

Thorney Tribune

Thorney Island CP School

Newsletter No 5

January 2018

Dear Parents, Governors and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and looking forward to the start of spring and the end of winter! The school continues to prosper due to the hard work of all those involved and I would just like to thank you for your continued support - It is much appreciated.

STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

8 December					
Owl Class	-	Brian Moore			-
Kite Class	-	Ava-Faye McClarty			-
Osprey Class	-	Elsa Brooker			-
Falcon Class	-	Riley Williams			-
Kestrel Class	-	Jake Herbert			-
Merlin Class	-	Aida-Marie Williams			-
Hawk Class	-	Heilala Waqanisau			-
Eagle Class	-	Kaydance Booth			-

Cards and Presents

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank parents and children for all the cards and presents received at the end of last term. The comments written in the cards were much appreciated by everyone.

Lateness

An increasing number of children are arriving late to school. After a set period of time this is classed as an unauthorised absence. It also impacts on learning as many children miss the input to the first lesson. It also disrupts lessons and Ofsted take a very dim view of children being late to school. The Educational Welfare Officer inspects registers on a regular basis and I do not want to see families fined or brought before the courts for something that could easily be sorted. Please can you ensure your child arrives at school on time.

Class - Curriculum Letters

You should, at the beginning of term, have received a copy of your child's curriculum letter from their class teacher. This contains information on what your child will be learning this half term and how you can support them with their learning. Parental support is key to a child's success at school and can make such a difference to their attainment. NB All curriculum letters can be found on our website which makes accessing the links provided much easier. (www.thorneyisland.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Attendance - Autumn Term 2017

Whole School	97.04%		
Merlin	98.13%	Kite	96.77%
Falcon	97.5%	Eagle	96.75%
Kestrel	97.46%	Osprey	96.47%
Hawk	96.92%	Owl	95.88%
Girls	96.88%		
Boys	97.21%		

Ofsted use attendance statistics to judge the overall performance of a school. We have extremely high standards in this area and value the support given to us by the parents of the children that attend our school.

80 children had 100% attendance last term - This is outstanding and makes such a difference to your child's education. Please note there is a very strong correlation between attendance and attainment at school.

Mid-Year Reports

I hope that you find your child's Mid-Year Report on Behaviour and Personal Attributes useful. Please discuss any issues raised in the report with your child so improvement can be made. Any areas of concern can then be discussed at Parents Evening in February. Mid-Year Reports will be sent home on Friday 19 January. Please note children in Owl Class do not receive these reports. The attendance comment is generated by the attendance statistic. As stated previously we have very high expectations with regard to attendance due to the fact that there is a very strong correlation between attendance and attainment at school.

School Website - www.thorneyisland.w-sussex.sch.uk

We continue to update our school website with new information and links for parents. Some are there because we see them as essential others because the government has now made it statutory for us to do so. If there is anything you feel we could add that is not there please let me know. We constantly try to improve the service we offer for families and with our website having nearly 21,000 hits so far it is obviously used quite a lot. (www.thorneyisland.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Parking outside of school

I have become aware that parents are parking on the zig-zag lines by the zebra crossing outside the school entrance. I appreciate that you may only be parked for a couple of minutes; however this is a busy crossing especially at the beginning and end of the school day. We are very fortunate that there is lots of parking around the vicinity of the school; please don't risk seriously injuring a child for your convenience. PLEASE PARK SAFELY AND CONSIDERATELY.

After School Clubs

After school clubs will start again week beginning 15 January and end week beginning 12 March. Regular attendance at after school clubs is expected. If a club is cancelled at short notice, i.e. because of the weather, we will send a text message to inform you. The school governors are extremely grateful that staff give up their own time to run clubs after school. Staff have listened to the views of parents and we have tried to ensure that there are clubs for all year groups. We are utilising our Sports Grant to bring in more sports coaches to work with the children.

As some clubs have limited spaces we cannot guarantee that children get to take part in every club they would like to. In an attempt to be fair to everyone, we try to ensure that each child gets at least one of their club choices. Please only sign your child up for clubs they want to do; in the past we have had children very upset because they are doing a club that a parent wants them to do, not what they want to do.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Once again we will be collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Last year we were able to 'buy' some great PE equipment that children across the school have enjoyed using. Vouchers can be brought into school and posted in the collection box in the School Hall. Active Kids Vouchers can be collected from all Sainsbury's stores and Sainsbury's online, dates to be confirmed.

Books At Bedtime

I would just like to thank Mr Vokes, Miss Goss, Miss Rutter and Miss Burch for making the Books at Bedtime event such a great success. It was really good to see so many children return for this and to see them enjoying hearing the stories that were read to them.



Behaviour

At the end of last term the number of low level incidents of behaviour increased quite significantly. Children being rude to staff and mean to each other etc. This in the main is down to a small minority of children but I have decided to reintroduce a tracking system to monitor this type of behaviour more closely. Parents will be called in to discuss their child's behaviour for repeat offences so that we can work together to make improvements. I hope I can rely on your support in this area. We do not want 5% of children impacting on the learning of the 95% who are very well behaved.

Superhero Day



Well done to Kestrel Class for making such a great effort and for being great superheroes for the day. Having days like this certainly motivates the children to learn.

Message for Mr Bevor

Harriet's Dad suffers with blood cancer and he is running the London marathon in April this year for (MPN) the charity that supports his and a few other rare illnesses.

I wanted to ask whether you would mind sharing his story with the school mailing list or whether you would be able to help in anyway in helping him to raise the £2,500 he needs for MPN? We would be so grateful if you could help spread the word. Blood cancers are rare and many do not know enough about them and vital research is needed to help find a way to beat blood cancers for good!

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=SamuelBevor&pageUrl=1>

Carol Service

Thank you for all your support with costumes. This was one of the best Carol Services in many a year due in part to the outstanding singing of Merlin Class and the excellent actors in Owl Class



Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccination

We have been asked for support to raise awareness of the importance of children receiving two doses of the MMR vaccine. Measles is in the news again. There have been serious outbreaks in Wales and England and the number of children catching measles is rising. Measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill. A child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination. Two doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection. If you could use your school networks to highlight this leaflet to parents and carers which describes measles and gives advice on the MMR vaccination, it would be greatly appreciated. MMR leaflet - product code: 3219250
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mmr-for-all-general-leaflet>
More information about the MMR can be found at NHS Choices.

Clarinet Assembly



Well done to Merlin Class for their first Clarinet Assembly.

It was great to see so many parents attend.

This is one of the ways we use our Pupil Premium money as I feel it is such a positive way to enhance learning using the knowledge and expertise of specialist teachers.

Dates for your Diary - Please see attached sheet

Yours sincerely

Dean Clegg
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

January 2018

- 4 - Back to school - First day of Spring Term
- 22 - Falcon Class trip to Gilbert White's House

February 2018

- 7 - Parents Evening, 3.15 - 6.00pm
- 8 - Parents Evening, 3.15 - 5.30pm
- 12-16 - Half Term

March 2018

- 1 - World Book Day
- 26-29 - Bikeability Cycle Training, Year 6
- 29 - End of Term

April 2018

- 16 - Back to school - First day of Summer Term

May 2018

- 7 - Bank Holiday - children **do not** attend school
- TBC - National Curriculum Test Week for Year 6
- 28 - Bank Holiday - children **do not** attend school
- 29-1 - Half Term

June 2018

- TBC - Group/Class Photos
- TBC - Window for Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
- 25-27 - Year 5 & 6 Residential to Cobnor

July 2018

- 4 - Transition Day
- TBC - Area Sports
- TBC - Fun Sports Afternoon
- TBC - Thorney's Got Talent
- 24 - Leavers Assembly, 2.00pm
- 24 - End of Summer Term

Term Dates 2017/18

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 4 January 2018: | Start of Spring Term |
| 12 - 16 February 2018: | Half Term |
| 29 March 2018: | Break-up for Easter holiday |
| 16 April 2018: | Start of Summer Term |
| 28 May - 1 June 2018: | Half Term |
| 24 July 2018: | Break-up for Summer holiday |

INSET Days

- Monday 4 September 2017
- Monday 30th October 2017
- Monday 19th February
- Friday 25th May
- Monday 4th June