



Hello everyone

I cannot quite believe how fast time seems to be flying at the moment, and that we only have one more week of the Autumn Term left!



We are busy preparing for some festive fun next week! Year 3 are working very hard to rehearse their Nativity Assembly so that they can spread some smiles and positivity across the school. We really value all their hard work and appreciate their talents.

Plans have been made to safely bring the children together to eat in their class bubble on their Christmas dinner day: **Year 3 and Year 4 will be doing this on Tuesday 15th December and Year 5 and Year 6 on Wednesday 16th December.**



On the last day of term, **Friday 18th December**, the children will finish slightly earlier and can be collected **from 12.30pm to 12.45pm** as detailed on last week's newsletter.

The children will return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2021** at the usual staggered start times.

In this newsletter I have included some information to let you know how to contact school during the school holidays if anyone in your household test positive for Covid-19.

As usual, I hope you have a lovely weekend, wrap up warm and, most importantly, stay safe.

Cathy Grace      Acting Headteacher

## Updating your contact details

It's really important you keep us up to date with your contact information. If your mobile number or your email address has changed, please let us know by emailing: **[updated@thornton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:updated@thornton.bham.sch.uk)**

## Christmas Jumper Day

It was lovely to see so many of the children and staff wearing their Christmas jumpers for the 'Save The Children' charity. We will announce the amount we have raised next week in the newsletter



**Miss Loach and Miss Brown chose matching jumpers for today's Christmas Jumper Day!**



## Leave in term time

Please be mindful that school cannot authorise any leave in term time unless it is medical related and exceptional circumstances. If you do decide to take your child out of school during term time for any reason then you must inform school.



Acting Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace  
Assistant Headteachers - Miss Loach,  
Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar

Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali  
Vice-Chair of Governors—Johur Uddin



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## School Twitter Page

<https://twitter.com/Thornton0wls>



Year 3 are having a virtual predator talk today! We are learning about lots of animals.



Laiba From Year 4 joined in a P.E Activity from home.



Mariam in Year 4 has made a super festive outfit and it looks fab.



Zayna Year 6 and Awais Year 4 have wonderful festive face paint .

## TikTok Update Parental Controls

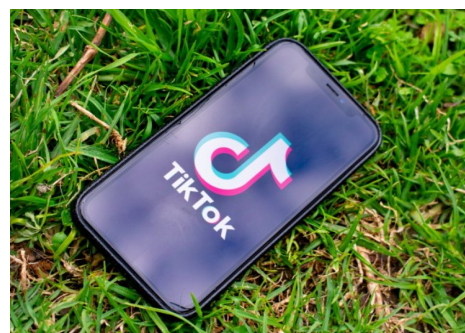
TikTok is used by many teenagers and sometimes children younger than 13 despite its terms and conditions. Using the new Family Pairing feature can allow parents to guide their child's TikTok experience in a safer way. Features include:

**Search:** Decide what can be searched for. This includes content, users, hashtags, or sounds

**Screen Time Management:** Sets how long your teen can spend on TikTok each day

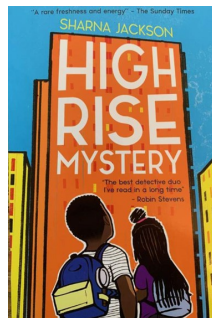
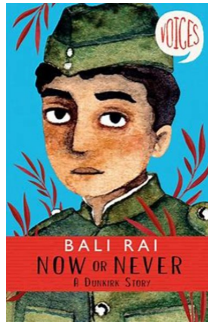
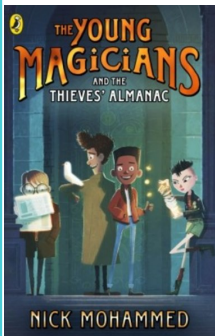
**Discoverability:** Decide on the account being private (you decide who can see their content) or public (anyone can search and view content)

To find out more information about TikTok's Family Pairing feature and to download a helpful poster to share with pupils and parents, go to: <https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/tiktok-update-parental-controls-with-family-pairing-feature/>



## Returning books

As we come to the end of this term, we are collecting our guided reading books in. Please have a look around at home – are there any school books lying forgotten that could be returned? Year Three books have a brown sticker on the spine, Year Four are silver, Year Five are navy blue and Year Six have a red or dark red sticker. These are some of the new books in school that I'm looking forward to reading over the next few weeks.



## FSM

### Free school meals – are you now eligible?

Due to the impact of COVID-19 some families have now become eligible for benefits to related free school meals. This not only enables your child to have a free school meal but also enables discounts and other support during their time in school. It also provides the school with additional funding (Pupil Premium) each year to help benefit the children. It takes a few minutes to check:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>

**Free  
School  
Meals**   
**Are you entitled?**

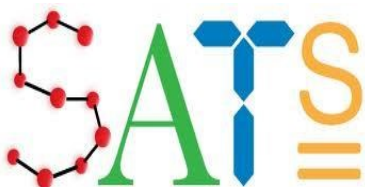
## Changes to Statutory Assessments 2020-2021

Each year, a range of statutory tests are usually taken by pupils in the summer term (KS2 SATs in Year 6). The government have recently published new guidance for 2020-2021 stating:

- The KS2 SPaG test has been cancelled (Y6)
- Teachers do not need to assess pupils for Science (Y6)
- Y6 will still have to take the reading test (x1) and the maths arithmetic and reasoning tests (x3)
- Y6 writing will be assessed by their teachers in the usual way

The government had planned to introduce a multiplication check for Y4 last year and it was postponed until this year. They have now said that it is optional and we will shortly make a decision as to whether or not our Y4 children take this test.

We are aware that Eid-al-Fitr is estimated to be on Wed 12th May and the Y6 SATs are scheduled for the 10th -12th May. The government has given the schools greater flexibility in timetabling the tests so it may be that we can change the date of some tests, following further discussions with staff and parents. We will keep you updated about this.



Information for parents can be found online by scanning this QR code:





## PE TIMETABLE

### W/C 14th December

Monday 14th December  
Year 4

Tuesday 15th December  
Year 6

Wednesday 16th December  
Year 3

Thursday 17th December  
Year 5

Friday 18th December  
3EB



**Did YOU know** that the Internet does not have a delete key! Any comment or image you post online may stay online forever because removing the original (say, from Twitter) does not remove any copies that other people made. There is no way for you to "take back" a remark you wish you hadn't made, or get rid of that embarrassing selfie you took at a party. Don't put anything online that you wouldn't want your mom and dad or a prospective employer to see.

### Dinner Money

Dinner money is **£2.40 per day and £12.00 per week**. Please use ParentPay every Monday to pay for your child's meal in advance.



## Attendance



Well done to the following classes who achieved our school Attendance target of 97% and above:

Year 3  
3SQ-97.3%

Year 4  
4TW-98.6%  
4GJ-98.3%

Year 5  
5BA-97.5%  
5ZY-97.2%

Year 6  
6NI-99.3%  
6HJ-98.6%

**Last week our whole school attendance was: 95.7%**

### Golden Ticket Attendance Initiative



296 children who achieve the bronze award will be awarded a special golden ticket for extra play time. The children will get the extra play time next term! Next week children will be getting freshly made popcorn and a attendance sticker for their diaries.



## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2021

**Teacher Training Day: Monday 4th January 2021**  
**School not open to children**

**Term Starts: Tuesday 5 January 2021**

**Half Term: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021**

**Teacher Training Day: Monday 22nd February 2021**  
**Term Ends: Thursday 1 April 2021**

### Summer Term 2021

**Teacher Training Day: Monday 19th April 2021**  
**Term Starts: Tuesday 20 April 2021**  
**Teacher Training Day: Thursday 6th May 2021**

**Half Term: Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 4 June 2021**  
**Term Ends: Wednesday 21 July 2021**

**School reopens on Thursday 2nd September 2021.**

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## COVID update – PLEASE HELP!



As we are now approaching the Christmas holidays, any bubble closures may result in children and staff having to self-isolate over the Christmas holiday. We need to try to avoid this if we can. Staff and children have worked so hard and really deserve a restful holiday.

Please can we ask that parents and carers are extra careful and follow these rules

- If your child is feeling unwell, please only send them in if they are well enough to attend.
- If they have any COVID symptoms, you **MUST** keep them off (and any other children in your household) and book a test immediately.
- Inform school immediately if the child or anyone in the household has symptoms.

Not following these rules might mean children and staff might unnecessarily have to miss out on seeing family or being able to go out over the holiday period.

Thank you for your support with this.

 <p><b>If your child has:</b> a high temperature a new, continuous cough, or a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste</p> <p>This could be a sign of coronavirus</p> <p><b>Book a test</b></p>	<p><b>If your child has:</b> a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell <b>But they don't have:</b> a high temperature a new, continuous cough, or a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste</p> <p><b>These are not normally symptoms of coronavirus</b></p> <p>Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial 111 or see your GP</p>	 <p><b>HANDS</b></p> <p><b>FACE</b></p> <p><b>SPACE</b></p>
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## Reporting a positive Covid-19 test result to school

If your child, or someone in your household receives a positive Covid-19 test result during the Christmas holiday, please let the school know immediately using the school email address **[covidinfo@thornton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:covidinfo@thornton.bham.sch.uk)**.

Thank you.



## **SCHOOL CLEANER – ADVERT**

**Grade 1 SCP 1-3 (£17,842 - £18,562) pro rata 11.25 hrs per week – Term Time only**

**Gross Salary (£4807—£5001)**  
**THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**WARD END**  
**BIRMINGHAM, B8 2LQ**

**Required – January 2021**

Do you have necessary skills and 'can-do' attitude to join our hardworking cleaning team? We are looking for an experience Cleaner to join us as soon as possible.

This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent and spoken English is an essential requirement for this role.

**If you have not heard from us within a week after the closing date, please conclude that you have not been short-listed.**

Application packs can be obtained from the school website under the vacancies tab.

Please email your completed application forms to [t.scott@thornton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:t.scott@thornton.bham.sch.uk).

**Closing date Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

**Interviews w/c 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.**

