

# Thorn Primary School



## NEWSLETTER



May 2020



## Message from Mrs Hart

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter from our virtual school. As we work through a difficult situation, I am very impressed by how everyone in our school community has adapted.

Our pupils have adjusted so quickly to this new way of learning and we are so impressed by the hard work they are completing at home. By this, I mean the school directed work and the parent directed. I think we have a few budding teachers in our midst!

The commitment and hard work from staff, who are juggling family commitments, has been excellent and I know how much families have appreciated it. The support from families has been fantastic in supporting their children with their learning. We are all certainly living our school value of Teamwork.

Thank you for your continued support during a very difficult time. Please don't hesitate to get in touch about anything at all.

I hope you and your families stay well and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Stephanie Hart*  
Head Teacher

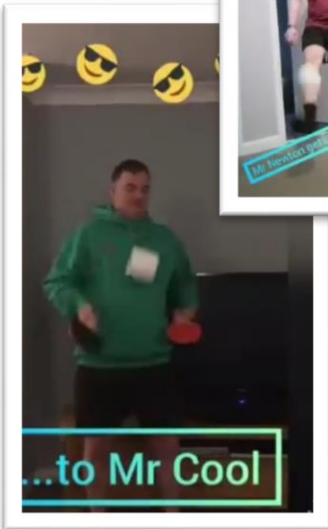
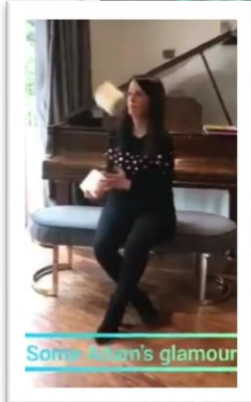
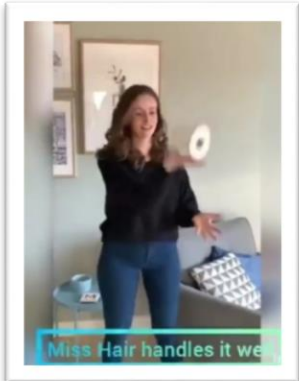
# RESPECT – Respecting your views and feedback

We are trying to work to keep in touch as a staff in a variety of ways. We hope you enjoyed our Toilet Roll Challenge and our Twitter updates to keep in touch with you.

Miss Lawson and I have also posted videos on some classes for the children to see. I hope to be able to send out an assembly for everyone soon.....remember to let me know any nominations for success awards!

Miss Lawson has been keeping in telephone contact with P1-3 and I have been calling P4-7. It is so nice to hear familiar voices and we very much appreciate your extremely positive feedback.

I will soon distribute our Parental Survey as a means to gather your thoughts about Thorn. I would urge you to consider the period from August to March as well as the current situation we are working in.



Thank you for your lovely comments below:

Toilet Roll Challenge Video:  
 “@ThornPriSch @Barsail\_Primary @ TodholmPs @BishoptonPS @RenCouncil Oh how this has cheered us up & made us smile from ear to ear this morning. Absolutely brilliant! Amazing skills Suzie, Rory just loved seeing you all, also brought it home how much they are missing you. Go Thorn!!! Loved the music too”

“Thank you to Mrs MacLeod of Thorn Primary for the thought and imagination that she has put into the work for her P5 class including an epic April fools. I’m sure all other Thorn teachers have done a great job too. Thank you too, to Mrs Hart who has also been calling her pupils to check how everyone is getting on.”

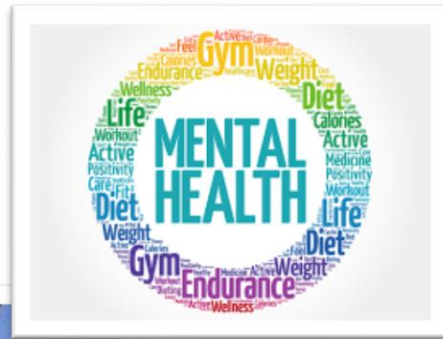


Some of our very talented staff doing the toilet roll challenge



## EQUITY

There are many additional supports in place for families including: financial support, food parcels, counselling support for pupils from Educational Psychology and many more. If you require any of these supports, please contact us and let us know. We are here to help.



## SUCCESS

Class teachers will issue regular work from Literacy, Numeracy, Health and Wellbeing and at times other areas. We ask you to consider your own situation and work with your child/children to do what you can. If you and your child wish to carry out every task and it is manageable to do this, that is great but not required. There is no expectation of children to work 9am - 3pm but to work through tasks they can, when they can. Teachers will be available for a set time each day for support and will provide meaningful feedback on tasks which are issued.

There is no pressure on pupils to complete every task and we understand the situation is different for everyone and this can change daily. We recommend lots of regular breaks, lots of fresh air and relaxation. In a school day, we wouldn't sit and work for these hours we would have teacher input, group discussion, paired discussion, active learning, group tasks, being read to, play and many more.



## SUCCESS ... cont'd

A Friday is a more relaxed day for pupils and there will be minimal tasks issued, this will allow a chance to catch up on the work over the week to ensure a work free weekend and a fresh start on Monday. Teachers will still be on hand to support and provide feedback.

We ask that you keep in regular contact with us, keep us up to date with your situation and let us know you are okay and if we can help.

We would appreciate that you still contact us once per week, even if you are having difficulty with learning, just to check in. If you would prefer to speak to Miss Lawson or I, contact us via email [thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk) - you can also request for us to call you.

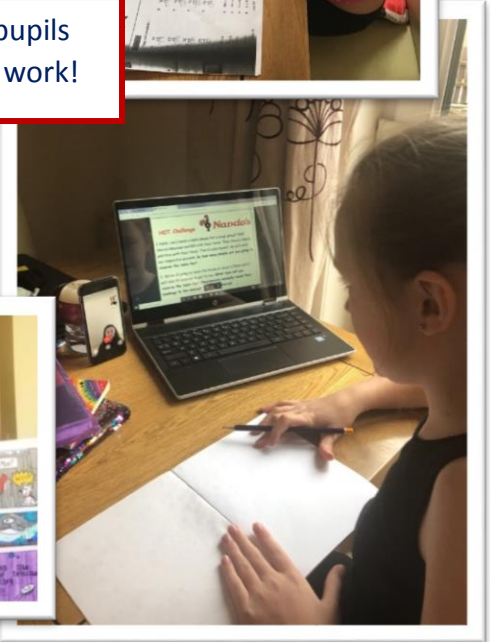
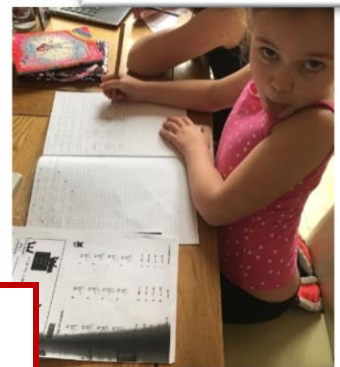
### You can contact us in the following ways:

- Inbox message to class teacher on SeeSaw/Google Classroom
- Post on child's journal on SeeSaw/Google Classroom
- Email to [thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)
- Request an SLT call back at a convenient time via email
- [gw16boylesusan@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw16boylesusan@glow.sch.uk)/[gw17youngwendy@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw17youngwendy@glow.sch.uk)

### Renfrewshire Council Guidance

I have also included the Local Authority guidance for parents on Home Learning. Based on this guidance there will be no formal reports issued from Thorn, instead we will continue to provide regular and meaningful feedback via SeeSaw. If you have any questions regarding your child's learning please use the methods described above to contact us.

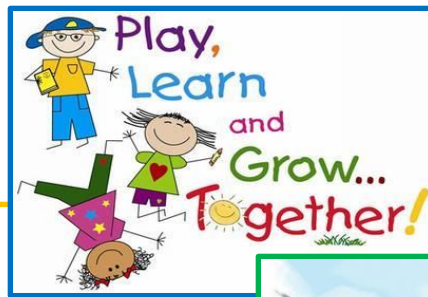
Some pupils hard at work!



## TEAMWORK – Home Learning

Our priority for our pupils is their health and happiness and this includes their mental health during a very difficult time.

We completely appreciate that every family situation is different in terms of the time to give to home learning. Some children are attending hubs, some parents are out at work, some are working from home, some are caring for extended families, sharing devices and many more different situations. We only ask that the children 'do what they can'.



# Finally.....

# GOOD NEWS



Our Numeracy Modelling and Coaching Teacher Mrs Colquhoun welcomed her little girl Emma into the world on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020.

Congratulations from all your Thorn Family! ☺