

Hello Everyone,

Thank you to everyone who attended our face-to-face **Parents' Evenings** over the past 2 weeks. It was lovely to meet you and have the chance to hear your thoughts about school and our new caterers, Miquill. I have attached the feedback from the questionnaire that many of you completed so you can see what everyone thinks about Thornton. We will be looking to increase our club provision for the children after half-term and will let you know more details about our plans soon...

Thank you also to all the parents/carers who attended our first **coffee morning** of the year and met with senior leaders and our inclusion team. We were impressed with all the ideas that were shared about our school ethos and values—it was a really uplifting, positive session! Our next meeting is planned for **Tuesday 8th November 9-9.45am** and will focus on **e-safety and Google Classroom**. We look forward to seeing you there!

It was great to see so many parents attend the '**year group welcome meetings**' for Years 4 and 6 this week. You told us it was really useful to have the chance to meet all the teachers from the year group at once and hear about how you can support your child at home with their learning. We are looking forward to welcoming **Year 3 parents next week on Wednesday 19th October at 9am and Year 5 parents on Thursday 20th October at 9am**.

We are pleased to share with you the **police partnership work** we will be continuing this term. We are lucky to have the police visiting school to talk with the children about how to keep themselves and others safe. Year 3's focus is bullying, Year 4's is online safety, Year 5's is dangers of knives and Year 6's is gangs.



Thank you to the children and staff for the wonderful **harvest assembly** today! The children's creativity shone through in their performance and we were really impressed with the dancing, singing, poetry and narration which helped us to understand what harvest means for different cultures. It was also brilliant to finally have a good old fashioned assembly for parents to attend and celebrate with us!



Don't forget, we break up for the **half-term holiday next Friday**. School will finish at the usual time of **3.30pm** and the children will only be away for one week. ALL children are expected to return to school after the holiday on **Monday 31st October from 8.30am** and by 8.45am at the latest!

Have a great weekend everyone,
Cathy Grace, Headteacher



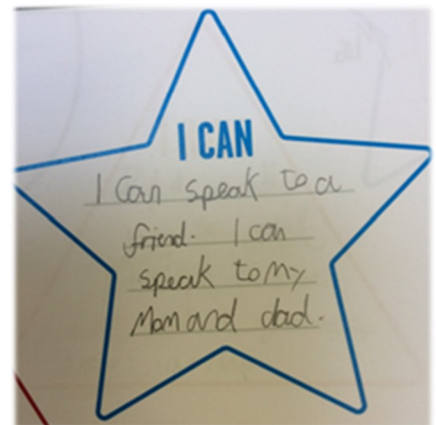
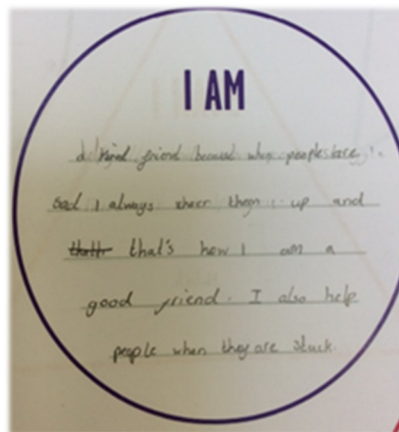
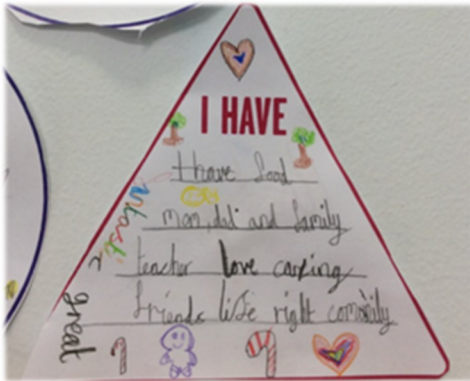
Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace
Deputy Headteacher - Mr Mason
Assistant Headteachers -
Mrs Biddle-Rawbone and Mrs Mazar
Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali



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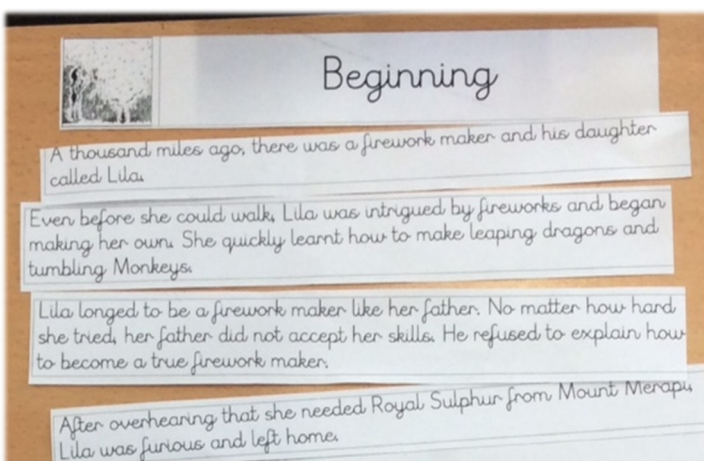
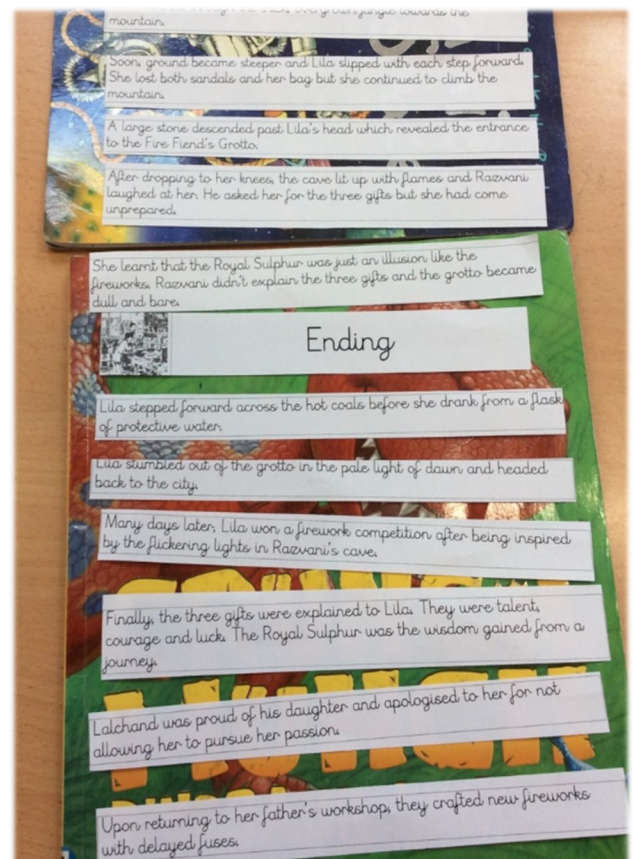
Year 3

This week, Year 3 celebrated **World Mental Health Day** in their PSHE lesson. The children discussed the term 'mental health' and learned that it did not just mean feeling sad, stressed or low, but it also included how we cope with and deal with these feelings. The children looked at everyday situations that we often find ourselves in and discussed how they would make us feel and think. To share positivity and support each other when we feel sad, the children created 'positive reminders' to stick around the classroom as motivation and keep us smiling!

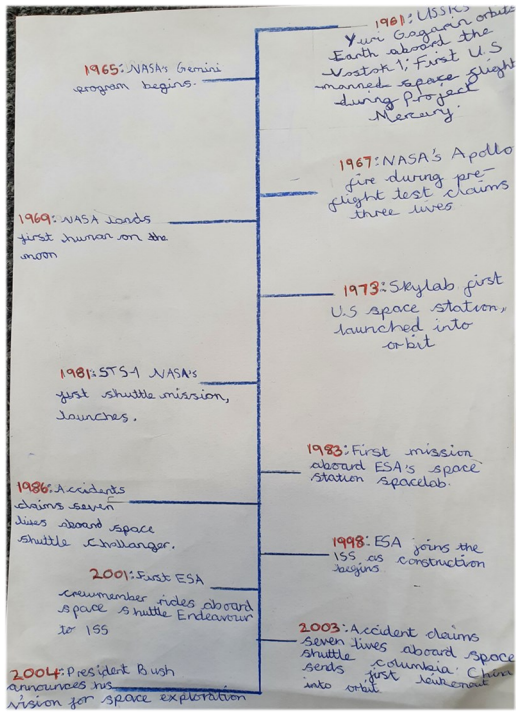


Year 4

At the moment in Year Four, we are developing narratives based on **our class text, The Firework-Maker's Daughter**. We have been thinking about the key events of the story. In this activity, we took sentences from different parts of the story and tried to organise them into a logical order. This developed our Super Six reading skill of summary. We will use this to plot our stories and write them next week.

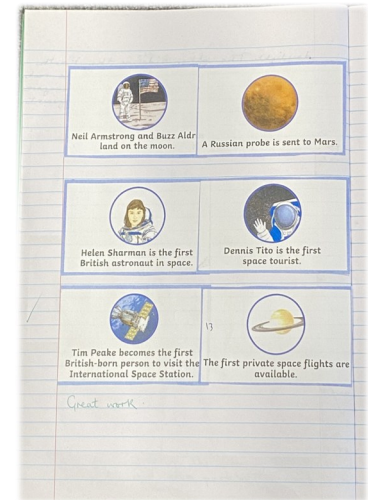


Year 5



To celebrate **Black History Month** and as a continuation of our Stargazers theme for this term, Year 5 have been reading **Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race**. The children found the amazing achievements of these mathematicians and their determination in the face of so many obstacles inspirational.

Year 5 also studied the timeline of space travel from the first rocket that was launched in 1942 to Major Tim Peake's visit to the International Space Station in 2015. Did you know the Americans sent a monkey into space and the Soviets sent a



dog? Year 5 do! Some of the children are looking to the future hoping to become space travellers themselves. The sky's the limit. Or is it?

Year 6

In Year 6, we continued to learn more about our **Victorian topic** by going on a trip to the Black Country Museum in Dudley. It was a fantastic day out which allowed us to see what it really would have been like to live in the Victorian times by being transported back in time. Whilst there, we got to be pupils in a Victorian classroom, find out what life was like 'down the mines' and even got to wonder the streets of Victorian Britain - discovering back-to-back houses, old shops and even Victorian people along the way.



Victorian Victorian Schools!

Queen Victoria became a queen in 1837. Since then, schools costing money and that means poor people could not afford it and children would become uneducated. Although poor people could not go to school, wealthy families could easily afford to send their sons to boarding schools whilst rich girls used to be homeschooled. Sadly poor families were sent to schools run by churches and churches' people. Schools Union set up in schools in all areas, however parents from poor families could not afford to send their children to school to attend. Did you know that schools cost £250 a year which was really expensive in the past?

Strict classrooms

In the Victorian schools, teachers were so strict that they would punish the students for the slightest mistakes. They would have to copy the same sentences 50 or 100 times. In the 19th century, children would have to sit on mats on the teachers' feet. Very strict! Children were not allowed to sit in tables, groups or the teachers and slightly. Children if you got caught talking or making a mistake you would get a hot water can which is probably very painful. Children's other punishment was to get to wearing the dunce cap which was really embarrassing as the D on the cap meant stupid.

Strict Victorian lessons

In the Victorian times, schools started at 10 o'clock until 5pm. They used to learn about the 3Rs which are reading, writing and arithmetic. Boys were attending boarding schools and had to learn Greek and Latin. However as girls grew up to be wives, some of the house they learnt about music, sewing and housework. Boys taught the same subjects every day. Girls subjects are different to boys subjects because in the past boys used to learn to read, write and then girls. Did you know that back in the days they work on slates because paper was expensive?

Lessons Made By punishment

In the 1800s, there were more than 2 million children who did not attend school. Eventually the government decided to change the law. The Elementary Education Act was passed that schools the new schools must be built for overworked schools. In 1880 the new Elementary Education Act made a school compulsory for children aged 5 to 14. They had to attend school but parents were required to pay weekly fee. As Queen Victoria's reign ended there was an education with a compulsory after the Queen died, people who were 12 got to go to school for good!

VICTORIAN Classroom!

Amino 6/11

During the Victorian times, around two thirds of people in Britain were illiterate (could not read or write). Schooling cost a lot of money so only rich families were able to send their boys or sons to boarding schools and let their daughters be taught from home. Usually children from poor families were sent to schools run by churches and churches. Some parents could not afford to let their children stop working so they struggled to send their children to school.

Victorian Lessons

The Victorian school day started at 9am and finished at 5pm. In addition, when the children started school, they were expected to read prayers and when it was home time they were expected to do the same. Boys attending boarding school learnt Latin and Greek. They were also taught extra maths, woodwork and technical drawing. However girls were taught sewing, music and housework. The lessons in the Victorian times were dull and repetitive. Both girls and boys were taught the 3Rs, which are reading, writing and arithmetic. In between lessons, Victorian children had lunchtime for two hours. These girls used to be a school bully and if children don't eat all their food in time, the bully would eat it.

During the Victorian times, children would be forced to sit in rows. This is because in the Victorian times the teachers were really strict and noisy. Children would be punished if they didn't listen to the teachers, talked back the worse than and even if they made a slight mistake in their work. The teachers would then use a cane and flogging the children would get hit by those on their heads and the back of their legs. Children talking in class was forbidden and if children didn't listen they would wear a big hat that had a capital D on it. They would even have to sit in a corner while wearing the dunce hat.

Government Law

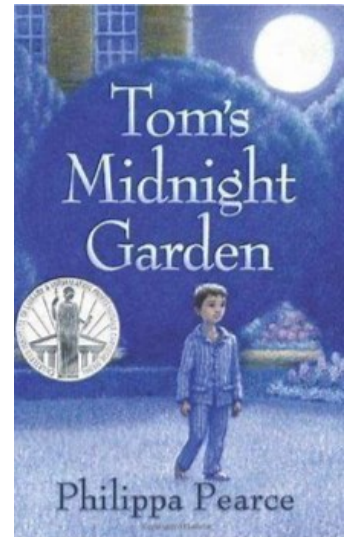
During the 1800s, more than 2 million children did not attend school. So the Government decided to make changes to the law. Schools were such harsh environments while Queen Victoria's reign, the Government decided to make schools a better place. In the 1870s, the Elementary Education Act stated that new schools had to be built in areas where children did not have enough space. Poor people, although children aged between 5 to 14 now had to go to school, parents still had to pay weekly fees. When Queen Victoria's reign ended, school education was finally free for all children up to 12 years old!

Thornton Staff Book Review

Tom's Midnight Garden—written by Philippa Pearce



Tom's Midnight Garden is a lovely book filled with great figurative language. The book is a great book for escapism—if you just want to get away to another world for a while. The book is based around a young boy called Tom who is transported to the Victorian Era when the clock strikes 13, which is odd as a normal clock only goes up to the 12th hour. There he meets a young girl called Hatty and the adventure begins. It is a delightfully charming book and the characters are totally lovable!



Reviewed by: Mrs. Hazelwood (Year 6 teaching assistant)



Reading Plus is a good way to develop the children's reading and comprehension skills. It also helps in motivating them to become successful readers. We highly recommend you encourage your child to read regularly. Their login details are in their planners.

In addition to this, the children take home a reading book on a daily basis. Please find time to hear them read as well as discussing the book with them. This will have a huge impact on their learning across the curriculum. We expect a comment in your child's planner at least once a week, please! Thank you for your support, it is appreciated.

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: **'organised'**

Organised is a word linked to our expectation to be ready, but why is being organised so important ?

"Being organised is to be prepared and ready for the day ahead" – Fiza 4MJ.

Mr Mason – Deputy Headteacher



SEND BRIEFING PARENT WEBINAR

October 2022



Parent/Carer Webinars take place regularly throughout the year and cover a number of different topics. Please see the [local offer website](#) for further details. Each webinar should last approximately one hour and take the format of a presentation followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

[Developing joint Attention](#) – Tuesday 11th October 2022 11-11:30am

[Supporting Language Development Through Play](#) - Tuesday 18th October 11-11:30

[Using a Now and Next board](#) - Tuesday 1st November - 11-11:30

[Using Objects and sensory Cues](#) - Tuesday 8th November - 11-11:30

[Offering Choices](#) - Tuesday 15th November - 11-11:30

[Using a communication board](#) - Tuesday 22nd November - 11-11:30

[Creating opportunities](#) - Tuesday 29th November - 11-11:30

[Using a Song Bag](#) - Tuesday 6th December - 11-11:30

Speakers:

Speech and Language Therapists from the Outreach and SEND Therapy Team

These sessions are suitable for parents of children who have difficulties with their early communication development in the areas of attention, social interaction, understanding of simple language and use of words/other means to convey their wants and needs".

Please email bchc.sendtherapy@nhs.net if you are unsure whether these webinars would be suitable.

Each webinar will last approximately 30 minutes and take the format of a presentation followed by an opportunity to ask questions

<https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/product-category/speech-and-language-therapy/>

All people who book a ticket will be sent a copy of the presentation and a copy of the recording of the webinar.



Handmade Bracelets



Chocolate
Fountain



Handmade Jewellery



Nail Bar

Unity Market Stalls



Cupcakes

Other stalls on the day, include, Samosa
Chaat, Romanian Snacks, Glitter Tattoos,
Woollen Boots and Mittens
plus MUCH MORE for all the family



Sweet & Gift Baskets



Handmade Vegan
Soap



Henna Artist

Saturday 15th October 12-3pm

**Unity Hub, St Margaret's Church, St Margarets Rd,
B8 2BA**

School Attendance

Class Attendance

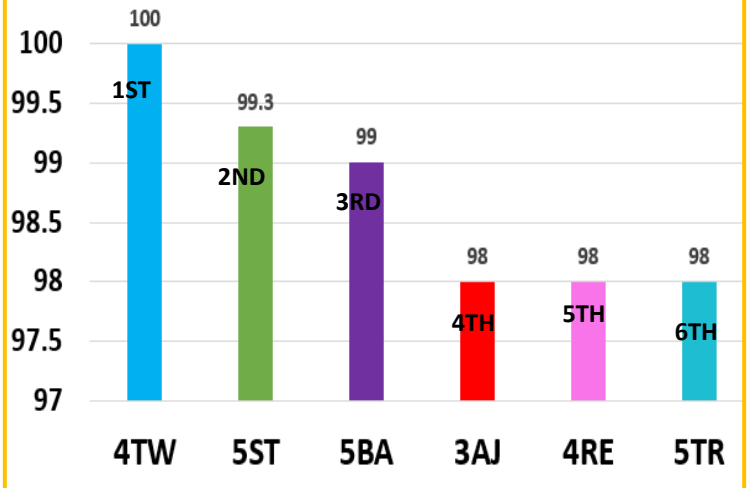
Well done to the following classes who achieved our school attendance target of **97%** and above last week.

100% Class Attendance

Congratulations to **4TW** for achieving 100% attendance. They were surprised with a £25 gift voucher by Mrs Grace. The voucher can be used to purchase new classroom resources or a VIP experience.

Our school attendance last week was **95.9%**

Class Attendance



KEEP
CALM
AND
GET TO SCHOOL
ON TIME EVERY DAY



Attention all Year 6 Parents! Secondary School

Applications September 2023

Applications for your child's secondary school place in September 2023 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.



PE TIMETABLE

Monday 17th October

Year 6

Tuesday 18th October

Year 4

Wednesday 19th October

Year 3

Thursday 20th October

Year 5

Friday 21st October

Swimming for classes 4ZY & 5BA

Children in 4ZY will need to be in school for 8.25am



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Let us not forget

Poppy Appeal 2021

The school will be selling a selection of items in support of the Royal British Legion from **Monday 17th October**.

Prices vary from 50p for a reflective poppy to £1.50 for a snap band.

The usual paper poppies will also be on sale for a donation of 20p each.

There is only a limited amount of each item available, so they will be sold on a first come first served basis.

All items will only be sold in class, so please send your child in with the correct money. Thanks!



Snap band - Suggested Donation: £1.50



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