



**Believe to Achieve at Thorn**

**Our Values help us do the REST**

# Thorn Primary School Newsletter



JAN/FEB 2019

## RESPECT

Primary 5 and 6 led the discussions on our new school rules undertaking activities in class and presenting their results at assembly to the whole school. Our new school rules, which are underpinned by our Vision and Values are:

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Safe

The children concluded that every other rule they could think of would fit under one of the rules. For example 'Always listen to the teacher' would be covered by Be Respectful or 'No hurting others' would fit with Be Safe and Be Respectful.

All classes will now follow these simple and memorable rules and the teachers will encourage and assist the children to be successful. If there are occasions when these rules are not followed we will act within our Nurturing Relationships Policy with a restorative approach which includes appropriate sanctions if necessary.



## EQUITY

Two P7 children recently led an awareness activity for Diabetes UK. Caitlin and Katie B organised a month of wearing blue (handily covered by our commitment to wearing our school ties) culminating in a Wear Blue Day which raised £168.41.

Caitlin said "It was really good as this was something that really hits close to me. I spoke at assembly and told everyone about diabetes and how it affects me in personal and school life. It helped others to understand one of the challenges I face. During the month I was so pleased that everybody cared and was committed. When we counted the money we were screaming with delight and excitement. I was actually also very proud of myself that I led something, I thought before this I'd always need help from someone so it was very good to manage this mostly on my own. I was proud of myself and my mum was really proud of me too."

## Success

With the success of My Time in term 2 the children at Thorn are delighted to have a new set of clubs to choose from. This term 19 clubs are being offered, gives all pupils the opportunity to take part in a club of their choice instead of being limited to clubs after school which not all children can attend. Another huge benefit to My Time Clubs is that there is no cost for the children yet the experiences are invaluable. Staff also enjoy being able to share their skills and interests with the children who sign up to their clubs.

My Time also offers the children the opportunity to work in houses to complete activities and experiences with children from all stages. A perfect example was on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> when My Time had a focus on Maths and Numeracy. Each house leader delivered an activity to show that Maths is not just sitting in the classroom using a textbook. Mr Newton successfully delivered a cooking lesson where children used scales and measured out ingredients. Mrs Morrison's house completed 60 second challenges where timing was the focus and Miss Stewart's house completed surveys and created graphs and charts.



"I really like that we get to help lead the house time, it's a good feeling of responsibility"  
Connor, House Captain Houston

"It's good to get together with my house, it helps us to feel like more of a unit"  
Jamie, House Captain Wallace

"I like getting the chance to work with the younger children, we never really had the chance before My Time"  
Abbi, House Captain Milliken

"I really enjoy working with other classes and children of different ages, it is really enjoyable and a chance to get to know others in the school"  
Sophie, House Captain Napier

With the children at Thorn leading their learning My Time gives the perfect opportunity each week for them to focus on targets and upload them onto Seesaw. Parents are then encouraged to sign up to their child's account so that they can see their progress from day to day and week to week.

"By looking at my targets each week means that I try to achieve them because they are there for Mrs Macleod and my mum to see and comment on. It is better than just having a termly target that I will forget."  
Ryan D P7b

"By me picking my targets means that they are more current and I can challenge myself and it is very rewarding to achieve them and then look ahead to my next target."  
Ruby O'H P7b

"I like having my targets on Seesaw, it means that I don't forget them. I also really like when my Mum has seen them and likes them"  
Max M P5

**My Time would not be able to run without the hard work from all staff and volunteers, thank you!**



## My Time

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity Focus</u>
26 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	Meet the teacher (CM)
2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2018	Design House Logo / Slogan (CM)
9 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Rights Respecting (LM)
16 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	How Good is Our School (SH)
23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2018	Values Definition (CM)
30 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Book Week (CM)
7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	International Human Rights / My Time Logo (CM)
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Christmas Quiz
11 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Charity fundraiser ideas
18 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	RESPECT- plan way to communicate what we mean – present to other house
25 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Scottish Quiz / HGIOS Learning and Teaching
1 <sup>st</sup> February 2019	Equity
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Rights Respecting – caring for our school environment
15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Success
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2019	International Mother Language Day
1 <sup>st</sup> March 2019	World Maths Day
8 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	World Book Day share a book
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Team Work
22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2019	International Happiness Day
29 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Autism awareness
26 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	HGIOS – evaluation of SIP
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2019	Sports day – house posters
10 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	World Environment Day
17 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	How Good is Our School

## Teamwork

Our recent Learning Together event was warmly welcomed and fantastically attended by the wider Thorn family. It provided an opportunity to share with you how the children learn and introduce you to SEAL and Number Talks. The children very much enjoyed working with their visitors and the atmosphere was excellent around the school.



### Learning Together Event



## Teamwork Cont'd

We can't include all the feedback, which was all positive, but here are what some of our guests had to say:

*"The pedagogy practice is definitely the way to go. It really is great for teaching the kids in a way that 'goes in' and they are stimulated."*

*"Liked the bit about 'I'm not a maths person!' good to encourage my daughter and be an example."*

*"Really enjoyed seeing the way children learn maths, so much more of an enjoyable way to learn. Very Interesting."*

*"Excellent methods to show maths, it's good to see the interaction between children and teachers, they really encourage them."*

*"I really enjoyed seeing all the different methods and my child has become more confident in her maths."*

*"Great event for all parents, thank you!"*

*"Great learning experience again, loved working with my children."*

*"Very interesting to see how my child was learning, very different to when I was at school."*

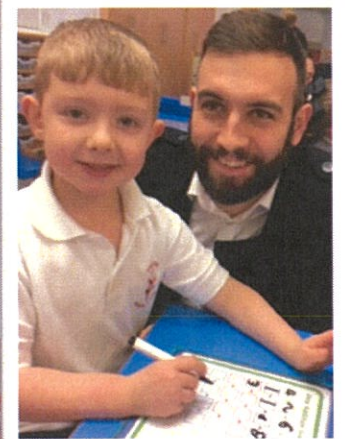
We are delighted with the impact of the event in terms of raising awareness of Numeracy and Mathematics and also in providing time for children to learn with their families in school.

72% of attendees were confident in what a Number Talk was following the event, as opposed to 7% before it.

63% /65% of attendees know what S.E.A.L is and are aware of some of the strategies used to teach numeracy. This was opposed to 7%/5% respectively before the event.

The percentage of participants who felt they knew how their child learns in mathematics and numeracy rose from 17% to 87%.

Finally, prior to our event 68% of parents had had the opportunity to learn with their child in mathematics and numeracy and after 97% of participants agrees that they now had this opportunity.



Date	Event/Time	Notes
18.02.19	Netball tournament	Team selection and details to follow later.
21.02.19	P1 Health Checks	Height and weight check from NHS School nurse
21.02.19	Boys Football	Away game for Boys Football @ Cochrane Castle PS
27.02.19	P3 Assembly	11am P3 Class Assembly on Rights of the Child World health issues. Any P3 Parents who are available are very welcome to come along and join us.
01.03.19	Bake Off	Pupils can show off their baking skills. Who will be our champion baker for 2019? More details to follow
01.03.19	SLT Drop in session	Monthly event. 9.30am in staff base. Join Mrs Hart/Miss Lawson and other staff members who are available for morning refreshments and a chance to share constructive feedback or muse ideas for the future.
06.03.19	Girls Football Tournament	1-2:30pm Girls Football Tournament @ Castlehead. Team will be announced later.
07.03.19	World book day	More details to follow
14.03.19 – 26.03.19	Book Fair	Our PTA Book Fayre will be available for pupils to purchase books etc. each day and at Parents Evening
19.03.19	Elite Crew Showcase	1:15-2:30 Elite Crew P7 showcase Johnstone Town Hall. Elite Crew parents will be able to attend. More details to follow.
20.03.19	Boys Football Tournament	12:30-2 – Football Tournament On-X. Team will be announced later.
28.03.19	Active Schools – Cross Country Event	10-1pm Cross Country Event – KGV Renfrew. More details to follow for pupils who will be attending.
29.03.19	P1 & P7 Dental Checks	All P1 & P7 pupils will be checked unless written confirmation received to advise differently.
01.04.19 – 12.04.19	School Closed	Spring Holiday
15.04.19	School reopens	Reopens at 9am following holiday
19.04.19 & 22.04.19	Easter Weekend	School closed for Easter
23.04.19	School reopens	Reopens at 9am following holiday
29.04.19	P6	Trip to Safe Kids. More details to follow.
01.05.19	P7 - Quiz	7pm – Howwood PS, team of 4 will represent Thorn against all P7 schools in Johnstone Cluster. Team will be announced nearer the time.
02.05.19	P1 Induction Playdate	9:15-10:15 - P1 Induction play date
02.05.19	P1 Induction Playdate	1.30-2.30 - P1 Induction play date
03.05.19	SLT Drop in session	Monthly event. 9.30am in staff base. Join Mrs Hart/Miss Lawson and other staff members who are available for morning refreshments and a chance to share constructive feedback or muse ideas for the future.
06.05.19 & 07.05.19	School Holiday	School Closed for Pupils
07.05.19	Inservice Day	School closed for pupils. Staff training day.
08.05.19	School reopens	Reopens for pupils at 9am following holiday
08.05.19	Girls Football Tournament	1-2:30pm Girls Football Tournament @ Castlehead. Team will be announced later.

Achievement Notification, please return to the School Office:

Child's Name:

Child's Class:

Child's Achievement :