



Hello everyone and 'Happy New Year'!

It has been so lovely to welcome everyone back into school this week after the holidays and catch up on all the news and see some of the amazing CREATIVE homework the children have been busy producing. Please check out the school twitter account (link top right) to see some examples of the children's work—we are really proud of them, well done!

To reassure you, I want to confirm that we are continuing to adopt a strict approach to **covid-safety** and, as a school, we are continuing to operate as class bubbles in order to minimise the risk of spreading any infection. This means that the children continue to have all their lessons as a class, as well as their breaktimes and lunchtimes. We are also continuing with our routine of frequent hand washing and sanitising, and a one-way system when moving in the corridors around school. Additional cleaning and replenishing of sanitisation resources also continues. We respectfully **ask you to notify us immediately of any positive Covid-19 cases within your household** so that we can make sure you understand and are able to follow the latest government guidance. Please telephone the school in the first instance to discuss this, thank you (0121 327 0824).

Next week, we are excited to **celebrate the children's fantastic attendance for the Autumn Term**. This will be done by rewarding the children with a certificate and prize on Friday. I am extremely proud of the #thorntonfamily for working together last term to make sure the children had great attendance after finally returning without school closures—we managed to beat the national attendance data each week last term, let's go for it again this term!

Today, you will be receiving a letter providing you with details about booking your **Spring Term Parents' Evening appointment** for the end of January. As we once again find ourselves in a situation of rapidly rising Covid-19 cases, we will be holding these meetings virtually (in the same way the meetings were held in September). In response to the feedback we had following the last meetings, we have extended the appointment times from 5 to 8 minutes to see if this can provide an even better virtual experience. A couple of top tips to help you maximise your appointment time with the teacher, is to make sure you log on to join the meeting at least a few minutes early and have some questions written down ready so that you don't miss the chance to ask them! As usual, we are happy to support with booking appointments if you find it a bit tricky—please call the school office for support (0121 327 0824), thank you.

Hopefully, you will have received a letter that was emailed to everyone at the start of the holiday which shared our extremely sad news about the unexpected loss of one of our much loved members of the school site team, **Mr Norval Watkis**. I wanted to update you and share our plans to redevelop our garden area, next to the outdoor classroom, in his memory. As well as being a happy, smiley, helpful and caring member of our #thorntonfamily, Norval was an extremely enthusiastic gardener and was very active with developing the school allotment. We all feel it is fitting to continue his green-fingered legacy by revitalising our planting beds during the spring and summer terms so that everyone can enjoy growing things as much as he did.



And finally, I want to share some lovely news with you about **Mrs Jalil**, one of our teachers, who has given birth in December to a beautiful baby girl! Both mother and daughter are doing well, and we are all excited to meet the latest addition to the #thorntonfamily in the new year—congratulations to Mr and Mrs Jalil from everyone!

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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Autumn Term Attendance celebration

Bronze Award .



Congratulation to 313 Pupil's who have achieved the Bronze Attendance Award. Thank you to all parents for working so incredibly hard to ensure your child comes to school everyday and on time. Children who have achieved the Bronze Award will be receiving their Golden Tickets next week in class.

Magic 20 Raising attendance and Punctuality Project



Thank you to all the parents for supporting our Magic 20 initiative by sending your child to school everyday and on time for 20 consecutive days. The Magic 20 celebration will be held on Friday 14th January. All children who have achieved this award will be receiving their invitation next week in class.

School Chairs For Sale

We still have some school chairs available at £1.00 each. If you are interested please see reception for further details .

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

Spring Term 1 Dates 2022

Term Starts: **Wednesday 5th January 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

Summer Term 1 Dates 2022

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**

PE TIMETABLE

Monday 10th January Year 4
Tuesday 11th January Year 6
Wednesday 12th January Year 3
Thursday 13th January Year 5



Dinner money and Club money must be paid in advance Via Parent Pay.

Dinner money is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week. Breakfast Club is £1 per day and 50p for any siblings. After school club is £2 per day and £1 for any siblings.

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast, Afterschool clubs debts have been cleared at the start of each week.

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