or all of our values. *At our P4-7 assembly last week, Ariana (P4), Charley (P5), Jessica (P6) and Sophia (P7) were all recognised for showing KINDNESS to their peers and adults in school.* As one of our pupils said recently, "Our values help us behave the right way". It is very important that we continue to remind all pupils of our values and the way they contribute to the ethos in our school, so if you get a chance perhaps you could have a chat about them with your child at home and encourage them to try to demonstrate our values in their actions.

Class Assemblies and Open Afternoons

This year, each class will be preparing an assembly and open afternoon to share some of their learning with parents, carers and families. You will be invited along to your child's class assembly and open afternoon nearer the time, but we thought it would be helpful to give you the dates in advance. The children love having their families in school and showing off their learning, so hopefully you can save the date and make it along when the time comes. These will all take place in the afternoon, from around 2.00pm.

Class 1/2	Friday 7 th March (tbc) - we will confirm shortly and let you know
P1	tbc - we will confirm shortly and let you know
P2	Friday 29 th November
P3	Friday 6 th June
P4	Friday 24 th January
P5	Friday 2 nd May
P6	Friday 1 st November
P7	Friday 28 th March

Parents' Nights

Once again this year, we will be having three parents' nights throughout the year and using Seesaw to keep you regularly updated about your child's learning journey. The dates for parents' nights are as follows:

Wednesday 9 th October	3.30 - 9.00pm
Thursday 13 th February	3.30 - 9.00pm
Wednesday 21 st May	3.30 - 9.00pm

You will receive information prior to each of these dates with information on how to book your appointment. Please note that appointments are booked through ParentsPortal and you are required to sign up to this system in order to make your appointment.

Sponsored Danceathon

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported their child in gathering sponsors for our whole school and nursery danceathon. We have already collected in around £1200 and all the money will go directly into school and nursery funds to provide the children with additional activities and opportunities in school, including subsidies for school trips and replenishing art supplies. We are very grateful for the support of parents, carers and families for this event.

Thornliebank Library Community Garden

We were delighted to be invited along to the official launch of the Thornliebank Library Community garden this week. Pupils from Thornliebank Primary have been involved in the development of the Library Community Garden from the very earliest planning stages. They contributed to the design of the logo for the project as well as the plans for developing the library garden space. Children from Clas 1/2 and P4 attended the launch and loved exploring the garden and seeing how the plans have come to life. The bug hotel was a particular favourite, and our Gaelic class will be heading back along to investigate this further as part of their learning about minibeasts. We are looking forward to continuing the partnerships that have been established through the project and making use of the library garden regularly with our classes for outdoor reading and wider outdoor learning opportunities.

School Absence and Latecoming

Please remember that school starts at 9.00am. It is very important that children are here on time, as it ensures they have a settled start to their day and are part of the morning routine where they will find out what will be happening that day, order their lunch and have their attendance noted. If your child arrives late to school and the rest of the class have already gone inside with their teacher, please bring your child to the school office and they will be directed to their class from there.

There is adult supervision in the playgrounds **from 8.45am** for children who arrive early. Please note that we are not responsible for your child should they access the playground prior to this time.

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school office as early as possible to let us know the reason for their absence and how long you expect them to be off school.

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. We would very much appreciate you giving us as much notice as possible if you wish to collect your child for an appointment, as it can be difficult to pass on messages at the last minute if our office is short staffed.

If you are going to be late to collect your child from school, please contact the school office in plenty of time so that we can get a message to their class teacher and ensure that they come to the school office to wait safely until they are collected.

School Meals

Every child in Primary 1 to 5 currently receives a free school meal. Pupils in P6 and 7 require a ParentPay account to allow them to order and pay for their lunch. Lunches are ordered in class first thing each morning to allow the kitchen staff enough time to prepare what is required and minimise waste. A copy of the menu has been sent out with this newsletter so you can discuss the options with your child (parents/carers of our younger children can find this helpful).

The first day back after a holiday is always the Monday menu for that week and then the normal days will follow.

Our catering manager is available to meet with parents/carers to discuss and plan for any food intolerances or dietary requirements - please contact the school office to arrange this.

Nut-free School

Please note 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 and PE Kit

As a reminder, our school uniform is as follows:

Black trousers/shorts/skirt/leggings

Black sweatshirt*

Yellow or black polo shirt for P1-5*

White shirt and school tie for P6/7

Black shoes

On PE days, your child should wear their PE kit to school, to save time changing during the school day. PE kit is as follows:

Black shorts/joggers/leggings

Yellow or white polo shirt or t-shirt*

Appropriate footwear for indoor or outdoor PE

There is a separate logo and tie for children attending Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank.

* Polo shirts, t-shirts and sweatshirts do not have to have the Thornliebank logo - plain ones can be purchased from most supermarkets to keep costs down. If you do wish to have uniform items with the school logo, these can be purchased online from Schoolwear Made Easy.

We have a very well stocked uniform rail in the family room if you need any items for your child. The uniform is all either barely used or brand new and you are welcome to come in and take what you need.

Personal belongings and water bottles

Please ensure that all personal belongings and water bottles are labelled with your child's name. You would not believe how quickly our lost property box fills up and overflows with un-named items after just a couple of days back in school. Every child should bring a water bottle to school each day. There are water coolers in both building where they can be refilled. We discourage children from bringing juice in their water bottles and fizzy drinks are not permitted.

Family Support

Nicola Reid-Taylor from the financial inclusion service is based in our school each Wednesday morning and can help with any claims for Free School Meals, Uniform Grants and other help with cost of living. Nicola can also be contacted at financialinclusion@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk or 07741937871.



Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank

It has been an excellent start to the new term as we welcomed our second P1 cohort to Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank. Primary 1 (Clas 1) and Primary 2 (Clas 2) are now together in a composite class and have been enjoying building friendships within the class and across the wider school.

Gàrradh ùr aig Leabhar-lann Thornliebank | Thornliebank Library Garden Visit



Clas 1/2 had the opportunity to attend Thornliebank Library on Monday 2nd of September for the opening of their library garden. Some Primary 4 pupils also came along and were excellent role models to the younger pupils. Pupils enjoyed exploring the garden, adding to the biggest bug hotel we've ever seen, playing and hearing some stories. We look forward to further opportunities to visit the library and new garden.



Ceanglaichean le sgoiltean eile | Gaelic Medium School Links

We will be continuing to build links with other Gaelic Medium schools throughout this session. This will begin with staff from four different schools coming together to share practice, plan for Gaelic literacy developments and plan for further collaborative learning opportunities.

Clasaichean Gàidhlig | Gaelic Classes



NURTURE KINDNESS RESPECT EFFORT

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

NURSERY NEWS

Welcome

A warm welcome back to our nursery children and families and to all the new children and families who have recently started with us. The children are settling so well and are enjoying playing and building friendships. We are very much looking forward to working with you all this year.

Nursery Garden

We are absolutely delighted with our new sensory garden and the children have all been enjoying exploring and playing in it. This was made possible by a Parent Council grant from Thornliebank Together and our Nursery fund, which enabled us to develop this area for play and learning. At Thornliebank Nursery Class, we kindly ask parents and carers 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.

Thank you for providing suitable clothes for outdoors. The children use this area each day no matter what the weather is like. It is important that your child is warm and dry to enjoy these vital experiences. Please provide a pair of named wellies and if you wish an outdoor waterproof suit although we have outdoor suits which your child can use in nursery. Sometimes children get wet or muddy during play please also remember to provide spare clothes including underwear and socks for their nursery bag and replenish this if they have been changed. Please ensure all clothing is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Lunches/Snack

Lunches and snack are a great success with all the children enjoying healthy choices. The children are developing their independence skills during play selecting their snack and pouring their milk or water by themselves. During lunch children are enjoying homemade soup and a variety of delicious healthy lunches. This is a very sociable time for staff and children as we eat together with lots of chat and again the children are independently setting the table and serving each other.

Care Plans

You will now have received your child's care plan, which we encourage you to fill in and return as soon as possible. This enables us to best meet your child's needs by promoting their wellbeing and tune into their stage of development. Through regular communication with parents/carers and the children themselves, and these will be reviewed and updated throughout the year.

X

We share learning and achievements online through our nursery X (formerly known as Twitter) page. Please request to follow us **@Thornliebank NC** to celebrate our nursery learning journey. This allows you to see our pictures and posts and is a great place to keep up to date with what is happening in the nursery.

We look forward to working with you and your child over the coming months.

Warm wishes,

The Nursery Team.