

Hello everyone

Firstly, I would like to congratulate our **Eco Councillors** on being successfully elected to represent their class. They held their first meeting this morning and have already begun an exciting new project! Please check out next week's newsletter where we will introduce to the Eco Councillors and they will share information about their work. Next, I would like to thank all the children who produced high quality entries for the **Ward End Allotment Group poster competition**. We were honored to meet Hester and David yesterday at school as they presented the top 4 winners (**Hooria 3SQ, Haala 4TW, Ma'wa 5ZY and Afrin 6ZB**) with their certificates and prizes. Their winning entries will soon be displayed at the allotment to encourage the community to take care of this precious space. All other entries will be proudly displayed in the school garden once the redevelopment work has been completed at Easter.



Congratulations to our **Year 5 and 6 Girls' Football Team** who came third in a competition held on **International Women's Day** this week at Blackheath Goals! We are super proud of their skills and team spirit, as well as being chuffed that they really enjoyed the experience. Well done, girls! Next week, we are planning some exciting science investigations for the children to carry out as we celebrate **British Science Week on Thursday 17th March**. We

will also be selling Red Noses in classrooms from Monday in readiness for **Red Nose Day on Friday 18th March**—remember to be ready to share some hilarious jokes on this day!

Finally, please can I remind you that every week **we email you the full newsletter**, as well as put it on the **school website** so that you can read about all the fun things that are going on in school each week, as well as signpost you to useful information and competitions. Please take some time to have a quick look at the full newsletter so you can join in celebrating the children's hard work with all the **#thorntonfamily**! Thank you.

Have a great weekend everyone, and stay safe! **Cathy Grace, Headteacher**

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone,
Mrs Mazar, Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali



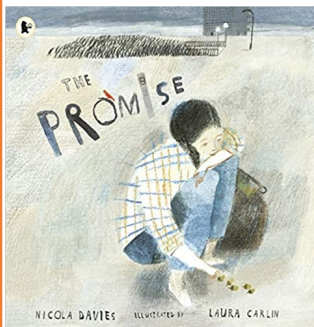
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World Book Day

All the staff at Thornton would like to say a big thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting and encouraging your child in participating in World Book Day 2022 last Friday. It was a huge success as staff and children arrived excited and full of energy in their creative costumes. Throughout the morning, the children were all authors writing their own mini books. This is where the children's imagination came alive and they worked independently to create their own six sentence story. They chose the genre of their book, characters, plot and solution for their story.



"The children have been so enthused today. They have really enjoyed the creative writing process and have shared with me that they would like to have more opportunities like this. The children were thinking for themselves, developing their own ideas, creating their own characters, plot and solutions. It was really a joy to be in the classroom seeing the children develop the craft of writing." Miss Tabassum (Intervention Teacher).



In the afternoon there was a whole school assembly via Teams where the children had the opportunity to share their favourite part of the day, and competition winners were celebrated.

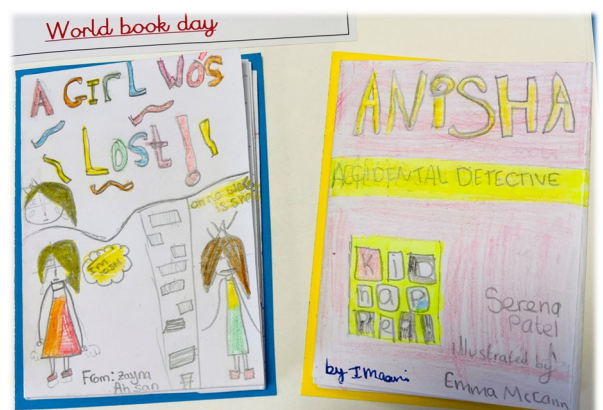
At the end the day, class teachers read the story 'The Promise' by Nicola Davies. It was a delight to see all teachers sharing the same book with their class! The children were totally engaged throughout the day and were still 'buzzing' as they left the school at home time sharing their special moments with each other.



Congratulations to our World Book

Day Winners! We hope you enjoy sharing your own copy of The Promise with your loved ones!

3EB	Selina
3AW	Zayna
3SQ	Salihah-Zainah
3DR	Inaya
4SH	Umaiza
4MJ	Farhan
4TW	Haala
4GJ	Anah
5BA	Isa
5ZY	Ma'Wa
5NG	Mariyah
5ST	Abdul- Haadi
5TR	Hannah
6NI	Amaan
6ZB	Amiyrah
6MF	Hasnain
6HB	Noor-Fatima
6AB	Safa



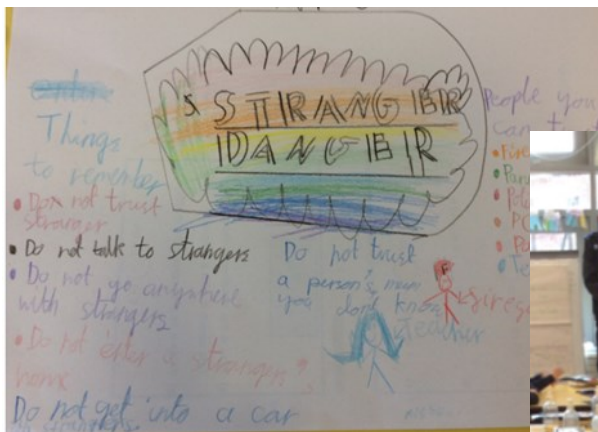
Year 3

This week, Year 3 were visited by **West Midlands Community Police** officers to learn more about **Stranger Danger**. It was a very informative talk, and the children found out what a stranger is, why they can be dangerous, which adults we can trust and how we can stay safe online. The officers were very impressed with how smart and respectful our Year 3's were!

Things To Remember

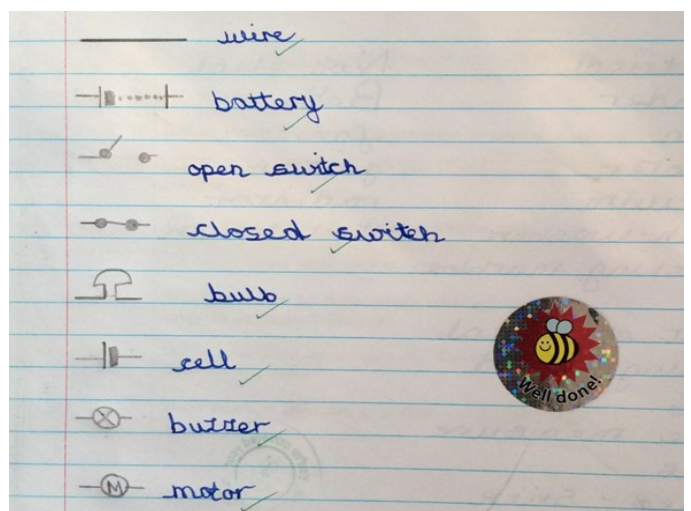
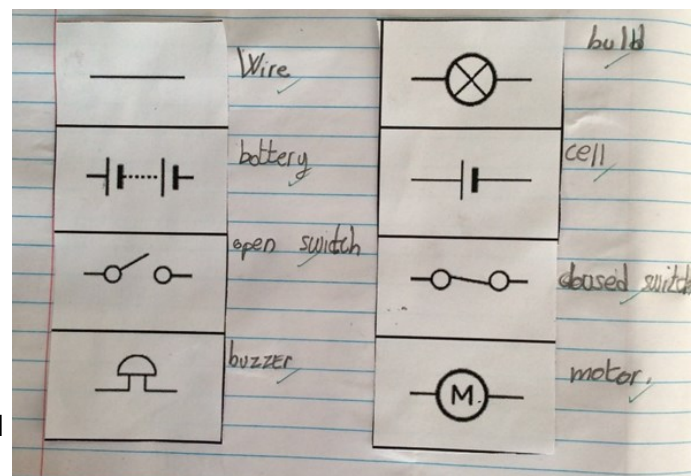
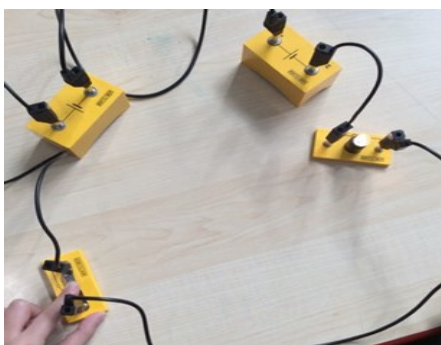
- **Do not** trust strangers
- **Do not** talk to strangers
- **Do not** go anywhere with strangers
- **Do not** accept anything from strangers. This includes gifts, food, drinks and sweets.
- **Do not** talk to strangers when they ask for directions, ask you to pet their dog or tell you a parent is injured or in an accident
- **Do not** get into a car with strangers or enter a stranger's home
- If a stranger approaches you near your school, **go back** to school and tell a teacher
- When playing outside **always** play where your parents can see you.

Preventing crime, protecting the public and helping those in need
www.west-midlands.police.uk



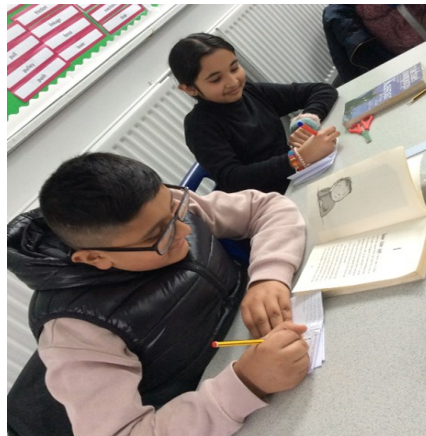
Year 4

For Science this week, Year 4 have been learning about **electrical circuits**. The children learnt how to construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming the basic parts. They discovered that electricity flows from the negative terminal (end) to the positive terminal. It does this because the negatively charged electrons are drawn to the nearest positively charged atoms at the end of the circuit. The children identified the electrical components of a series circuit (battery/cell holder, wires, motor, buzzer, bulb holder, switch and bulb). They created a simple series circuit using these electrical components and had lots of fun experimenting with the order of the different types of components! Once the children had created their circuits, they drew each of the electrical symbols and named them.



Year 5

Children in Year 5 had a tremendous amount of fun celebrating the **World Book Day**. They shared and discussed their favourite stories. Many children dressed up as their favourite book character and were keen to share information about their character. Children also came up with wonderful ideas to create their own **mini books**. They certainly enjoyed being an author and producing their own book in one day!



Year 6

This week in Year Six, the children modelled the process of **natural selection** using cocktail sticks. The tweezers represented the hungry bird. The wooden cocktail sticks represented the normal worms while the coloured cocktail sticks represented the mutated worms.

We found that the cocktail sticks that were picked the least were the coloured ones. This happened because the coloured ones were less visible as they camouflaged with the carpet. We discussed what would happen to a species if it is not well camouflaged. If the species is not well camouflaged, it will be at risk of being eaten by other animals. The children understood and were concerned that these animals will not have the opportunities to survive and over time this means they will become extinct.



Information for parents and carers on COVID-19 vaccination for at risk 5 to 11 year olds

The following information is for parents and carers of at risk 5 to 11 year olds.

Children aged 5 to 11 years who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed can get the COVID-19 vaccine, in line with advice set out by the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#). Eligible children include those with diabetes, immunosuppression, learning disabilities, and other conditions as outlined by the [UK Health Security Agency \(UKHSA\) in the Green Book](#).

Vaccinations help to increase protection against COVID-19, which is particularly important for those with underlying health conditions.

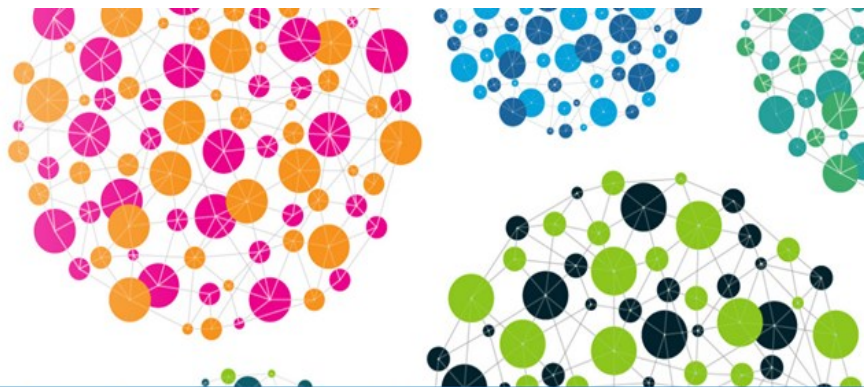
Further information is available in the [guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years](#) published by UKHSA. We have published some [frequently asked questions](#) on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. Following [advice](#) from the JCVI, healthy 5 to 11 year old children will also be offered two 10 microgram doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS will prepare to extend this non-urgent offer to all children during April.



Department
for Education



11-20 March
**British
Science
Week
2022**



British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths that will place between 11-20 March 2022!

Next week, Thornton will celebrate British Science Week. We will be carrying out a whole school investigation on Thursday. We can't wait for this and know the children are going to be really engaged and excited. Make sure you check the school Twitter account for updates...

We will also smash some stereotypes by looking at diversity in science.



Science Week Poster Competition is BACK in 2022!

The theme for British Science Week 2022 poster competition is '**Growth**'.
The deadline for entering the competition is Thursday 31st March.

What can you include on your poster?

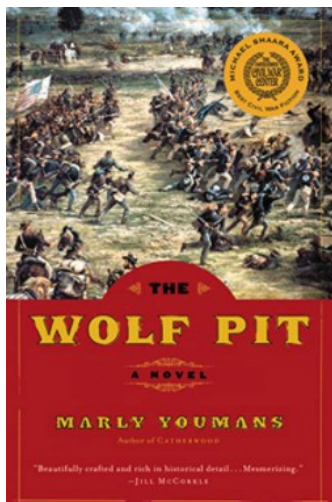
Your poster could explore a tadpole's journey into a fully-grown adult frog, or look at the way's population growth is affecting the planet. For inspiration on poster ideas, check out the **2021 winners here!**



<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/winners-of-the-2021-poster-competition-announced/>

Key rules:

- **Entrants can be teams or individuals**
- Teams will be judged in the age category of its oldest member
- Any prize awarded will be split across the team.
- Each school/group can enter a **maximum of five entries**.
- Entries must be **one page of A4 or A3** paper only.
- Work must be original and created by the students (templates are not allowed)



Thornton Staff Book Review

I have been reading *The Wolf Pit* by Marly Youmans. This book is set during the American Civil War. It made me realise that not everyone fighting on the side of the Confederate Army was simply an evil racist. The story is told through the perspective of two young people from Virginia: one is an enslaved woman who had her tongue removed by her former masters; the other is her current mistress' son, who is a soldier fighting the Union Army. There is also a hint of mystery and magic with the mention of two green children found in a wolf pit. I can't pretend to understand every word, but it made me think. I highly recommend it. -

Mrs Tahir

School Library

We are delighted to inform you that our wonderful school library has re-opened to staff and students. We are maintaining lots of precautions to keep everyone safe, such as washing our hands and quarantining books after use. We think it is now safe to use and we recognise how important it is for the children to be able to enjoy the books and facilities. Watch this space for further announcements about other ways we are planning to use our library...

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

Spring Term 1 Dates 2022

Term Ends: **Friday 18th February 2022**

Half Term: Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February

Spring Term 2 Dates 2022

Term Starts: **Monday 28th February 2022**

Term Ends: **Friday 8th April 2022**

Easter holiday: Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April

Teaching Training Day: Monday 25th April 2022

Term Starts: **Tuesday 26th April 2022**

Teaching Training Day: Thursday 5th May 2022

Term Ends: **Friday 27th May 2022**

Half Term: Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

Summer Term 2 Dates 2022

Term Starts: **Monday 6th June 2022**

Term Ends: **Thursday 21st July 2022**

School Meals

Changing from dinners to sandwiches? or vice-versa? We are sorry but you can only change at the start of each term and not mid term. Please call the office at the beginning of the term if you wish to change your child's dinner preference so that we can make the necessary changes to our records and inform the school kitchen.

Payments

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of each week. If you are having any issues with payment please contact the school office for support.

Dinner money must be paid in advance and is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week.

Breakfast Club must be paid in advance and is £1 per day and 50p for any siblings.



School Attendance

Well done to the following classes who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above during the last week :



Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

Year 3

3SQ

Year 4

Come on Year 4 let's try and get 97% above attendance next week !

Year 5

5BA

5ST

Year 6

6MF

6ZB

Our whole school attendance last week was 94.5%



The Magic 20 Raising Attendance and Punctuality Project

Magic 20 Raising Attendance and Punctuality for children with both low punctuality and attendance will be starting from Monday 14th March until Friday 8th April. Letters will be going out to those children who have been selected to be a part of the scheme. Great rewards will be awarded to those children who attend school for the next 20 consecutive days. Please be on time and attend school everyday!

PE TIMETABLE

Monday 14th March

Year 4

Tuesday 15th March

Year 6

Wednesday 16th March

Year 3

Thursday 17th March

Year 5

Reporting Absences to school



If your child is absent from school **please call before 9am** to let us know the reason. Please provide school with as much detail as possible about your child's absence. If you need to discuss your child's symptoms with the school nurse please request a call back. Thank you very much for your support. We are proud to work with you to fully support your child's attendance. Remember...everyday counts! **Please ring the school office on 0121 327 0824 our lines open from 8am.**

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar,
Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali



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