

Hello everyone

A huge thank you to everyone for helping us raise **£168.23 for Red Nose Day**, your support is really appreciated.

On Tuesday, some of our **year 3 and 4 children entered a gymnastics competition** at Archbishop Ilsley School—well done to all the children who took part, we are very proud of you! Congratulations too to our fantastic football team who were buzzing with their continued unbeaten start to the season. They beat SS Peter and Paul 1-0 and Parkfield 4-0! A BIG thank you to Mr Bates and Miss Devi for their support, we can't wait for the next match!



This week, **Year 3 were excellent ambassadors when they visited Ward End Library** to enjoy sharing a story with the librarian and to have a rummage through the great range of books that are available to borrow. Well done, Year 3! Thank you to Mrs Bibi and the children who worked hard to share our ideas for the **Hodge Hill Generation Earthshot competition** with 13 other local schools and Liam Byrne MP on Thursday. Preparations for our project on **'building a waste-free world'** have already begun...



We are sad to be saying **goodbye and good luck to Mrs Shaheen (SENDCO) and Ms Dixon-Ricketts (Y3 Teacher)** at the end of this term as they leave us to further their teaching careers, and would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment to the children of Thornton Primary School. We are looking forward to welcoming **Mrs Clifford (Acting SENDCO) and Mrs Akhtar (Y3 Teacher)** who will join us after the Easter holidays. We break up for the Easter holidays next Friday at the usual time of 3.30pm. **All children return to school on Monday 17th April from 8.30am.** Please note, both Sladefield Infant School and Thornton Primary School will now have their **next Teacher Training Day on Monday 22nd May, NOT Thursday 4th May.**

A reminder that the full newsletter, including an update of the children's learning from this week, and other useful information, is shared with you via email each week as well as saved onto the school website on the 'Newsletter' tab. Also, we love to share the children's work with you via regular posts of our learning journeys on our school Twitter page so please check it out **@ThorntonOwls** (Owls is spelt with a 'zero'!). Watch out next week for information about our plans for an **Easter Eggstravaganza competition ...**

And finally, on behalf of all the staff and Governors, we wish you a happy holiday and 'Ramadan Mubarak' to everyone observing the holy month of Ramadan. Have a great weekend everyone!

Cathy Grace, Headteacher

## ARTICLE OF THE WEEK



This week's Article of the week is linked to **World Water Day** which was on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Water is vital for everyone in their daily lives across the world. An important aim of World Water Day is to inspire everyone to act to make the necessary changes so that the right to clean water is achieved by 2030 for everyone! The linked articles to World Water Day are **Article 24 (health and health services)** and **Article 27 (adequate standard of living)**. Our school is a clean environment and education on health and well-being is provided. Article written by year 3 and the posters made by Zaki and Aiza 3GJ.

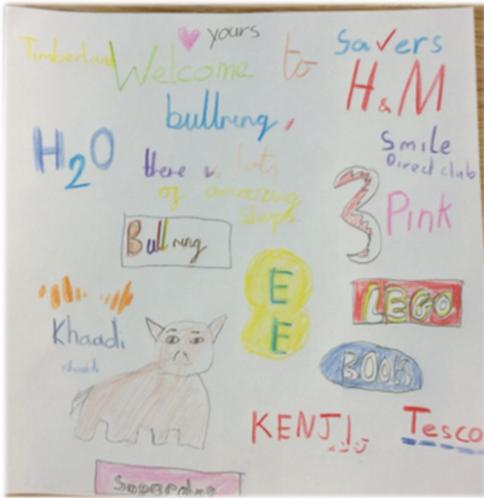


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### Year 3



Year 3 have been researching information about the Bullring Shopping Centre as part of our learning for our **Urban Pioneers** topic. We found out about the history of the Bullring and why it was originally designed. We were amazed to find out that it was initially used as an area for baiting bulls!



We talked about some of the shops we have visited when we have been to the Bullring with our families and used our iPads to explore the official Bullring website. We then chose some of our favourite stores and created a poster to welcome visitors to the Bullring!



### Year 4

As part of our Science topic, **Living things and Habitats**, the children have been learning about classification keys. The Year 4 children began the lesson by matching the keywords with the definitions. The children have learnt that a key is a set of questions which identify living things by looking at their characteristics. They had a set of animals with characteristics and came up with their own key questions!

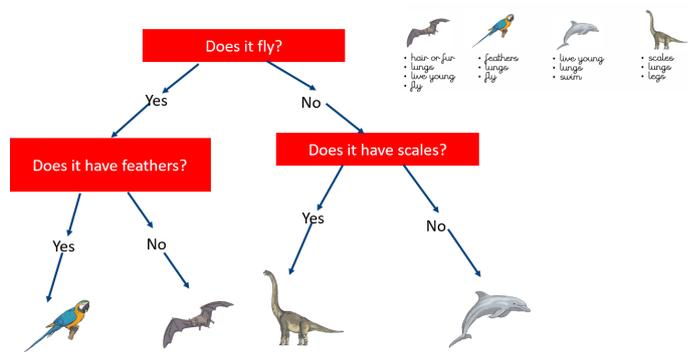
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|                    |                                                       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| classification key | a group within a larger group                         |
| criteria           | a series of questions that help to identify a species |
| identify           | a way in which to decide                              |
| organism           | show what someone or something is                     |
| sub-group          | a living thing: plant, animal and germ                |

Does it have scales?

- Yes
  - Does it have lungs?
    - Yes: crocodile ✓
    - No: Seahorse ✓
  - No: Does it live young?
    - Yes: horse ✓
    - No: Hummingbird ✓
- No



## Year 5

This term's focus for Design and Technology (DT) in year 5 was to familiarise the children with different designs of **propeller cars**. The children were able to think and research about the different tools, equipment, materials and then formulated a step by step plan of how to make their car. This week the children had the opportunity to be creative and assembled their cars using a range of tools and equipment. The real fun starts now as we shall test them in our next lesson. Watch this space!

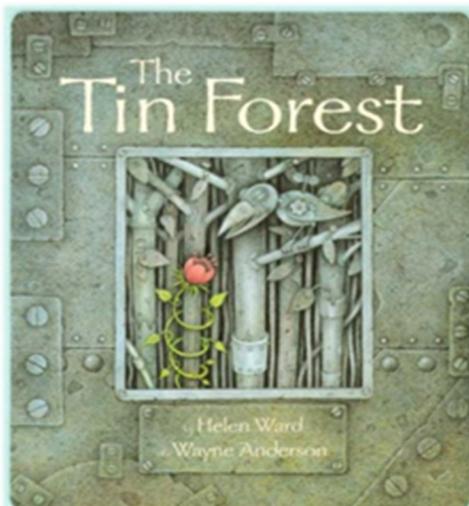


## Year 6

In Year Six, we have celebrated **World Water Day** by considering what small personal changes we can make to the way we use, consume and manage water in order to be the change we want to see in the world. We looked at some statistics relating to the water and sanitation crisis and considered what **UNICEF rights** are affected by this. We also thought about how helping to solve the problem can contribute towards the world's Sustainable Development Goals.



## Thornton Staff Book Review



### The Tin Forest by Helen Ward

This story reminds me of myself. Sometimes I dream of a bright and joyful world somewhere with colour and warmth especially when the days are grey. This is a story of a vivid imagination that gives an old man hope and keeps his spirit alive. He makes a world full of wonder with all that he can find around him and brings his ideas to life. This is a beautiful picture book, grey and monotonous with dashes of colour and splashes of splendour.

**Book review by Mrs Jalil**



## Ready, Respectful, Safe.

Each week we introduce a different word associated with our school's expectations to reinforce our school's ethos, which is to be ready, respectful and safe.

This week's word of the week is: **'adaptable'**

Adaptable is a word linked to our expectation to be ready, because being flexible is an important part of learning. As Inaaya in 6NI nicely puts it,

***"Being adaptable is being ready for change, and being ready to take a different path."***

Mr Mason – Deputy Headteacher



## Science at Thornton



**SCAN ME!** Scan and follow our new science Padlet for all things science! Here we will be sharing all the great work our Thornton scientists have been doing throughout the year and sharing all the latest science news from around the school. Support your child and follow!



# 7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

#WakeUpWednesday



1



Which apps/games are you using at the moment?

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE. BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

Which websites do you enjoy using and why?

AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.



2

3

PLAY AGAIN?  
YES NO

How does this game/app work? Can I play?



SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING, WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.

Do you have any online friends?

CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE: "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.



4

5

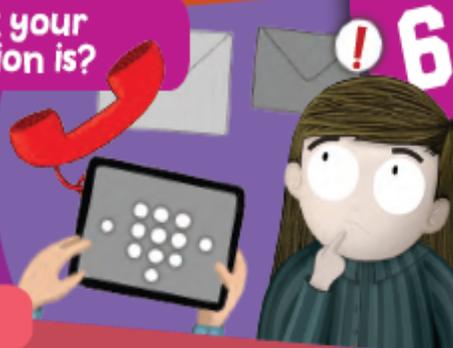


Do you know where to go for help?

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.

Do you know what your personal information is?

YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.



6

7

Do you know your limits?

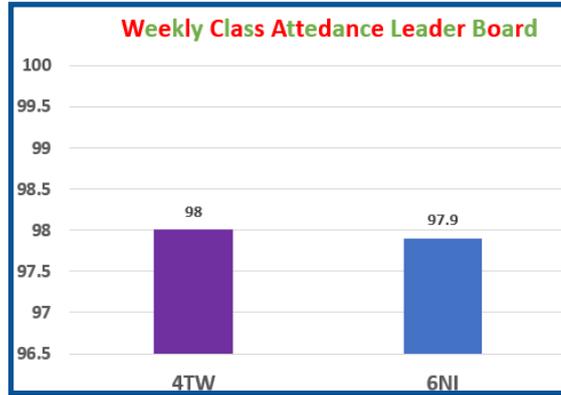
CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEM SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.



# School Attendance

## Class Attendance

Well done to all the classes who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above last week .



Our school attendance for last week was **93.2%**

## Golden Ticket Initiative

Our final Summer Term Golden Ticket Gold Award can be won by pupils who will need to achieve 100% attendance for the whole academic year.

Mrs Grace has proudly organised an exciting attendance day trip to:

**Twinlakes Theme Park on Friday 7th July.**

Look out for the golden ticket winners' invites at the end of the summer term!

Well done to all the pupils who have attended school every day and on time.

**Good Luck Everyone!**



## PE TIMETABLE

Monday 27th March

Year 3

Tuesday 28th March

Year 5

Wednesday 29th March

Year 4

Thursday 30th March

Year 6

Friday 31st March

Swimming for classes 4MJ & 5TR

Children in 4MJ will need to be in school for 8.25am

## Important dates to remember

Kingfisher Country Park Trip  
5BA and 5NG

Monday 27th March

Kingfisher Country Park Trip  
5ST and 5TR

Tuesday 28th March

Ward End Library visit 3GJ

Thursday 30th March

Year 4 Easter Assembly

Thursday 30th March

Term Ends:

Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 1 starts:

Monday 17th April 2023

Year 3 Think Tank Trip

Friday 28th April



## Clubs Price Increase

Breakfast Club and After School Club prices will be increasing after the Easter Holidays. **New Charges from 17th April:**

**Breakfast Club -£2.50 per day and additional sibling will be charged £1.00.**  
**After School Club -£4.00 per day and additional Sibling will be charged £2.00.**

**All payments need to be made via Parent Pay please**

Sadly, we now need to introduce a late pickup charge of £4.00 for any pupils being picked up after 4pm. Please talk to us if you have problems collecting your child at the end of the day and we will see how we can help you. Thank you.

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