

Hello everyone

It was lovely to welcome everyone back after the Easter holiday, and, WOW! We were blown away by the high standard of entries for the **Easter garden holiday competition**. There were some wonderfully imaginative ideas for our garden theme this year, ranging from a fantastic potato being used in 'The Queen's Garden Party' (Haala 4TW), to a fun-packed Mr Men garden (Laaibah 5NG) to a clever garden Zoo (Hafsah 4SH). Please read on to find out about the winners were for each class... thank you to everyone who entered, your excellent work made judging super hard!



The **University of Birmingham medical students** have been fantastic this week! A huge thank you to them for sharing first Aid and CPR knowledge and skills with everyone, and for supporting the children in entering the **'Step into the NHS' competition**.



As part of the Birmingham School's Programme, we were lucky to welcome Jessica from **Bringing the Power** to School on Wednesday. She worked with Year 3 in dance and drama workshops to celebrate the **Commonwealth Games** coming to Birmingham! <https://www.birmingham2022.com/power> Next week, we will be having lots of fun learning all about the **Commonwealth Games** and some of the 54 countries involved! We have lots more planned to celebrate the Commonwealth Games this term, such as the **Year 6 and 5 Sports Day**



being held at **The Pingles Stadium** and the **Year 3 and 4 Sports Day** being held at **The Blue Coat School**.



Thank you to our local **PCSOs**, Sam Loach and Stephen Kite for visiting school again to talk with the children. This week was Year 5's turn and they were discussing how to keep themselves safe and avoid becoming involved in violence.

We really enjoyed celebrating the children's super attendance efforts for the Spring Term today! Very well done to the **217 children who achieved the Silver Attendance Award** for having 98% or above attendance



for the Spring Term! Congratulations also to the **23 children** who successfully achieved their **Magic 20 Award for Attendance** and the **11 children** who achieved the **Magic 20 Award for Punctuality**! Keep up the great work everyone!

**Eid Mubarak** to everyone celebrating next week! **Tuesday 3rd May will be an authorised absence** for those who celebrate Eid, with all children expected to attend on Wednesday 4th May. We are excited for our **Eid parties** in class on **Friday 13th May** (after SATs!) - more information next week! **Please remember school is closed to children in Years 3, 4 and 5 next Thursday (5th May) for Polling Day.**

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



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## University of Birmingham Medical Students



This week, we (the medical students) came to Thornton Primary School to learn more about children, and to teach them about important lifesaving skills. We have been really impressed with how involved all the children have gotten with our first aid workshop, and with our speed-bounce and golf games after school. We know that they're capable of helping someone in need! In addition, we hope we have been able to answer some of the questions that the parents and children have had for us, and encouraged them to think about their future careers, possibly in the NHS. It really has been a pleasure to spend this week in the school, and we hope that the children have enjoyed it too!

Many thanks from Max and the medical students team from The University of Birmingham.



## Easter Competition

We are delighted to announce the Easter competition winners:

**Overall school winner - Haala 4TW**

### Year 3

3EB - Hassan  
3DR - Hareem  
3SQ - Kiasah  
3AW - Aiza

### Year 4

4SH - Nafisa  
4GJ - Anah  
4TW - Haala  
4MJ - Zainab

### Year 5

5NG - Laaibah  
5TR - Aishah  
5ST - Ibrahim  
5BA - Hajara  
5ZY Abdur-Rahman

### Year 6

6NI - Mohammad  
6MF - Duwa  
6ZB - Maira

**Congratulation to all the winner's!!!!**

**Runners Up:**

### Year 3

3EB - Ziyad  
3DR - Safaa  
3SQ - Afiyah  
3AW - Danyaal Chand

### Year 4

4SH - Ana-Noor  
4GJ - Mariam  
4TW - Hassan  
4MJ - Bassam

### Year 5

5NG - Inaaya  
5TR - Fatimah  
5BA - Huzaifa

### Year 6

6NI - Aisha  
6MF - Najwa  
6ZB - Afrin

**Congratulation to all the runner up's !!!!!**





## Year 3



Well done to Ziyad in 3EB who once again has done some amazing **Creative Homework!** He has already embraced the new topic Urban Pioneers.



In our first topic lesson for **Urban Pioneers**, we researched our amazing city Birmingham and have learned lots of new facts about it!

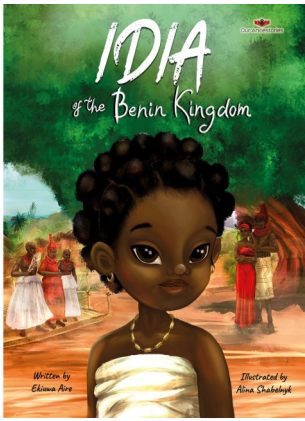
We then created a poster to reflect all the new things we had learned.

## Year 4

Lots of children in Year 4 have been working very hard over the Easter holidays to create wonderful entries for our **Easter competition**. Take a look at their imaginative designs.



## Year 5



This half term Year 5 will be learning about the **Kingdom of Benin**. To begin our topic, we have read a book called '**Idia of the Benin Kingdom**' written by **Ekiwa Aire**.

Here is a summary of the text: A girl named Idia dreams of a battle and "a woman who helped to heal those who were hurt by mixing herbs and potions." As she gets older, Idia learns about magic and medicine from her mother. As an adult, Idia is a skilled dancer and is invited to perform for the new Oba. He is impressed with Idia and wants to marry her. Idia dreams of the battle again and realises the woman is actually her. She sees her future son, a king. Idia decides to marry the Oba. Idia became a queen, a warrior, the first woman to fight for the kingdom, and the first lyoba (Queen Mother) of Benin. The children really enjoyed reading this book and will be using it to help them to complete a retell of the story. Here is a short example of a child's work based on the book.

In the small kingdom of Benin, there was a girl named Idia who was sleeping and had a dream and wanted to know what it meant. It was about a woman in a raging battle, after the battle that woman healed the wounds of the warriors she had two marks on her forehead. Idia woke up in shock and got ready for the dancing festival. "Adesuwa is waiting out side" she thought as she got ready. She got dressed and said good morning to her parents then hurried outside.

"Hurry we are going to be late" said her friend as she called Idia




## Year 6

To start the Summer term in Year 6, we have begun reading a book called '**The Greenling**' and it is written by **Levi Pinfold**. In our reading lesson, we did a book walk and we wrote our thoughts and opinions about the book around a picture of the Greenling. We then looked at the word intent and discussed how it can be classed into different word classes. Next, we had to apply the word to different sentences using different contexts. We enjoyed exploring the pictures and discussed the themes and ideas that occur in the book. It was interesting to discuss that the main theme is about the **environment** and the delicate balance between humans and nature.

I had intended to do my work on Sunday but I forgot. ✓  
She is incredibly angry because her brother broke her bag intentionally. ✓  
Although we had good intentions things didn't go to plan. ✓  
He introduced us to his intended the day before their wedding. ✓  
We are intending to visit you next week. ✓

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
LO: To enjoy a book.

Yes I liked this book because the Greenling helped the farmer and returned the favor since the farmer took him in and cared for him.



Yes it reminds me of a book called Cicada because they are both green.

The lesson is to not judge anyone before you get to know them. ✓



## Times Table Rock Star Competition Results

Position	Accuracy	Average Correct Answers per-pupil
1 <sup>st</sup>	3AW (96.5%)	3AW (1,653)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3EB (94.0%)	3EB (1,134)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3SQ (92.7%)	3SQ (1,299)
4 <sup>th</sup>	3DR (91.5%)	3DR (910)



Just before the Easter holidays we held our second year 3 times table competition. Congratulations to 3AW, who again have triumphed in both categories. 3AW are going to take some beating, but I know the other classes are eager to take their 'crown.'

Position	Accuracy	Average Correct Answers per-pupil
1 <sup>st</sup>	4MJ (94.8%)	4SH (1,110)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	4SH (94.7%)	4TW (1,106)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4TW (93.3%)	4MJ (839)
4 <sup>th</sup>	4GJ (92.5%)	4GJ (796)



At the same time, we also ran another competition in year 4. This was our fifth times table competition, and by now the classes are becoming very competitive. As you can see, the honours on this occasion were shared between 4MJ and 4SH, so well done to these two classes.

The next competition in Y3 and Y4 commences today (29.04.22) and will run until next Friday. I look forward to sharing the outcome of the next competition in next week's newsletter.

Mr S. Mason

Deputy Headteacher

## 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: '**acclaim**'

Anabia's (6NI) definition for the word was:

"To give somebody public acknowledgement for their good deeds."

As Anabia has explained, acclaim does indeed mean giving respectful, public praise to someone. At Thornton we believe it is important to recognise the achievement of others. This is a key part of our behaviour policy, which promotes ensures that pupils are praised in public and reprimanded in private. Such an approach promotes dignity and respect amongst all members of our school community.

Ready

Respectful

Safe

## Exercise Your Brain!

### Why is reading important?

As the 17<sup>th</sup> century English writer Joseph Addison once wrote, "Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body." So, what does reading do to your brain?

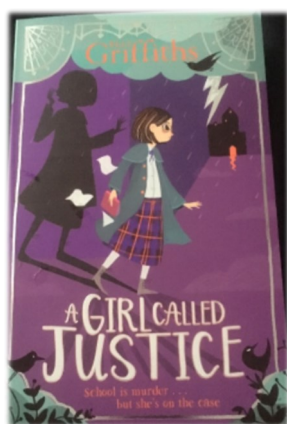
Research has confirmed that reading stimulates a complex network of circuits and signals in the brain. Additionally, as you improve your reading ability, these networks become stronger and more sophisticated.

Our brains have a "use it or lose it" policy, just like our muscles. In other words, if we don't exercise our minds regularly, our cognitive abilities may decline. However, when we read every day, we can keep strong and healthy.

Mrs. D. McPherson – Assistant Headteacher.



## Thornton Staff Book Review



### Elly Griffiths - *A Girl Called Justice*

This is a series, so far, of three books, based in a boarding school near the sea. The stories are set in the 1930s and there are some details to show this, though the date does not impact too much on the stories.

The main character is Justice Jones, whose mother (now sadly dead) wrote crime fiction and whose father is a top criminal lawyer. Justice wishes to follow neither parent but desires to become a top detective. Her father, unable to do his work and look after her, sends her to Highbury House where Justice is drawn into several exciting cases, ranging from murder to kidnapping.

The stories have a pleasing number of twists and turns and enough interesting little details (clues) that the reader will be rewarded for remembering as the cases come to their end. There are enough sub plots to keep the characters involved and interesting. -Mr. Ryall

### School Meals

Changing from dinners to sandwiches? or vice-versa? We are sorry but you can only change at the start of each term and not mid term. Please call the office at the beginning of the term if you wish to change your child's dinner preference so that we can make the necessary changes to our records and inform the school kitchen.

### Payments

Could you please ensure that all Dinner, Breakfast and Afterschool club debts have been cleared at the start of each week. If you are having any issues with payment please contact the school office for support.

**Dinner money must be paid in advance and is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week.**

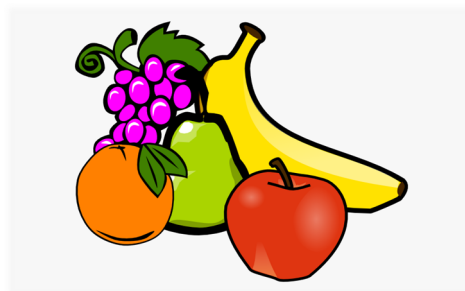
**Breakfast Club must be paid in advance and is £1 per day and 50p for any siblings.**



### Healthy Snacks

Children can bring a nut free healthy snack to have at break time. For example, a piece of fruit or a nut free cereal bar. Strictly **NO** nuts are allowed in school as we have children with severe nut allergies. Please do not send your child to school crisps and chocolates.

**Break time snacks really help to give the children a boost of energy until lunchtime! Make sure your child does bring a piece of fruit in for mid morning break.**





## Spring Term Attendance Celebration



On Friday we had o our Spring Term attendance celebration assembly. A huge congratulations to the **217 pupils** who achieved the **Golden Ticket Silver Award** by achieving 98% and above attendance.

Wow !! **143 pupils** achieved 100% attendance during the whole of the spring term!

Well done to all the children who have achieved their Magic 20 Raising attendance and Punctuality Award.

Mrs Grace is very proud of all of the children for ensuring they attend school every day and on time. A big thank you to all the parents for supporting the school attendance.

The children were rewarded with a prize and a certificate during the celebration assembly.



### ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

#### Summer Term 1 2022

Bank Holiday - Monday 2nd May

**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**

### PE TIMETABLE

**Monday 2nd May**

**Bank Holiday**

**Tuesday 3rd May**

**Year 5**

**Wednesday 4th May**

**Year 4**

School Closed for Polling  
Day

**Friday 6th May**  
**Swimming for classes**  
**5TR - 5ZY**

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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