



## Thornliebank Primary School and Nursery Class

### Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank

### November 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you were able to enjoy the October Week holiday, although it feels like a distant memory now that we have had Hallowe'en, Diwali, Bonfire Night and even some chat of Christmas in school! As you will see from this newsletter, there has been lots happening in and around our nursery and school over the past few weeks and plenty to look forward to between now and the end of this term. I hope you can take some time to read the newsletter and keep up-to-date with all the key information detailed here and, as always, if you have any questions, concerns or complaints please contact me 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**

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-Bullying Week 2024 starts
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Primary 4 visit to Thornliebank Library
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Carer Neurodiversity support group 1.30pm in the Family Room
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Non-uniform day - Christmas Fayre donations for the Parent Council Nursery parent/carer Coffee and Chat 2.00pm in the Family Room
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Book Week Scotland 2024 starts
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Primary 1 and Clas 1/2 visit to Thornliebank Library
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Flu vaccines in school
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent Council Christmas Fayre 11am - 1pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Primary 1 and Primary 7 dental inspections in school Parent Council meeting 7pm @ Woodfarm High School
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Primary 6 visit to Thornliebank Library
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Primary 2 Class Assembly and Open Afternoon (P2 parents and carers invited)
<b>DECEMBER</b>	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Drop-in with Mrs Campbell for parents/carers of Gaelic learners 2.15pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Primary 7 Cluster Ceilidh at Woodfarm High School 1.30-2.30pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term (school closes at 2.30pm)

Other Christmas event dates will be emailed out shortly.

### **Our First Values Ambassadors!**

We were delighted to celebrate our very first Values Ambassadors at the P4-7 assembly last week, when they were presented with their badges by Mrs Wilson. The following children have been recognised for consistently demonstrating one of our core values of Nurture, Kindness, Respect and Effort:



Amelia M (P7) and Isla (P4) received their Effort badge

Sarah (P5) and Idreece (P4) received their Respect badge

Scarlett (P5) received her Kindness badge



We are looking forward to presenting our first P1-3 Values Ambassadors with their badges at assembly this Friday and will share their achievements in the next newsletter.

### **Parental Engagement and Involvement**

It has been lovely to welcome parents, carers and families into school over the past few weeks and we are very grateful for your continued engagement in your child's learning and the wider life of the school.

Turnout for Parents' Night was very high and our teachers enjoyed the opportunity to share information about the children's learning and progress. If you have not yet managed to share your feedback via Seesaw, please do this when you get a chance.

Class visits to Thornliebank Library have started up again this year and we would like to thank the parents and carers who have given up their own time to accompany classes, making sure the children are able to walk there and back safely and access this great community resource.

Our first Class Assembly and open afternoon of the year was a great success - thank you to all the P6 parents, carers and families who joined us on the day to watch the fantastic show that P6 put on. The children loved sharing their learning with you and showcasing all the hard work they have put into their interdisciplinary learning focus of 'The 80s!' The Thriller dance was a particular highlight, along with some amazing art work. Well done Miss MacLean and P6.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school this Friday to help us celebrate Thornliebank's Diwali Day. Everyone is invited to join the celebrations by wearing their own cultural dress on the day. Sharing cultural experiences is extremely important within our diverse community and we all enjoy the opportunity to learn more about festivals and traditions that are important to Thornliebank children and their families. Every class will have the opportunity to share highlights of their learning about Diwali with the rest of the school at assembly.

### **Sporting Success for Thornliebank**

Mr Egan accompanied a number of pupils to the ERC Cross Country Competition at Rouken Glen Park last week and we are all very proud of the effort that Thornliebank pupils displayed on the day. Special mention to Emily (P6) who was placed 23<sup>rd</sup> out of 200 girls in the event!

Ms Hamilton accompanied P6 and P7 pupils to the Woodfarm Cluster Badminton Tournament on Wednesday this week and was very impressed with the standard of badminton as well as good sportsmanship shown by our pupils. Well done to everyone who took part and represented Thornliebank at this cluster event.

## **Hallowe'en House Challenge**

Miss Cameron and the House Captains and Vice Captains arranged our Hallowe'en House Challenge where pupils were invited to design a pumpkin with the winning designs carved and displayed for all to see. The designs were amazing and the two winners were delighted to see their designs come to life and be proudly displayed at the Hallowe'en discos. Congratulations to Carson (P2) and Morven (P6) who earned a massive 1000 House Points each - both for [Brodie!](#)

## **Pupil Council Update**

Our P4-7 Pupil Council continue to meet with Mrs Miller and share ideas and suggestions to make improvements across our school. They are currently focusing on anti-bullying, our playground environment (specifically litter) and how to make best use of the areas of our playground at break times and lunch times. They have been sharing updates with the rest of the school in the classes and at assembly.

## **Parent Council Updates**

We would like to say a massive THANK YOU to the members of the Parent Council who planned and organised two fantastic Hallowe'en discos for P1-3 and P4-7. The children all had a great time and the standard of costumes and face paint was amazing!

The Parent Council's next event will be the Christmas Fayre here in school on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. There will be a range of stalls and entertainment and hopefully a very special visitor... We are having a non-uniform day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November and rather than a monetary donation the Parent Council are asking that children bring donations for the tombola and raffles on that day - they will be very grateful for all donations. Please see the flyer attached to this email for more information.

Christmas Card orders will be delivered to the school in the next few weeks and will be distributed via the children's schoolbags. If you placed an order for your child's design, you don't have too long to wait!

The next Parent Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm at Woodfarm High School.

## **Anti-Bullying Policy Review and Anti-Bullying Week**

Two volunteers from the Parent Council have been working with Mrs Miller to review our Anti-Bullying Policy. The updated policy is now in draft form and will be shared with staff, pupils and the wider Parent Council for consultation before being finalised.

We are looking forward to celebrating Anti-Bullying Week next week, with a range of activities led by our Pupil Council and teachers. The theme for Anti-Bullying Week this year is Respect, which ties in perfectly with our school values. We will be thinking about Respect in more detail - what it means to us and what it looks like in school, as well as talking about bullying behaviour and empowering our children to speak out against all forms of bullying.

Please remember, any member of our nursery, school or wider community can report a bullying concern to any member of school staff and it will be dealt with in line with school, ERC and national policy.

### **Book Week Scotland**

Mr McColgan-Smith has been busy planning events for Book Week Scotland, which starts on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Staff members will be visiting different classes to share their favourite stories, and there are plans for every class to contribute to our very own Thornliebank story book. There will be lots of opportunities throughout the week to celebrate all things book-related!

### **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 and Kinder Bueno. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### **Family Support**

Nicola Reid-Taylor is our link Financial Wellbeing Officer from the Money Advice and Rights Team (MART). Throughout the year she can support with claims for Free School Meals, Uniform Grants and other help with the cost of living. Nicola is based in our school most Wednesdays and you can contact her by phone or email to arrange an appointment with her - [financialinclusion@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:financialinclusion@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk) or 07741937871. 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)

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter.

We also post regular updates on our 'X' (Twitter) accounts @ThornliebankPS for the school and @ThornliebankNC for the nursery, as well as our website:

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



## Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Thornliebank



### Book Week Scotland 2024

We look forward to a busy Book Week Scotland from the 18th - 24th of November. Clas 1/2 will visit Thornliebank Library along with Primary 1 on Wednesday 20th of November to be gifted with their P1 Bookbug bags. The Gaelic pupils from Bun-sgoil an Iar will be visiting us on the afternoon of the 20th November as well. We look forward to getting the classes together for the first time this year after some really successful opportunities to collaborate last session.

### Fèisean nan Gàidheal Panto Gàidhlig

Clas 1/2 will be visiting Bun-sgoil an Iar on Thursday 28th November to watch the annual Fèisean nan Gàidheal Panto Gàidhlig. This is another excellent opportunity to get together with pupils from other GME schools and see a live Gaelic performance.

### CBeebies BBC Alba - Ealain na Nollaig

Pupils were invited to complete some Christmas-themed artwork for CBeebies on BBC Alba which they used in filming last week. We will notify families when their child's artwork is going to be on the show!

### Gaelic Bookbug Sessions in East Renfrewshire

Thornliebank Library - Tuesdays 10:15am

Clarkston Library - Thursdays at 2pm

### Bilingual Gaelic / English Bookbug Session

Barrhead Foundry - the 3rd Friday of the month at 10.30am

### Ceanglaichean Feumail | Useful Links:

- Gaelic4Parents: <https://www.gaelic4parents.com/>
- Go Gaelic!: <https://go-gaelic.scot/>
- Comann nam Pàrant: <https://www.parant.org.uk/>
- Cleachdi - <https://www.cleachdi.scot/>

## **NURSERY NEWS**

The children have been learning all about the festival of Diwali. We would like to say a huge thank you to our families for sharing their knowledge to help the children learn about this festival of light. The children have enjoyed tasting some Indian sweets, creating their own diya lamps and investigating rangoli patterns. Mrs Kaur brought in some lovely clothes for the children to look at and try on and we had a go at bhanga dancing. One of our children's uncle brought in his tabla drum and the children enjoyed observing and creating musical patterns with him. Thank you also to Mrs Singh for providing the sweets and gifting the children a light up ball to celebrate. A real family approach to learning.

The first group of children have started a block of Forest School and are thoroughly enjoying exploring our local woods, developing their confidence each week.

We had a fantastic turnout at our Hallowe'en Bookbug session where the children really enjoyed sharing this wonderful nursery experience with their families. Thank you to all who came along. Our next Bookbug session will take place on the 26th November at 2.15pm with a Scottish theme. Please come along and join us with your child even if it is not a day that your child attends nursery.

### **Book Week Scotland and World Nursery Rhyme Week**

Book Week Scotland will take place from 18th to 24th November and World Nursery Rhyme week is from the 11th to the 15th. The children will take part in lots of story and rhyme experiences. The five official rhymes for 2024 are:

- Twinkle Twinkle
- Old MacDonald
- The Big Ship Sails
- Incy Wincy Spider
- 5 Currant Buns

We would be grateful if you could support your child's learning at home by singing these rhymes with them as nursery rhymes play such an important role in developing early phonological awareness.

<https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/>

### **Coffee and Chat**

The next coffee and chat will take place on Friday 15th November at 2pm in the Family Room within the school. All are welcome to come along.

### **Care Inspectorate**

We had a visit from Marianne Reilly from the Care Inspectorate to find out about the quality of children's care, play and learning here at Thornliebank Nursery Class. We received positive feedback and would like to thank all our families who spent time talking to the inspector. The published report will follow shortly.

### Nursery Fund

Thank you to all our families who have contributed to our nursery fund. This is £2 per week or £20 per term. This fund is used to buy items for special celebrations, resources to support responsive planning and activities like baking and gardening.

You can pay this through ParentPay. Our office will issue log in details if you do not already have an account. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to date.