



Thorn Primary  
School



# Newsletter

Spring 2021

Spring is in the air and with it some hope that we can resume some normality, in the near future.

We are very grateful for the cooperation and patience of our whole school community throughout this challenging year and we will work hard to ensure the children have lots of opportunities to enjoy social interactions and fun activities with their classmates in the final term.

Having completed my annual Standards and Quality Report for the school I have had the opportunity to reflect on the immense achievements of session 2020/21 despite functioning in unprecedented circumstances. Staff, parents/carers and, importantly, children have continued to achieve great success. Some key achievements are our Digital Schools Award and being recommended as a mentor school, significant investment in our digital hardware with 40 new Chromebooks and 12 new laptops added to our existing resources, achieving RNRA (Renfrewshire Nurturing Relationships Approach) status, all children working together to raise approximately £700 (which was matched by Renfrewshire Council) for local charity Coats for Kids, one pupil being selected for Scottish Football School for his secondary education, numerous professional achievements for staff and a group of staff raising approximately £1800 for Cash for Kids by joining forces to walk/run/ride 5km every single day in March. Our fabulous PTA have supported the children to have fun at Halloween with special boxes delivered to every class, they organized an outdoor Easter egg hunt and gifted every child (and staff member!) an Easter Egg and raised money to support P7 leavers' celebrations.....and we are not finished there as we launch our whole school walking challenge and our school mascot is being created as a result of our competition for children. Rory McCall's design was voted in first place and we are full of excitement to watch this coming to life, watch this space!

Following discussion with staff, children and parents/carers we are looking forward to the next school year and building on what we are able to offer for our community here at Thorn Primary as we develop our school improvement plan for session 2021/22. Initial trends in what you would like us to focus on is the development of our outdoor space, more information about how we assess your children's progress and transparency about each class' homework policies. Thank you for taking the time to feedback your thoughts to us. We are delighted that 100% of you are satisfied with all we do at Thorn Primary, 100% believe the school is well led and managed and most importantly 100% of children are happy at school. The responses have highlighted the high regard that our parents and carers hold our school in and we appreciate the extremely positive feedback and your knowledgeable suggestions for future developments. I would ask that you pay careful consideration to uniform requirements for next year as we hopefully return to our previous excellent standard of formal uniform

I am very proud to lead such a fantastic school community and appreciate everyone's input to make this possible. Go team Thorn! This newsletter should give you even more insight into what makes this a great place to learn and achieve, I hope you enjoy reading it. As always if you wish to discuss any matter feel free to contact me.

Mrs Hart



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



[www.parentpay.com](http://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

# Respect

## Respecting our surroundings:

The school was over the moon to receive pots, soil and seeds from RAMH (recovery across mental health) in association with The Rotary Club to raise awareness of Mental Health Awareness Week from the 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021. All our pupils have received a seed to grow their very own Sunflower at home. Each class also received an extra seed to take part in the "Tallest Sunflower Class Competition".

Please send us lots of photos of your seeds growing on Seesaw.



Our community will be "blossoming" soon as our local Morrison's dropped off some more sunflower seeds to grow in our garden. Our greenfingured House Captains in P7 accepted the lovely "Seeds of Hope" gift bags which included a lovely poem along with seeds, pots and colouring paper and crayons.







PTA Easter Eggs and Egg Hunt around the school







Thanks to our collection Thorn pupils/ parents along with a charity fundraising grant from Renfrewshire Council we managed to raise a fantastic £625.71 for "Coats for Kids" part of the Elim Bridge Christian Fellowship.

This small charity who believes no child should have to go out without a coat – whether that be to school, nursery or indeed anywhere. They offer free brand new jackets and coats for all local kids aged 0-11 who need them.

They were overwhelmed by the amount raised and this will make a huge difference for kids in the community.



Our remote learning was enhanced by our online software programmes throughout the session. We are glad to have the chance to continue to provide all our pupils with the Mathseeds, Sumdog, IDL and Reading Eggs to continue their learning. This is funded via our Pupil Equity Funding budget and really helps us to help all our pupils achieve the very best they can. In addition to software the funding also allows us to enhance our staffing compliment to ensure we have lots of skilled staff to support our children in their learning. Mrs Wilson, Mrs Ritchie, Miss Easdon and Mrs McKay are all part of our team as a result of this funding opportunity. I am sure you will all agree they do a fabulous job!



Our local Toy Bank donated 50 Easter Eggs to the school at Easter. Pupils names were put in a hat and 2 winners from each class were selected at random and given an unexpected Easter Surprise.



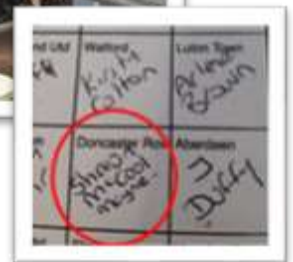
We are delighted to share that Thorn Primary has been successful in achieving our Digital School Award. This certificate was given in recognition of the school's excellence in integrating digital technology into learning and teaching. To achieve the award staff, children and parents took part in a 3 hour validation meeting to talk about our journey and the feedback from our assessor was fantastic. If you want to read the full report just get in touch.

### P7 Fundraising

P7 pupils are in the process of fundraising for their P7 end of year celebrations.

P7 parents sold football tickets which raised £500 towards the end of year celebrations, this will go towards and the winner was Sharon McCool Mayne who chose Doncaster Rovers and also received £500.

To continue the fundraising efforts the P7 pupils have organised a dress down day for all pupils on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> May and would greatly appreciate a £1 donation.



### Sumdog



Elliot Jones, Murray Browett and Bethany McKellar achieved 1000 questions successfully on Sumdog and Primary 5 were 10<sup>th</sup> overall in the recent Renfrewshire Sumdog Competition.

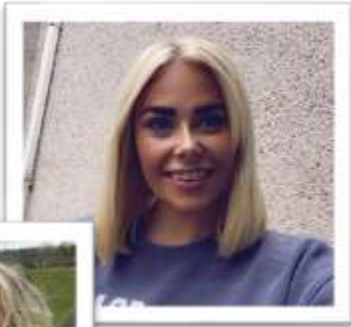
Well done everyone a great achievement!

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](mailto:thornenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)



# Teamwork



Thorn staff were very busy during the month of March supporting each other through the 5k A Day Challenge for Clyde 1's Cash for Kids Charity. Staff did an AMAZING job of raising £1740 for the charity.

Thank you to all who donated and well done to all that took part!



**P7's receiving their hoodies.**  
Look how grown up our P7's look in their Leavers Hoodies!



Our P2 pupils enjoying their Easter Lunch

**SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Due to Covid 19 lockdowns we have had a "relaxed" uniform this year. When the children return in August they will be asked to wear their normal school uniform as below.

At Thorn Primary School the uniform is:

- White short/long sleeved shirt P1-P7
- Thorn tie: elasticated, clip on and traditional formats
- Grey v neck jumper/sweatshirt/Cardigan/tank top preferably bearing school badge
- White polo shirt as a PE top (preferably with Thorn Badge) • Black PE shorts
- Black plimsolls/trainers • Grey trousers
- Grey skirt
- Grey pinafore
- Royal Blue blazer bearing Thorn badge
- Black shoes
- Summer Weather – Blue School Dress
- Summer Weather – Grey School Shorts

Our Annual Parental Questionnaire is available now (until Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May) if you have not yet taken the opportunity to contribute your views. Please follow the link below and fill in the survey. Your thoughts, opinions and suggestions are crucial in helping us understand how well we are doing and how we can continue to be the best we can be for our school community.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4WjoKVQTctawUZKdpqVCKVQB5FkHI7vvkfz2hUODZNSk1QTEgHQzJFQzgxR1I1SoNNTFRIUC4u>

New dates from last month in red

| Date     | Event/Time                 | Notes   |
|----------|----------------------------|---|
| 03.05.21 | School Holiday             | School closed for both Pupils and staff 1 <sup>st</sup> 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   |
| 24.05.21 | Photographs                | 3 days of photographs. Arrangements to follow nearer the time   |
| 25.05.21 | Photographs                | 3 days of photographs. Arrangements to follow nearer the time   |
| 26.05.21 | Neds Mindset               | Virtual show with opportunity to buy yoyos. Details will follow   |
| 26.05.21 | Sports Day                 | <b>Pm – This will be a pupil only event.</b>  |
| 27.05.21 | Photographs                | 3 days of photographs. Arrangements to follow nearer the time   |
| 31.05.21 | School Holiday             | School closed for both Pupils and staff 2 <sup>nd</sup> May bank holiday  |
| 01.06.21 | School reopens             | School reopens for both Staff and Pupils at 9am following holiday   |
| 01.06.21 | Photographs update         | Photograph proofs will be issued and orders must be returned by Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> to ensure free postage back to school         |
| 07.06.21 | Photograph orders          | Deadline for returning orders for free delivery to school. Orders can be placed online following this date with a postage charge. |
| 16.06.21 | Photographs delivery       | Orders placed by 7 <sup>th</sup> June will be delivered to school for distribution.   |
| 17.06.21 | P7 end of year Celebration | Details to be confirmed   |
| 25.06.21 | Early Finish               | School closes at 1pm due to Summer Holidays   |
| 12.08.21 | Staff Inservice Day        | Staff Inservice day   |
| 13.08.21 | Staff Inservice Day        | Staff Inservice day   |
| 16.08.21 | First day back             | School reopens for the new school year  |

Achievement Notification, please return to the School Office:

Child's Name:

Child's Class:

Child's Achievement: