The Thornton Times

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20/11/2026

Hello everyone!

A **very BIG thank you to the staff from COMPASS** who delivered some super assemblies to Years 3, 4 and 6 on Monday and then some workshops with each Year 5 class on Wednesday to support our work about **anti-bullying**. We introduced our revised **anti-bullying pledge** this week, which you will find further on in the newsletter!



And, **wow, wow, wow**! We were blown away by the Year 5 and Year 6 children who gave an excellent performance at **The Town Hall** this morning in front of groups from 22 different schools as part of **Birmingham's 5th UNICEF Celebration.** There was also an audience of almost 1000 people! All their rehearsals, artwork and costumes really paid off as they were truly outstanding! **We are extremely grateful to Mrs Bibi, together with Jaime, Sian and Soobie (professional artists)** who have helped make the magic happen!

Here is a reminder of a few important dates coming up this term:

Year 6 SATs Parent Workshop - 2026



Monday 23 November 9-9.30am – Y4 Buddhism Assembly for Y4 Parent/Carers
Tuesday 24th November 9-10am-Yr 6 Year 6 SATS Parent workshop
Wednesday 25 November 9-9.30am - Year 3 Road Safety Workshop for Y3 Parents/carers
Thursday 26 November - Special KOrky Paul Assembly for invited pupils/parents/carers
Monday 30th November 9-10am – Year 4 Multiplication Check Meeting for Y4 Parents/Carers
Friday 4 December - Year 3 to visit RBC Organ Studio Birmingham
Monday 7 December - 5BA and 5ST Leicester Space Museum Trip
Tuesday 8 December - 5TR and 5ZY Leicester Space Museum Trip



Wednesday 9 December - Year 4 and Year 6 Christmas Dinner Day!
Thursday 10 December - Year 5 and Year 3 Christmas Dinner Day - Year 3 parents/carers invited (12.30-2pm)
Friday 11 December - Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14 December 9-10am – Y3 Nativity Assembly for Y3 Parents/Carers
Tuesday 15 December - Magic 10 Attendance and Punctuality reward session
Wednesday 26 December - Bronze Award reward sessions for each year group
Christmas Holidays – 21 December 2026 – 4 January 2027 (TWO WEEKS AND ONE DAY)
Tuesday 5 January 8.30am – ALL children return to school

Have a great weekend everyone and stay warm!

Cathy Grace, Headteacher

ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

This week, Year 5 explored key UNCRC articles including **Article 2** (Non-Discrimination), **Article 12** (Respect for Children's Views), **Article 13** (Freedom of Expression) and **Article 19** (Protection from Violence, Abuse and Neglect).

Through class discussions, pupils learned about the importance of treating everyone fairly, valuing different opinions and ensuring that all children feel safe and respected. The children took part in a range of activities, including reading 'We Are All Wonders' to consider how discrimination and bullying can affect others.

They also used drama to create freeze frames showing bullying situations, explored the feelings of those involved, discussed children's rights, and worked together to find positive resolutions.

The week helped pupils develop empathy, respect and a deeper understanding of children's rights.









unicef

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle Rawbone and Mrs Mazar
Chair of Governors— Mr Amjid Ali
Vice Chair of Governors— Mr Subat Khan

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Anti -Bulllying Week

This week is **Anti-Bullying Week**. We started the week with odd sock day on Monday and had Compass came in to run assemblies in year 3, year 4 and year 6. Compass were also in school to work with year 5 on Wednesday, where they ran workshop sessions linked to friendships and conflict resolution. We have launched our own Anti-Bullying Pledge this week and all children have signed to agree to follow the pledge.

Please read through the pledge at home with your child also.

The Anti-Bullying Pledge is on display around school and in all classrooms.



Skips Safety Net

Keeping children safe online



A Parent's Guide to AI Companions



Your child's new online friend might not be human.

AI companions can seem like caring friends, but they are artificial intelligence, not real people. Your child may not understand how their information is used.

scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online

What are the risks?

- May give poor advice.
- Could encourage secrecy.
- Might introduce inappropriate content.
- Could reinforce harmful thinking.
- May become more influential than trusted adults.
- May lead children to share personal information.
- Even when children speak rather than type, their conversations can be turned into written words and stored online, alongside photographs and personal information they share.

  In the wrong hands, this information could be used to blackmail, groom, bully or radicalise.

What you can do to help

Talk about the apps your child uses. Check age limits and privacy settings. Keep personal details out of chats. Explain that a chatbot is not a real friend. Encourage time with family and friends, and let your child know they can always talk to you without getting into trouble.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with

Home Office
BUILDING A SAFE, JUST AND TOLERANT SOCIETY

West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit

west midlands police and crime commissioner

Skips Safety Net www.skipssafetynet.org

School Attendance

Class Attendance

Well Done to **4NG, 4AA, 5BA, 5ZY, 6NI and 6HB** for achieving our school attendance target of 96% and above for last week!

Our school attendance last week was 95.1 %

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' symptoms with a first aider please request a call back. Please ring the school office on **0121 327 0824** — our lines are open from 8am. Thank you very much for your support. We are proud to work with you to fully support your child's attendance. Remember...everyday counts!





Monday 23rd November
Year 3

Tuesday 24th November
Swimming for 4TW and 4GJ

Wednesday 25th November
Year 5

Thursday 26th November
Year 6

Friday 27th November
Year 4

School Term Dates - Year 2026 to 2027

Autumn Term 2026
Term ends:
Friday 18 December
Christmas Holidays-
Monday 21st December-
Friday 1st January 2027
Spring Term 2027
Term starts:
Teacher Training
Monday 4th January 2027-
Pupils start:
Tuesday 5th January 2027



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