

Hello everyone

Last week, Mrs Biddle-Rawbone and I were honoured to be invited by Nadia Ahmed, Community Development Manager, to attend the **Ward End Asian Elders Wellbeing Association's** (WEAEWA) celebration ceremony. It was great to be part of a community event that recognised the achievements of local women. Awards were presented for successfully completing fitness and IT skills programmes. We were really excited by the vision that was shared for the future of this valuable community resource and will tell you more about it soon!

Yesterday, we were lucky to have the Asthma Nurse from Washwood Heath Wellbeing Centre, Teresa, visit school. She talked with parents about asthma care and we want to share some of the important points she made with you:

- Preventative inhalers (usually brown or purple) must be used with a spacer in the morning and in the evening to have maximum effect, not just when feeling wheezy
- Volumatic spacers (the large, clear ones) should be used and not aero chamber face masks (the yellow ones that cover the nose) so the medication goes straight to the lungs where it is needed most and not up the nose!
- If you have a concern about asthma, ask your GP to refer you to the asthma nurse



Asthma UK have a brilliant website which helps explain how best to care for asthmatics and even has videos about how to use an inhaler properly and effectively - www.asthma.org.uk



The Easter holiday competition this year is a little different. We have a gardening theme to decorate a stone, potato or create a garden scene. Your child has details about this in their planner and you can also find them further on in this newsletter. Please can all entries be brought into school by Wednesday 27th April at the latest for judging! Good luck, we can't wait to see your creativity as you let your imagination grow wild!

Every week your child's class teacher writes a postcard to one of the children in class to recognise how they have gone above and beyond at school that week. The **praise postcards** are **posted home each week** so please encourage your child to keep an eye out for the post for these awards recognising their brilliant effort!



We are delighted with the overwhelming response from **Year 6** children who have agreed to come into school on a Teacher Training Day, **Thursday 6th May**, for **extra SATs revision**, as well as **take home a loaned device** over the holiday to support their preparation for SATs.

Don't forget that Monday 25th April is a Teacher Training Day and the **children return at 8.30am on Tuesday 26th April**. School will open on Tuesday 26th April at 8.30am for the usual catch-up sessions but ALL children must be in school by 8.45am. Thank you for supporting us with the hard work we are doing to fill any gaps in the children's learning. 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.

Take care and stay safe,

Cathy Grace, Headteacher

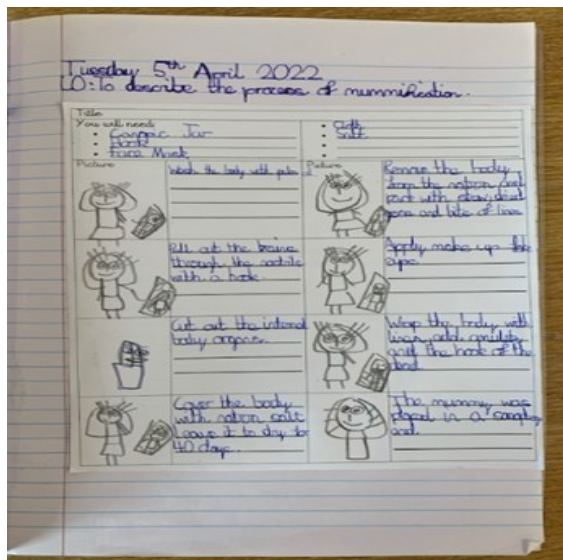
Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone,
Mrs Mazar, Mrs McPherson, Miss Loach
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali



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Year 3

Year 3 have been learning all about the process of **mummification** during Topic lessons. We investigated the steps involved in mummifying bodies during Ancient Egyptian times and we also used clay to form images of canopic jars and pyramids. Mr Ryall kindly provided us with the chance to look at a cranial crochet hook similar to the one on display in the Science Museum in London. The Ancient Egyptians used this hook to remove the brain before mummification!



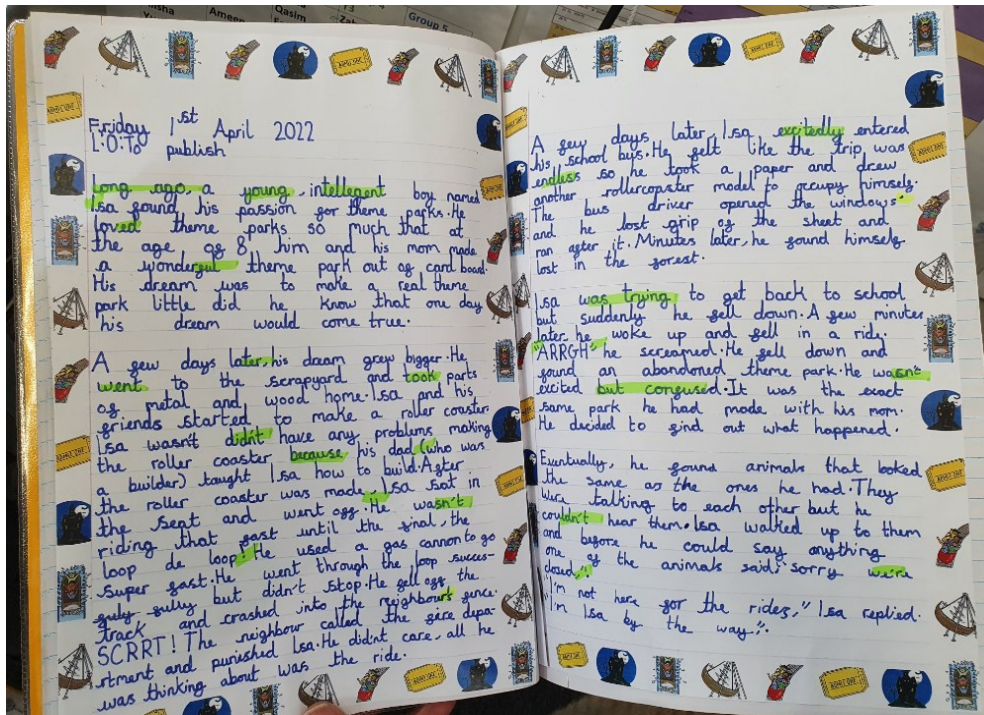
Year 4

On Friday 1st April, PCSOs Sam and Stephen from West Midlands Police, came to visit the children in Year 4. They discussed many different topics all relating to the key theme of **bullying**. Bullying can be done by friends, family, people at school and strangers, but it's never ok! It can happen in different places like at school, home or online. There are ways to get help and to make yourself feel better. Remember nobody has the right to bully you! You must speak to a trusted adult so they can help you.



Year 5

It's the end of Year 5's **Scream Machine season** and we wanted to mark it with a bang! We incorporated some visual literacy into our lessons, because research suggests it is a very effective way to help pupils communicate their ideas and manipulate language. Taking inspiration from 'Wonder Park', the children created their own stories incorporating the themes of teamwork, creativity, imagination, magic and most importantly rollercoasters! Here is an example of the great writing we have seen from across the year group.



Year 6

This week in Year 6, we created our **own fossils by moulding clay**. The children used various tools and techniques to manipulate the clay in order to create their own fossils based on the prehistoric era and our topic of Evolution and Inheritance. We are proud of the children's creativity and attention to detail!



Importance of Reading in enhancing your critical and analytical thinking

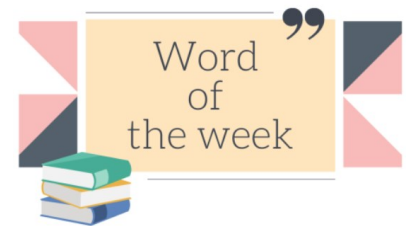
While reading, a lot of information is being processed in our brain simultaneously. It opens many different perspectives for your brain to comprehend. If you are reading a mystery or suspense book, your brain constantly tries to guess certain outcomes and events. It also relates one event to the other to make sense of the story. All this, in turn, sharpens our minds and enhances our critical and analytical thinking skills. **Mrs Dionne McPherson**



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: '**civility**'



"Showing civility means you are courteous and respectful in what you say and what you do." Siline (4TW)

As Siline, has demonstrated civility, or being civil, is linked to being respectful. Interestingly, Siline has also used one of the words used earlier in the year 'courteous.' At Thornton we want all our pupils to be respectful as this creates a pleasant environment to work in, and also equips them to make healthy relationships in later life.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

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

Summer Term 1 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 2022

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

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



Thornton Staff Book Review


A book I have been enjoying recently is called Straight on Till Morning—Twisted tales by Elizabeth J. Braswell. I enjoyed this book because it looks at a well-known story in a different way. This book looks at what could have happened if Wendy went to Neverland with Hook instead of Peter Pan.






THE BIRMINGHAM ALLOTMENT PROJECT

WOTTA LOTTA CULTURE!



An exciting new project by General Public exploring the heritage of allotments in Birmingham from the 1960s to the present day.



Thanks to National Lottery players

EGG FREE Easter Extravaganza!

Garden design Competition

There are a large number of children across the school with egg allergies, so we need to ensure that no-one uses real eggs or egg shells to decorate.

It is that time of year again when we would like to invite all children to let their imaginations run wild and decorate an egg-shaped object for our Easter competition. This year, we are going to have a **gardening theme** and want children to decorate a potato or stone or create a garden scene.

The closing date is **WEDNESDAY 27th April**.
There will be a winner and one runner up from each class, a winner from each year group and one overall WINNER!
You have plenty of time to get creative over the Easter holidays with this competition.




You can use a range of materials to help you decorate you:

paint, chalk, paper/card, pencils, felts... We are suggesting you use a potato or stone to decorate or you could choose to decorate: a chocolate egg, an egg-shaped biscuit or an egg shape made of paper or card. You could even create a paper mâché egg shape from a balloon! The possibilities are endless.

You might choose to take your design a step further and create a back drop or garden scene also...







We look forward to seeing your ideas!!!!

School Attendance

Well done to 3DR who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above during the last week.

Best Class Attendance Reward

Congratulations to **3DR** for having the best class attendance for Spring term 2. **WOW!** 3DR beat the school target by achieving 97.2% . Mrs Grace surprised 3DR with the **£50 gift voucher!**



Attendance Celebration Assembly

We will be celebrating our Spring Term attendance on Friday 29th April. Look out for the Silver ticket invites and the Magic 20 Raising Attendance and Punctuality .



Our whole school attendance last week was 91.4%

PE TIMETABLE

Monday 25th April
Teacher Training day

Tuesday 26th April
Year 6

Wednesday 27th April
Year 3

Thursday 28th April
Year 5

Friday 29th April
Swimming for classes 5TR-5ZY

Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason

Assistant Headteachers - Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar,

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