

Hello everyone

A **very BIG thank you to everyone who was able to attend Parents' Evening** this week. We really enjoyed sharing how proud we all are of the children, in particular the way **the children demonstrate two of our key values of resilience and teamwork** when settling in to their new class. Thank you also to everyone who was able to complete **the parent/carer questionnaire** - we have included the results of this on the following couple of pages so we can share what you told us! Highlights include:



BRILLIANT

100% stated we **'keep the children safe'**

97% stated their **'child has been well supported settling in to their new class'**

97% stated their **'child is taught well at this school'**

96% stated **'the school responds well if I have concerns'**

99% stated they are **'kept well informed about what is happening in school'**

And our **average star rating out of 5** was a HUGE **4.78!**



Here are a few important dates coming up:

Monday 13th October — 4SH & 4TW visit to Buddhist Temple

Friday 17th October — Year 6 Black Country Museum trip

Thursday 23rd October—Year 4 Buddhism Assembly

Friday 24th October—Liam Byrne MP will be visiting school to meet with the new School Councillors (elections are being held next week!) and will then join parents/carers on the St. Agatha's Road playground at home time

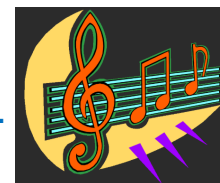
Friday 24th October—last day before the start of the ONE WEEK half-term holiday

Monday 3rd November— TEACHER TRAINING DAY—school closed to ALL pupils

Tuesday 4th November—ALL pupils return to school

Please read the following pages of the newsletter to find out about the COMPASS activities happening in school, as well as our Author of the Month and our UNICEF Article of the Week. You can also read about what the different year groups have been learning about this week! And finally, we are pleased to share with you Thornton's Musical Word of the Month for October!

rhythm: A pattern of sounds of different durations makes a rhythm. In a rhythm, the sounds are different lengths whereas in a pulse, all the sounds are the same length.



Have a great weekend everyone!

Cathy Grace, Headteacher

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace

Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason

Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle Rawbone and Mrs Mazar

Chair of Governors—Mr Subat Khan



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Parent/Carer Questionnaire Results—Autumn Term 2025

2. The school keeps my child safe

● Agree	117
● Disagree	0
● Not sure	0



3. My child has been well supported settling into their new class

● Agree	114
● Disagree	0
● Not sure	3



4. My child is taught well at this school

● Agree	113
● Disagree	2
● Not sure	2



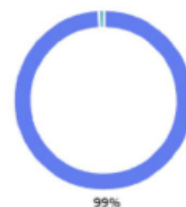
5. The school responds well if I have any concerns

● Agree	112
● Disagree	1
● Not sure	4

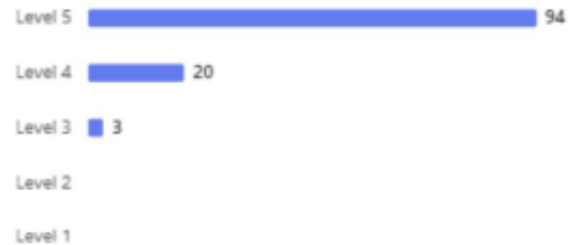


6. I am kept well informed about what is happening in school (newsletters/letters/texts/emails/website/school planners)

● Agree	116
● Disagree	0
● Not sure	1



7. How would you rate this school? 5 stars = top rating!



8. What are the best things about Thornton Primary School?



Latest Responses

"The education"

...

20 respondents (23%) answered teachers for this question.



9. What one wish do you have to make our school even better?



Latest Responses

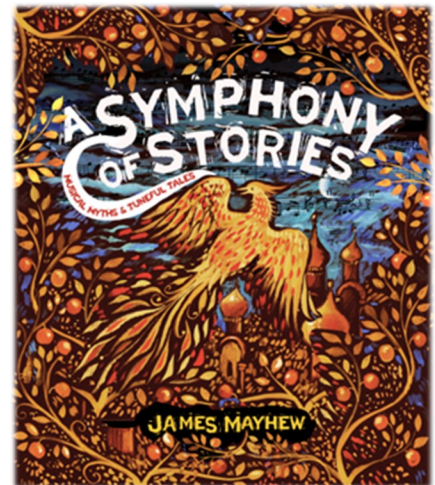
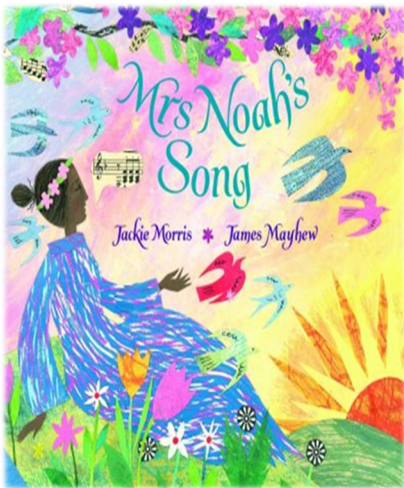
Longer playtime and lunch time

...

7 respondents (9%) answered school for this question.



Author of the Month 'October'



James Mayhew

James Mayhew is an internationally acclaimed author, artist and storyteller. Once Upon A Tune was inspired by his work with orchestras and musicians, presenting concerts that incorporate stories, music and art created live on stage. He is the illustrator of the Mrs Noah series written by Jackie Morris (twice nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal). He lives in Suffolk, England, where the big skies and gentle light are perfect for artists.

Fun Fact

- Art was always my favourite subject at school. I remember when I was 10 years old and my teacher introduced me to sketching with a scratchy old dip-pen and a bottle of ink. It was love at first sight, and I still use pen and ink to this day.
- I grew up in a tiny Suffolk village called Blundeston, famous as the birthplace of *David Copperfield* in the novel by Charles Dickens.
- I knew, from a very young age, that books and writing were something special.
- My father was a pilot, and was full of stories of his adventures, while my grandfather once went treasure hunting to a famous pirate hideaway called Cocos Island, so I heard more stories from him too.



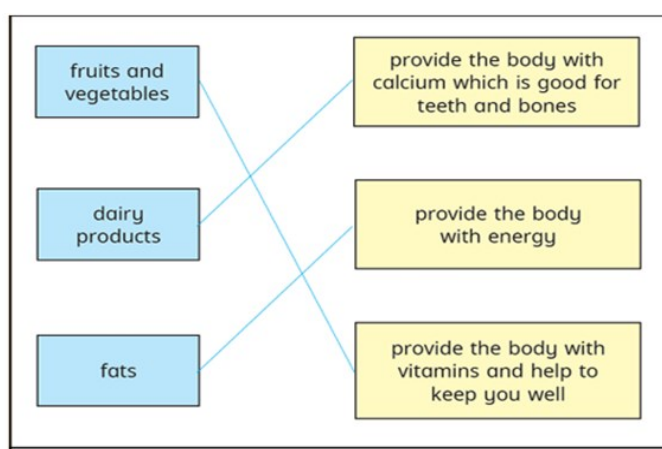
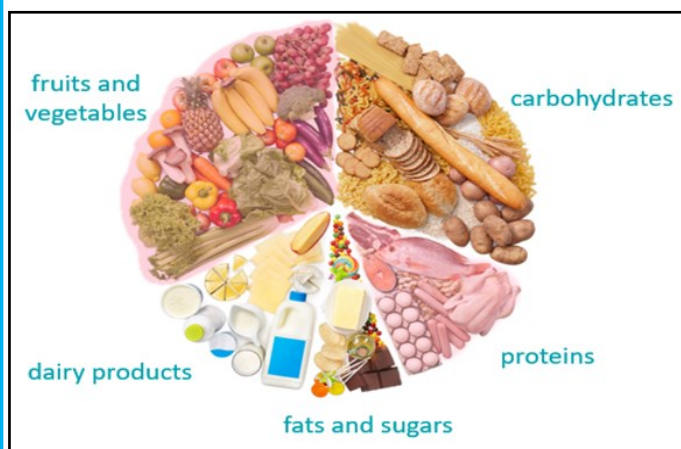
Scan the QR
code below to
access James's
Website!



Year 3

In Science, Year 3 have been learning about **healthy eating** and how a balanced diet helps our bodies grow and stay healthy. We explored the five main food groups and discovered why our bodies need

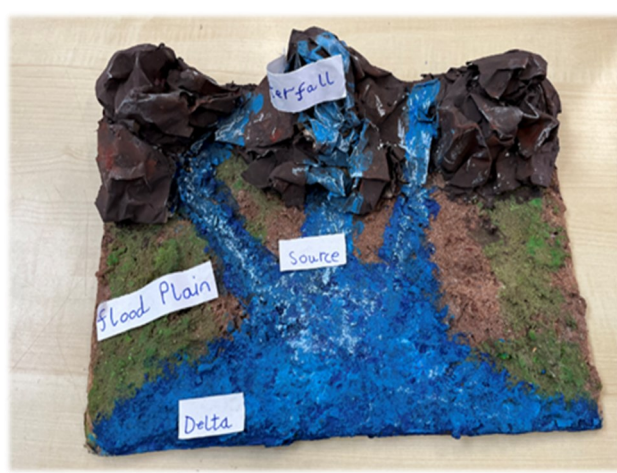
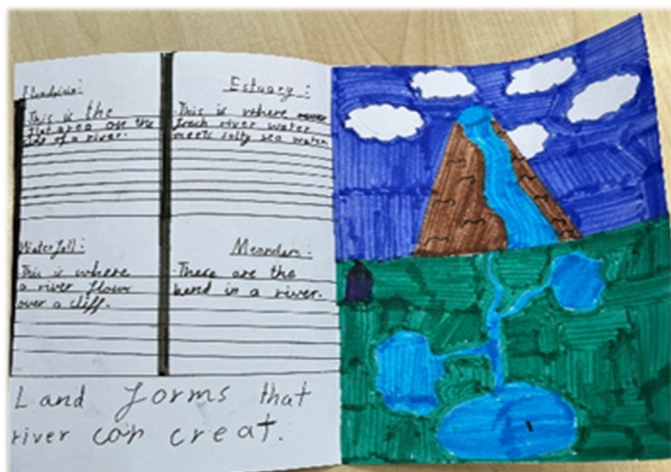
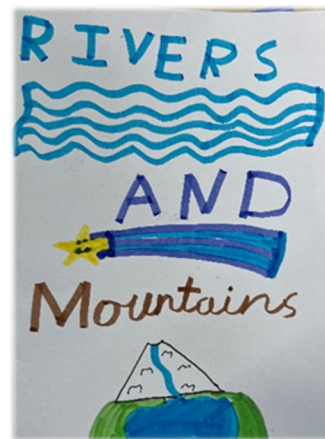
different types of food to get all the nutrients we need. The children really enjoyed taking part in activities to learn more about how food keeps us strong and healthy.



Year 4

In Year 4, we have been learning about **Rivers** in our Geography topic. This week we have been thinking about how flooding can impact the area around a river. The children have looked at flood maps which help to identify areas of potential flooding and have discovered that artificial features such as embankments can help to prevent the river water from flooding towns and cities, and natural features such as trees can help to prevent flooding as the these collect and store the water around rivers.

Some children have made some fantastic creative homework based around our Geography topic, Rivers. We are really impressed with them!

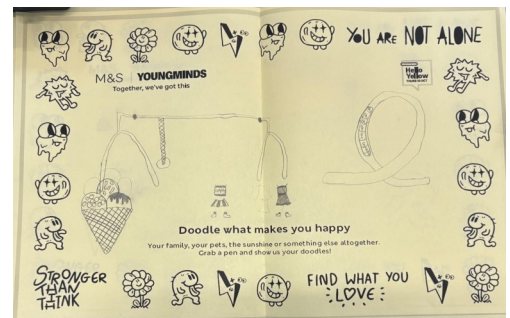
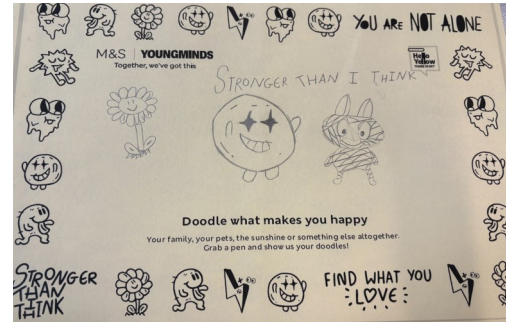
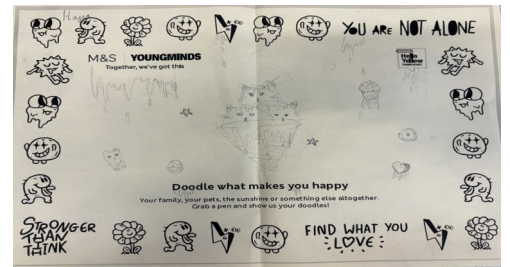


Year 5

On Wednesday, we made space to mark **world mental health day** by doing various drawings, doodles and sketches inspired by “the Doodle Kid.”

We really enjoyed having the space, permission and inspiration to draw whatever our heart desired.

All our art was different, but they all offered us an opportunity to prioritise our mental health and wellbeing.



Year 6



This week is World Mental Health Week and in Year 6 the children have been learning about what they can do to look after their own **mental health**. The children now understand that we all have times when we feel down or stressed or frightened. Most of the time those feelings pass, but sometimes they develop into a more serious problem and that could happen to any one of us. Everyone is different. You may bounce back from a setback while someone else may feel weighed down by it for a long time. The children know who they can talk to at school if they are feeling down.



ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

ARTICLE 28

Kathy Allan, RRSA Professional Adviser, introduces Article 28



Article 28 (right to education)

Article 28 says that all children across the world have the right to access primary education for free, and secondary education must be available to every child



Article 28 says that all children have the right to an education. Read the book *All are Welcome* about children going about their day at school where all children are welcome or listen to it using QR code. How do you welcome children in your class?



Malala Yousafzai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her work on the right to education, particularly for girls. Watch the video using the QR code. How can you be a changemaker and stand up for every child's right to education? As a class, make a list of the different ways that you could take action to support this right for children across the world and then decide which action would have the most impact.



We are really pleased to be working closely with **COMPASS** again this year so we can make sure our children get all the support they need in school.

We have invited **COMPASS** to run some special **parent/carers workshops**, as well as workshops for our children. Please take a moment to see what is on offer and which of the parent/carers workshops you would like to attend across the year (you are very welcome to attend them all!):



Date	Parent/carers workshop	Pupil only workshop
Wednesday 12th November 8.45-9.30am	Bullying	Y5 Anti-bullying pupil workshops
Monday 8th December 8.45-9.30am	Healthy Sleep	Y4 Resilience pupil workshops
Monday 19th January 8.45-9.30	Connecting with your child	Y5 self-esteem pupil workshops
Friday 13th February 8.45-9.30am	Online Safety	Online safety day workshops and assemblies for all pupils
Tuesday 17th March		Y3 Behaviours workshops for all pupils
Friday 17th April 8.45-9.30am	Y6 SATs Anxiety	Y6 SATs anxiety pupil workshops
Monday 18th May 8.45-9.30am	Building Self-esteem	Y4 Building self-esteem pupil workshops
Friday 12th June		Y6 Transition pupil workshops
Monday 22nd June 8.45-9.30am	Supporting your child with worries	Y5 Worries pupil workshops

Attention all Year 6 Parents! Secondary Transfer 2026

Applications for your child's secondary school place in September 2026 are now live on the following website:

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-admissions>

The online application is very simple and quick but if you need support completing the form please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

The deadline for the application is **31/10/2025**

School Attendance

Class Attendance

Congratulations to classes **5GJ** and **6MF** who achieved our school attendance target of 97% and above for last week!

Golden Ticket Initiative

Autumn Term Bronze Award – Pupils need to achieve 97% and above in the Autumn Term to get a golden ticket and a treat! Mrs Grace will be announcing exciting details of the reward later this term...

We are pleased to announce we currently have **260** pupils who are on track to achieve the Bronze Golden Ticket!

Your child can reach their **full learning potential by attending school every day and on time**. Absence and poor punctuality disrupts the education of not only your child but the whole class. Thank you in advance for working in partnership with us to make every day count in your child's education.

The table below shows just how much a child with poor punctuality may miss:

If you are....	You have lost the following learning time....
5 minutes late each day	3 days
10 minutes late each day	6 ½ days
15 minutes late each day	10 days
20 minutes late each day	13 days
30 minutes late each day	19 days

Our school attendance last week was
93.8%



PE TIMETABLE

Monday 13th October
Year 4

Tuesday 14th October
Swimming for 4TW and 4AA.

Wednesday 15th October
Year 3

Thursday 16th October
Year 5

Parent Pay

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of **each week**, thank you. If you need any support with payment please contact the school office who will be happy to talk with you.

Dinner money and Club money must be paid in advance via Parent Pay, thank you:

Dinner money is £2.70 per day and £13.50 per week.

Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day and £1 for each siblings.

After school club is £4 per day and £2 for each siblings.

The late pickup charge is £4 for each pupil picked up after 4pm.

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



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