



Thorn Primary School

NEWSLETTER

August 2020



Welcome to session 2020/21!

It has been the start of a session like no other, just as the end of last session was unique. I hope all of our families are now adjusting to life as we now know it and are in good health. I would like to extend my thanks to our children, parents/carers and staff for their ongoing positive attitudes and flexibility throughout these unprecedented times. For me, our school value of Teamwork has been proven to be extremely strong in practice.

Last week we phased the return of all our pupils. The school staff were excited to have everyone return as we all missed the daily, in person, interactions with the children who make our job the best job in the world. It was apparent, and comforting, from the smiles and happy faces that our pupils were delighted to be back at Thorn too. The smiles on the adults faces as they dropped off hinted that they too were pleased school had recommenced!

Our school building is sparkling clean and almost as shiny as the children in their new uniforms. I appreciate your patience with the continuous changes and would like to note that either relaxed or formal uniform is acceptable this term however I must request on PE days that classes wear dark/grey jogging bottoms/legging and a white polo-shirt as we cannot offer changing facilities at the moment.

I have been very impressed with how the children have adapted to the new routines and regulations to help keep everyone safe. I am also very grateful to our parents for supporting the new drop off and pick up arrangements that are necessary. Please ensure we have your most up to date email address on Parent Pay and that you have downloaded and use our school app as these are our main ways to share information. When we message or email it goes to all parents so you will only miss the information if you have not made these sources available. I should say you also have to read the content! We also like to share pictures of various items and do this through SeeSaw and Twitter (@ThornPriSch) so make sure you can access these too.

At the start of a new school year we work with children to build our identity as a school community by linking our transition and health and well-being work to our school vision, values and rules. For parents our newsletter highlights how we promote our school vision and values with the news we share organised under the associated value. Please see the section below to see how parents are a vital part of our community and how you can support our values in action.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to working with you throughout session 2020/2021.

Stephanie Hart
Head Teacher



Thorn Website
<https://blogs.glow.scotland.org.uk/re/thorn/>



www.parentpay.com

ParentPay Shop:

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=875&fbclid=>



We send information through our school app. Please make sure you sign up to avoid missing any updates.

Download Myschoolapp from the App Store or Google Play

Our new P1 pupils are settling in nicely.....



WELCOME TO PRIMARY ONE!





RESPECT

OUR VISION, VALUES AND AIMS

Vision:

Believe to Achieve

At Thorn our Values help us do the **REST**:

Respect **E**quity **S**uccess **T**eamwork

Our Aims help us to be our **BEST**:

Build respectful, nurturing relationships and partnerships that help us feel happy, be safe and achieve success.

Encourage one another to be aspirational in our learning and personal development and celebrate our achievements.

Support the development of leadership at all levels, providing high quality teaching and learning that inspires everyone to reach their potential and develops skills for future success.

To create an environment for learning that is the best it can possibly be.

School Rules: Be Ready, Be Safe, Be Respectful

Parents are a significant part of our community and the first educators of their children. We would encourage you to promote our school vision, values and aims at home and that you model these for your child particularly in relation to anything to do with school. Here are some suggestions as to how our values may apply to parents:

Respect:

- in interactions with staff, parents, pupils and wider community .
- for our rules and systems e.g. drop off/pick up, cars stopping at school gates
- for our reputation e.g. use of social media, talking to school if any issues arrive

Equity:

- sticking to our uniform policy
- applying for free school meals and clothing grants if entitled
- understanding that all children are different and require unique supports
- engaging with school on any barriers to your child's education/success

Success:

- Share your child's achievements from outside school with us
- Share your own achievements, be proud!
- Encourage your child to engage with homework
- Feedback positives to us about our school

Teamwork:

- Read communication from the school, it helps us work together to give the best service to our children and families
- Participate in surveys and information gathering about how we can continue to improve our school together



EQUITY

We receive funding each year from the Scottish Government to help us overcome any barriers children may have to their attainment and achievement. We consult you throughout the year in various ways to ensure we consider your views on how this money should be spent in Thorn Primary. We are pleased to be able to continue to employ Mrs Wilson, Miss Easdon, Mrs McKay, Mrs Ritchie to help support the children's learning. We are also using this money to continue to have access to our online resources: the spelling programme IDL, the reading programme Reading Eggs and the numeracy and mathematics programme Sumdog.

Our entitlement to funds and support is linked to our identified needs. To help us I would like to encourage you to apply for Free School Meals and School Clothing grants if you are eligible. We are aware that P1-3 automatically get free school lunches but we would still benefit if you applied so that your entitlement is considered in any analysis of the school profile. We are more than happy to assist you with this process if required, please just ask at the school office if you would like support.

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>



Sumdog

A personalised programme that adapts and challenges pupils in all aspects of numeracy & mathematics.

Reading

eggs



Reading Eggs P1-3 & Reading Eggspress

Available for selected P4-5

Reading Eggs/Eggspress allows pupils to learn literacy skills through games and songs while collecting golden eggs for their successes.

IDL

IDL

A multi-sensory programme which supports pupils literacy skills. Pupils practice reading and spelling skills at their own ability level.



Success

Our Senior pupils have a number of whole school leadership roles for which they have to apply and/or be elected to fulfil. Congratulations to this years elected House Captains on being successful after some stiff competition from your peers.

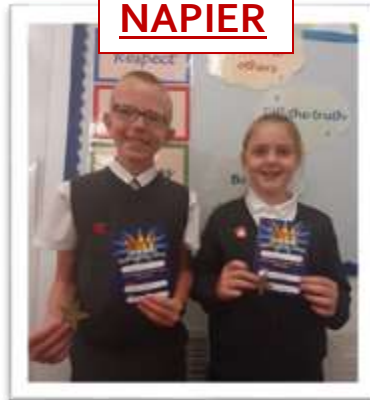
House Captains

MILLIKEN



Freya Louise McLeod & Lewis Jamieson

NAPIER



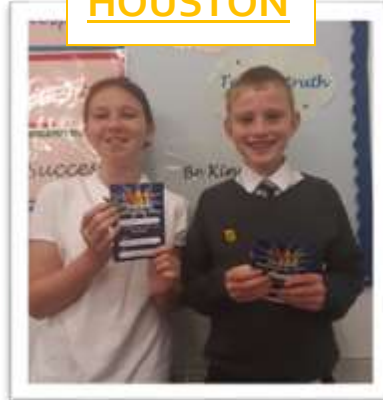
Suzie Fowkes & Lewis Henderson

WALLACE



Lucia Mayne and Declan McManus

HOUSTON



Ruth Hardwidge & Sam McKay





Successes

Some of our pupils have been VERY busy during lockdown here are a small selection of the achievements as there are so many to choose from....

WELL DONE FOR LEARNING TO RIDE A BIKE

Jacques McPhail, Ellie Purdon,
Emma Rice, Holly McCann,
Mya Holland, Freya Perrie,
Callum Greenlees, Bethany McKellar &
Rory Fowkes

WHAT A MARVELLOUS ACHIEVEMENT!



Fraya Docherty in P3
Climbed Ben A'an. Fantastic achievement Fraya.. Well done! 😊

Green fingered **Cole Thornton in P3** planted a sunflower seeds at the beginning of lockdown and nurtured them all the way through. They are now taller than he is! Well done Cole 😊

Samuel and Elliot Jones P5
Completed 12 cub badges including camping, navigation, home help, planting, bike maintenance, athletics and cooking. Wow...Well done boys! 😊

Nicole Young P6 took up baking during lockdown and then delivered her cakes, shortbread and cookies to her family, friends and neighbours. What a very thoughtful thing to do Nicole. You made a lot of people very happy 😊

Emma Rice P2 and her little sister won a Pride Week cake decorating competition which was run by her mum's employer - they made a rainbow cake. Well done Emma 😊



Ella Peden in P3 was the 1st Rainbow in her unit to earn the Gold Award after completing badge work at home during lockdown. Well done Ella 😊

Alistair Marshall P7 took part in his football club running challenge for 1 month completing 111km for his team. Fantastic teamwork Alistair! Well done 😊

Please remember to notify us of your child's successes outwith school so we can offer our congratulations.

email us at: thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Teamwork

Together we can do our best to minimize the risk of our pupils, parents and staff contracting Covid-19. **For the most up to date information visit www.nhsinform.scot**

How to avoid catching coronavirus

You can reduce your risk of getting and spreading the infection by:

- avoiding direct hand contact with your eyes, nose and mouth
- maintaining good hand hygiene
- avoiding direct contact with people that have a respiratory illness and avoiding using their personal items such as their mobile phone
- covering your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing with disposable tissues and disposing of them in the nearest waste bin after use
- following the [guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#) and [arranging to be tested](#) if someone in your household has symptoms
- making sure everyone in your household follows the [Scottish Government's coronavirus advice](#) as much as possible and to stay away from other people
- making sure your household follows the [physical distancing advice](#), especially anyone in a vulnerable group

Symptoms of coronavirus

The most common symptoms are new:

- continuous cough
 - fever/high temperature (37.8C or greater)
 - loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste (anosmia)
- A new continuous cough is where you:
- have a new cough that's lasted for an hour
 - have had 3 or more episodes of coughing in 24 hours
 - are coughing more than usual

A high temperature is feeling hot to the touch on your chest or back (you don't need to measure your temperature). You may feel warm, cold or shivery.

If you have coronavirus symptoms

If you've developed symptoms (however mild), stay at home for 10 days from the start of your symptoms and **arrange to be tested**. Do not go to your GP, pharmacy or hospital.

You should remain at home until you get the result of the test, and then follow the advice you will be given based on the result.

When to get help

Only phone 111 if:

- your symptoms worsen during home isolation, especially if you're in a high or extremely high-risk group
- breathlessness develops or worsens, particularly if you're in a high or extremely high-risk group
- your symptoms haven't improved in 10 days

If you have a medical emergency, phone 999 and tell them you have coronavirus symptoms.

Do the people I live with need to take any action?

If you live with other people and have symptoms, they'll need to stay at home for 14 days from the start of your symptoms even if they don't have symptoms themselves.

If they develop symptoms within the 14 days, they need to stay at home for 10 days from the day their symptoms started and arrange to be tested. They should do this even if it takes them over the 14-day isolation period.

Your whole household should follow the stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.



Arrival

Children with surnames A-L should arrive between 8:50am and 8:55am.

Children with surnames M-Z should arrive between 9:00am and 9:05am.

The children will go straight into their classroom. They will not wait in the playground or line up.

End of day

Children with surnames A-L will finish school at 2:50pm.

Children with surnames M-Z will finish school at 3:00pm.

*If two siblings have different surnames, one A-L and one M-Z, please follow guidance for A-L and inform the new class teachers.

P1-3 to be collected from outside their classroom door

P4 to be collected from the garden area.

PLEASE ENSURE SOCIAL DISTANCING AT ALL TIMES



FEEDBACK



Your Feedback Matters To Us!

From time to time we send out Parent and Pupil Surveys to complete, this allows us to gather valuable information and allows you to notify us of any concerns and provide feedback on how we are performing.

We would appreciate if everyone can complete these as and when they are published.



We are very happy to announce that we have 2 new additions to the "Thorn Team" this year.

Miss Baines is our new Probationary Teacher this year, she will be working alongside Mrs Ross in P4B. Welcome to the Team Miss Baines ☺



We would also like to introduce "**Ollie**" our newest member of the Team (kindly borrowed from Nicole Young in P6).

Ollie is keeping staff spirits up and putting a smile on the children's faces when they come to visit the office. Ollie would like to let parents know that he will only allow parents into the school if they have made an appointment. **For anyone arriving without an appointment please speak to office staff via the window or by calling 0300 300 0189 or by email: thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk**

It is with a heavy heart that we had to say goodbye to Miss McLachlan over the summer.

I think we can all agree that the P7 Lockdown Leavers celebrations would not have been the same without her valuable input. We enjoyed having Miss McLachlan as part of our team and wish her all the best in her new school.

She will be sadly missed by all pupils and staff at Thorn.



New dates from last month in red

Date	Event/Time	Notes
25.09.20 – 28.09.20	Holiday	School closed Friday and Monday for September weekend.
29.09.20	School reopens	School reopens 9am following holiday
12.10.20 – 18.10.20	School Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff. October week.
19.10.20	Inservice Day	School closed for pupils for Staff training.
20.10.20	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
30.11.20	School Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff. St Andrews Day
01.12.20	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
18.12.20	Early Finish	School closes at 2.30pm
19.12.20 – 05.01.21	Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff. Christmas Holidays
06.01.21	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
08.02.21-09.01.21	School Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff February holiday
10.01.21	Inservice Day	School closed for pupils for Staff training.
11.01.21	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
01.04.21	Early Finish	School closes at 2.30pm
02.04.21-18.04.21	School Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff. Easter Holiday
19.04.21	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
03.05.21	School Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff 1 st May bank holiday
04.05.21	Inservice Day	School closed for pupils for Staff training.
05.05.21	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
31.05.21	School Holiday	School closed for both Pupils and staff 2 nd May bank holiday
01.06.21	School reopens	School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday
25.06.21	Early Finish	School closes at 1pm

Achievement Notification, please return to the School Office:

Child's Name:

Child's Class:

Child's Achievement: