

Hello everyone

We have had a very exciting week in school this week with **School Councillor elections** taking place. We are delighted with how well our newly elected Councillors performed during their first duty which was to join a **UK Parliament online workshop**. The children were able to see, hear and talk with our local MP, Liam Byrne, and Parliament staff about the UK Parliament live via video link. They were very confident in asking and answering questions and gained a good understanding of how Parliament operates, as well as learning many new words and phrases. Congratulations and well done to all our new School Councillors, you should be very proud of yourselves!

A special thank you to all our parents who were able to attend the **first outdoor coffee morning**. Luckily, the rain stayed away and Senior Leaders and members of our Inclusion Team were able to answer questions and listen to feedback from parents on a range of issues. These varied from concerns about mental health, e-safety, Google Classrooms, extra-curricular clubs and many more. It was a very enjoyable parents coffee morning and we look forward to the next one on Tuesday 2nd November 9-9.50am!

In response to feedback from some of our new parents, I want to share with everyone what to do if you have a concern. If the concern relates to your child, please talk to their class teacher first (either when you pick them up, or call Reception 0121 327 0824 to book a telephone appointment to speak with them). Next, if you feel further action is required, please speak to the Head of Year (Y3—Miss Brown, Y4—Miss Hughes, Y5—Mrs Ahmed, Y6—Mr Iqbal). As well as this, members of the Senior Leadership Team and Inclusion Team are always available at the start and end of the school day and are located on the school gates on both Thornton Road and St. Agatha's Road (I am always on the gate on Thornton Road nearest the main Reception so I can be easily accessible to everyone).

And finally, **the school website (www.thornton.bham.sch.uk)** hold lots and lots of information to support you and your child, including a full list of staff (with photos!), a link to the school's Twitter feed, guidance on the curriculum being taught, ideas to support with reading, and much more, including copies of all the newsletters—did you know that the FULL newsletter is emailed out weekly to you, as well as put on the website, and to help save the planet only the front and back page is sent home on paper?

Don't forget to book your **Virtual Parents' Evening appointment** online if you haven't already done so! **<https://thorntonprimary.schoolcloud.co.uk>**

Have a great weekend everyone.

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



Thornton Road

Ward End,

Birmingham B8 2LQ

0121 327 0824

enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Thornton has its new School Council!

A big congratulations to all the new school councillors:

Year 3

3EB: Aasiya
3SQ: Kaisah
3JDR: Safaa
3AW: Jenna

Year 4

4TW: Amir
4GJ: Amelia
4MJ: Aydin
4SH: Hafsah

Year 5

5ST: Ibrahim
5NG: Ayub
5ZY: Sara
5BA: Musa
5TR: Hannah

Year 6

6MF: Najwa
6ZB: Umar
6NI: Zakariyah
6HB: Ayaan
6AB: Hafsah

School Attendance

100% Class Attendance Weekly Reward



Congratulations to 4GJ who achieved the best class attendance in the school last week. They had a surprise visit from Mrs Biddle– Rawbone and were awarded a £25 gift voucher. It was a wow moment because this the second time 4GJ have won the gift voucher!

Well done to the following classes who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above last week:

Year 3
3DR

Year 5
5TR
5BA

Year 6
6NI



Our whole school attendance for last week was 95%

Parents' Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us for our first coffee morning. It was lovely to see so many of you, and to learn how you have found the start of the school year. The event also provided an opportunity to share information.

The senior leadership team introduced themselves, and provided parents with an explanation as to their roles in school. Mrs Grace explained how the school are continuing to take precautions to minimise the spread of Covid; demonstrating that the team at Thornton are putting pupil safety first. An explanation was also given as to why the school has decided to hold virtual parents' evenings. Mrs Grace urged parents to provide the school with any feedback (good and bad) as to how you find the event, particularly as we have never held such an event before.

Parents also raised a number of important points, and asked some very thoughtful questions. They requested more support in regards to E-Safety, which has become an increasing challenge for all parents as technology has advanced. In the coming months we hope to hold a series of E-Safety workshops for parents to support you in this area. Mental Health was also raised as a concern. Mrs Biddle-Rawbone explained parents that the school has two mental health first aiders who are able to support pupils in moments of need, and that as a school we take our responsibility in regards to supporting pupils in this area extremely seriously. Parents also wished to know more about Google Classroom, as this was new to our year 3 parents. Please remember that help and advice is available at the school website. QR code below:

Mr Mason—Deputy Headteacher



School Allotments



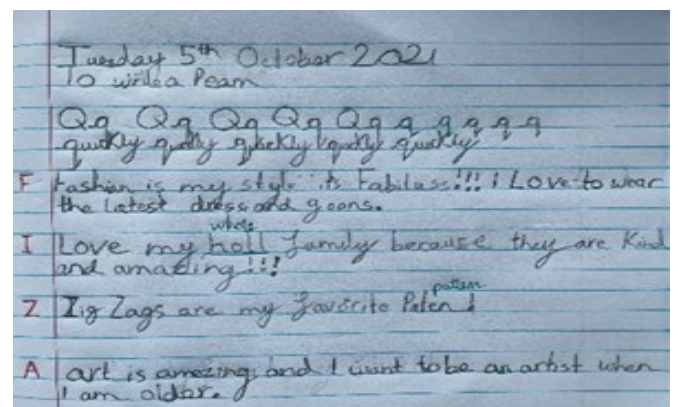
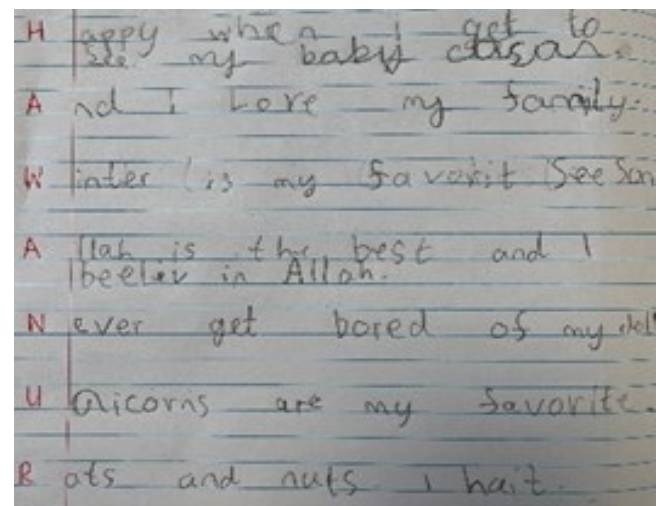
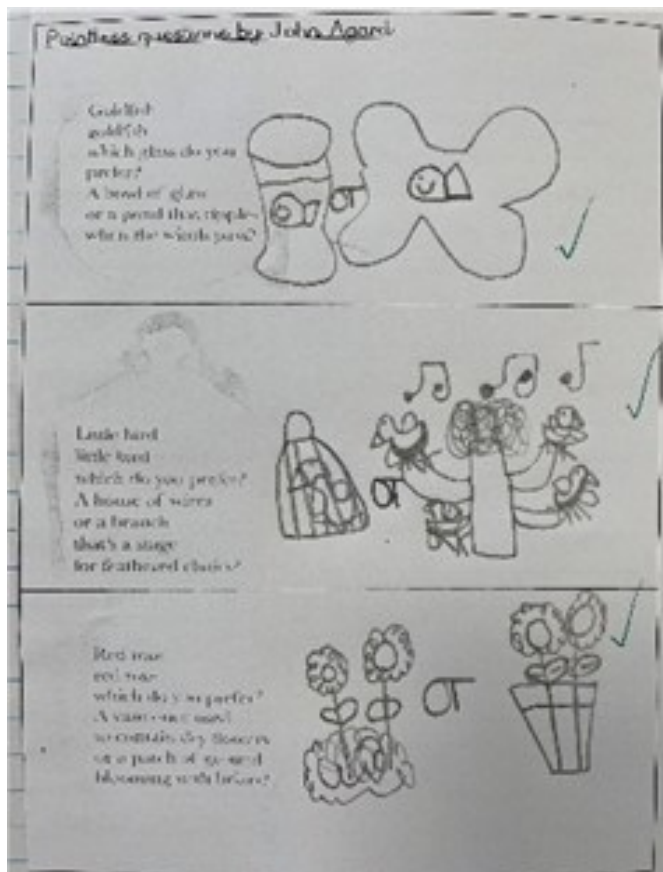
WOW! The school pumpkin has grown into a giant! It has taken six months for the tiny seed to become a big pumpkin.



A big thank you to Mr Watkis for all his support in helping with the school's allotment plot.

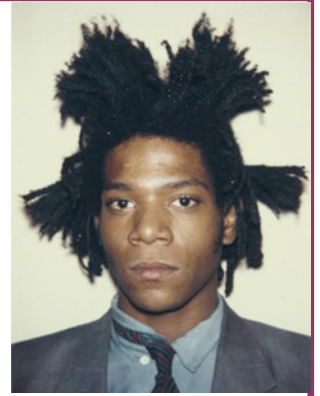
Black Culture Week in Year 3

As part of Black Culture week, Year 3 pupils have been reading poems by two fantastic poets - John Agard and James Berry. We used our visualising skills, to explore the theme of freedom in the poem, 'Pointless Questions' by Agard. In Berry's poem, 'Isn't My Name Magical?' we focused on identity and examined, what makes each of us so unique, yet special.

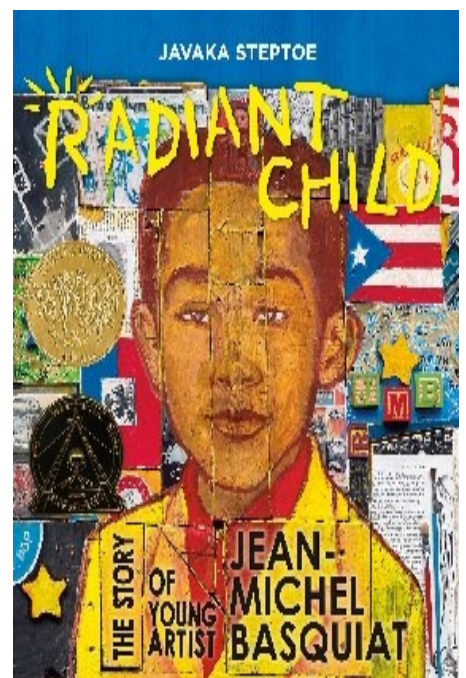
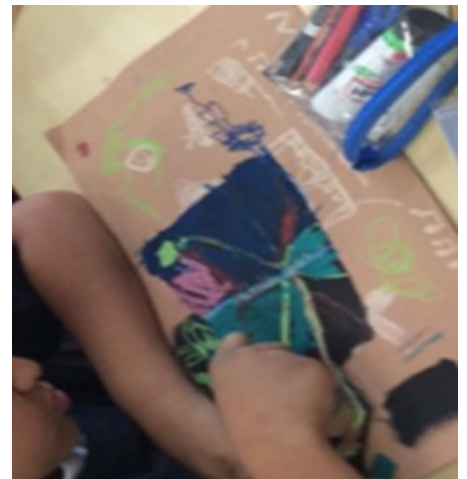


Black Culture Day in Year 4

On Monday 4th October, Year 4 focused on the work of a black artist called Jean-Michel Basquiat. We discussed his artwork and used vocabulary cards to describe his work. Then we created a checklist of things to include in our own artwork. We identified that Basquiat was inspired by Jazz music, skulls, skeletons, cartoons and writing.



We created our own artwork inspired by Basquiat by building up an abstract background while listening to **Jazz music**. Scan the QR code to listen to the music. Then we layered different materials, images, words and colours.



Listen to the story 'Radiant Child' written by Javaka Steptoe about the young artist Jean-Michel Basquiat to learn more about his life.

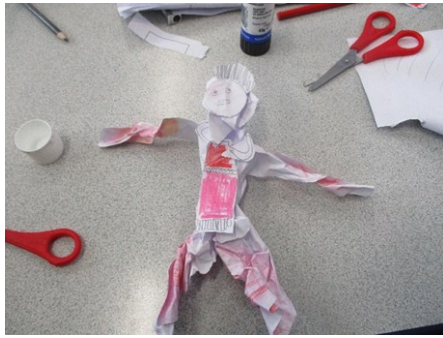
YEAR 5

Year 5 have been looking at the inspirational work of Willard Wigan, an artist from Wolverhampton, who has the Guinness World Record for the smallest sculpture.

We have used paper crafting techniques to make models of ancient Greek characters.

We then switched media to try the same techniques with metal foil.

Our efforts might not be as small as Mr Wigan's, but, with the help of a large needle, we did get some to fit inside the eye!



Year 6

This week Year 6 have been reading a book called Oliver Twist, which was written by Charles Dickens. The book is about a young orphan boy who is taken care of by the evil and untrustworthy Fagin. Oliver embarks on an adventure which is filled with misfortunes and at times luck. The children have been writing diary entries from the perspective of Oliver.

31st January 1871

Dear Diary,

I'VE BEEN TAKEN AS A HOSTAGE! Why has this happened? I thought I was on the route to a better life but it had to slip away!

Mr. Brownlow had sent me for task at the library. I was proud to do this for him. This was proof that he trusted me. All of a sudden a figure leapt out of an alleyway and it grabbed me... as you'd imagine I was mortified. Another pair of hands grasped me from behind and now I could make out the faces of Nancy and Bill Sikes. I was freaking out as I was blindfolded and thrown into a wooden cart!

That is how I ended up in this room, under the restriction of lock and key... why have they done this to me? Is it because they want my father's wealth? Mr. Brownlow must be thinking that I have betrayed him... I need to escape but how?

31st January 1871

Dear Diary,

I've been locked in this dreadful room for days! What am I doing here because I really don't deserve this! I was captured by the horrid Bill Sikes and Nancy... Nancy has surprised me the most as she was supposed to be my friend.

Poor Mr. Brownlow... He is a good man! I feel as if I have let him down; he will never trust me again, which is such a shame. I was supposed to return his money and books to the library, however now he must think I am such a thief. If only I could break free and tell him the truth. I've never had anyone who really loved or cared for me, but the only man who did was Mr. Brownlow... he is such a respectable man!

Oooh! It's so cold here, this room is freezing and I can hear the irritating drip of water falling from the ceiling. What are they planning to do with me?... I'm terrified of Fagin and Sikes. They are evil! So evil that it brings me to my knees. I hope they go to jail one day.

Be
Internet
Legends.



Google Internet Legends – Online Safety Assembly – 11am

Friday 15th October

Google | Generalist

**Sharp
Alert
Secure
Kind
Brave**

Be
Internet
Legends.

Scheme of Work

The whole school will be taking part in a virtual assembly delivered by Google Internet Legends. We currently use this scheme of work to supplement our safety lessons delivered in school.

Parents and carers, if you want to join the link from home, click here - <https://youtu.be/ZMUvhB0NiR0>

The Be Internet Legends programme gives teachers the tools and methods they need to teach online safety fundamentals in the classroom.

The internet safety pillars are;

- Think before you share (Be Internet Sharp)
- Check its For Real (Be Internet Alert)
- Protect Your Stuff (Be Internet Secure)
- Respect Each Other (Be Internet Kind)
- When in Doubt, Discuss (Be Internet Brave)

[Be Internet Legends - A Program to Teach Children Internet Safety](#)

Reporting Absence 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's symptoms with the school nurse please request a call back from the nurse.

Thank you for your support.

Please ring the school office on 0121 327 0824 our lines open from 8am .



Parent Pay

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 .



PE TIMETABLE

Monday 11th October
Year 4

Tuesday 12th October
Year 6

Wednesday 13th October
Year 3

Thursday 14th October
Year 5

Safeguarding

If you have recently relocated outside of the area and are looking for a school closer to home, it is very important that you complete an In Year Transfer form. You can get this form from the school office, and this must be signed by the Headteacher.

Please can you keep school informed when you are offered a place at another school.



ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022



Autumn Term 1 Dates 2021

Teaching Training Day: Thursday 2nd September 2021
Teaching Training Day: Friday 3rd September 2021

Term Starts: **Monday 6th September 2021**

Term Ends: **Friday 22nd October 2021**

Half Term: Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October

Autumn Term 2 Dates 2021

Term Starts: **Monday 1st November 2021**

Term Ends: **Friday 17th December 2021**

Christmas holiday: Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January

Spring Term 1 Dates 2022

Teaching Training Day: **Tuesday 4th January 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**

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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