

Thorney Tribune

Thorney Island CP School

Newsletter No 5

January 2019

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

7 December			14 December		
Owl Class	-	Daniela Wood	Owl Class	-	Khojo Akplu
Osprey Class	-	Josephine Percival	Osprey Class	-	Thea Jennings
Prairie Falcon Class	-	Benjamin Jeffery	Prairie Falcon Class	-	Lily Knight
Peregrine Falcon Class	-	Lacie Fowler	Peregrine Falcon Class	-	Amelia Tehan
Kestrel Class	-	Joshua Bates	Kestrel Class	-	Stanley Porter
Merlin Class	-	Jenson Edwards	Merlin Class	-	Kallum Daumann-Rattenbury
Hawk Class	-	Kacie-Alys Draper	Hawk Class	-	Scarlett Wheatley
Eagle Class	-	Kyle Scott	Eagle Class	-	Lilly Tehan

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.

Christmas Parties



The children had an excellent time and so did the staff. What a way to finish the term. Thank you for supplying all the food and drink it was much appreciated. As Owen said which made my day - 'Mr Clegg it's like Hogwarts!'

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 2018

Whole School	97.57%		
Merlin	98.72%	Owl	97.46%
Hawk	98.28%	Osprey	97.02%
Peregrine Falcon	97.89%	Prairie Falcon	96.90%
Kestrel	97.63%	Eagle	96.32%
Girls	97.55%		
Boys	97.59%		

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.

72 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.

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. 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.

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 18 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.

After School Clubs

After school clubs will start again week beginning 14 January and end week beginning 18 March. (NB - No Clubs Week Beginning 4th February due to Parents Evenings). 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.

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.

Behaviour

Last year I wrote in the newsletter that the number of low level incidents of behaviour increased quite significantly in December. This year I am pleased to report that children's behaviour was outstanding in December. As a school we have to self-evaluate ourselves in 5 key areas - Behaviour being one. I will be seeking governor approval to move our grade from good to outstanding for behaviour in January. In February 2018 Ofsted verified all the schools assessment grades as being good. I am sure if they visited now behaviour would be graded as outstanding. Your support in this area as always is much appreciated.

Superhero Day



It has been a great start to the term with so much going on. The teachers have all planned exciting 'Hooks Into Learning' which really has motivated the children to learn. Some have been Super Heroes; others have carried out experiments to learn why penguins have a layer of fat to keep themselves warm in the Antarctic. Some classes have been Tudor detectives, others Dragonologists whilst Kestrel Class have been scientists investigating the properties of slime. Lots of visits and visitors have been planned for this term to make the learning the children do as engaging and enjoyable as possible so please check those book bags for letters.

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



Bales of Fun in Bethlehem



Thank you for all your support with costumes. The comments made after the performances were also very much appreciated.

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.

Gruffalo Dance

Well I wasn't expecting such big voices. The children were excellent and I was so pleased to see so many parents able to attend. I am just sorry I did not take any pictures to share!

Hearing Your Child Read At Home

We have noticed in school a massive difference in the academic progress some children are making in school. We have looked at all the evidence we have and it is quite clear that those children who read regularly at home are the ones making the greatest progress. (This applies to all year groups) We are going to have a real push in school on encouraging the children to read more to an adult at home. Obviously without your support this will not work.

What we have also noticed is that some parents have started to ease off a little when they think their child can read more to themselves but these more able readers are now starting to plateau and are not making the progress they used to do. Please discuss any concerns you have with reading at parents evening.

Dates for your Diary - Please see attached sheet

Yours sincerely

Dean Clegg
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

January 2019

- 14 - Indoor Football tournament at The Bourne
- 18 - Paul Ullson to visit Hawk Class
- 21 - Falcon Classes trip to Gilbert White's House
- 24 - Play and Share 2.00pm - 3.00pm- Owl Class
- 28 - Indoor Football tournament at The Bourne
- 28 - Merlin Class trip to The Mary Rose

February 2019

- 6 - Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6.00pm
- 7 - Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6.00pm
- 28 - Paul Ullson to visit Hawk Class

March 2019

- 5 - Tri-golf tournament at The Bourne
- 6 - Merlin Class trip
- 7 - World Book Day
- 11 - Indoor Girls Football tournament at The Bourne
- 20 - Locality Dance Festival
- 21 - Play and Share 2.00pm - 3.00pm - Owl Class
- 27 - Osprey Class trip to Pizza Express
- 29 - Owl Class Glitters & Sparkles evening

Term Dates 2018/19

4 September 2018:	Start of Autumn Term
22 - 26 October 2018:	Half Term
19 December 2018:	Break-up for Christmas holiday
3 January 2019:	Start of Spring Term
18-22 February 2019:	Half Term
5 April 2019:	Break-up for Easter holiday
23 April 2019:	Start of Summer Term
27-31 May 2019:	Half Term
23 July 2019:	Break-up for Summer holiday

INSET Days

Monday 3 September 2018
Friday 8 February 2019
Friday 24 May 2019
Monday 22 July 2019
Tuesday 23 July 2019