

Hello everyone

Wow! This half-term has flown by, hasn't it? I am so proud of the children for working incredibly hard this term and being so positive about their learning. On behalf of the Governing Body, I would also like to thank the staff for making sure every class could be taught every day despite experiencing a huge number of positive covid-19 cases this term! We are so lucky to have a **#thorntonfamily** that cares and supports one another so well, thank you.

I would like to give a BIG shout out to everyone who helped us achieve our AMAZING attendance last week! We managed to get a whole school attendance figure of **96.5%** - this is our best this year! A particular well done to everyone in **3SQ** who managed a class attendance of **100%**, you are superstars!



I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that we do not print the whole **newsletter** every week to send home. In order to be more **environmentally friendly**, we only print the front and back page. We do, however, email you a copy of the full newsletter each week and upload it onto the school website (www.thornton.bham.sch.uk) on the 'newsletters' page. Please take a moment to read the whole newsletter each week where we celebrate the brilliant achievements of our children! Thank you.

Well done to our fantastic footballers who managed to get into the **U11 mixed football final** at West Bromwich Albion on Wednesday the week. Congratulations to **Matharr** for being award the **top goal scorer of the tournament** and everyone for finishing as runners up. As usual, the team were a credit to Mr Bates and the school, a BIG thank you to every member of the team!



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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Eco-councillor application forms have been given out this week to children who are keen to put themselves forward to be nominated to represent their class. Applications need to be returned by **Monday 28th February** and voting will take place in school on Friday 4th March. We are excited to start this new venture as we begin to redevelop our planting area next to the St. Agatha's Road playground in memory of Mr Norval Watkis, our much-loved member of the school site team.

WARD END GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

We are also working with Ward End Gardners Association to run an **allotment competition** for children to enter. We have already share the details of this with the children, but please read on to find out more about this inside our newsletter. Entries must be submitted by **Monday 28th February** so we encourage children to work hard in the holidays to perfect their winning entry!

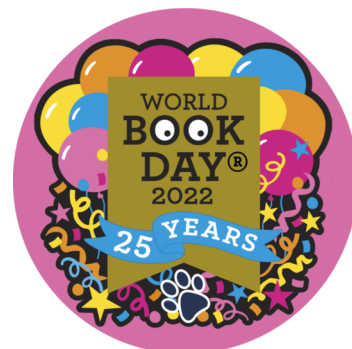
As the one week holiday is about to start, I wanted to remind everyone that we are continuing to put all the **homework on Google Classroom**, as well as some information in the children's homework planners. There are lots of activities your child can get involved in to further support their learning during the holidays if they wish to - MyMaths, ReadingPlus, TTRS, Linguascope, Purple Mash, Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize (check out the links on the '**children**' tab on the school website (www.thornton.bham.sch.uk)).



Don't forget, **ALL children are expected to return to school on Monday 28th February from 8.30am for the usual catch-up work, but by 8.45am at the latest!** Next half-term we are having a real drive on **PUNCTUALITY** as, sadly, we still have a few children drifting into school after 8.45am. I am inviting the children to come up with a **catchphrase** for the school that we can use to promote good punctuality - all suggestions will be considered, and the **top 10 will receive a small prize!** Please ask your child to write their ideas on a piece of paper with their name and class on and hand it to me on

Monday 28th February, thank you!

And finally, a reminder that **world book day is being celebrated in school on Friday 4th March** - information about how this will be celebrated has been shared on a flier sent home this week as well as on Google Classroom. We have included some more information in this newsletter too, so please read on...



Have a great holiday everyone and stay safe!

Cathy Grace, Headteacher

Year 3

Our budding Year 3 children have been working very hard this week, to create **party bags** in their **Design Technology** lessons. Pupils started off by examining existing party bag designs by researching products that are already available on the market. Our keen researchers then planned and developed party bag designs inspired by their own creative ideas. Finally, children applied the designs from their plans to create a personalised party bag and were encouraged to evaluate the different processes of making their product.



Year 4

At the start of the term, year 4 looked at the work of many artists and discussed what they found interesting about their work. Then they created a draft of their **imagined landscapes** in order to think about the different objects they wanted to include in their pictures. Last week, they carefully created a final imagine of a landscape. Please take a look at some of the talented artists in year 4.



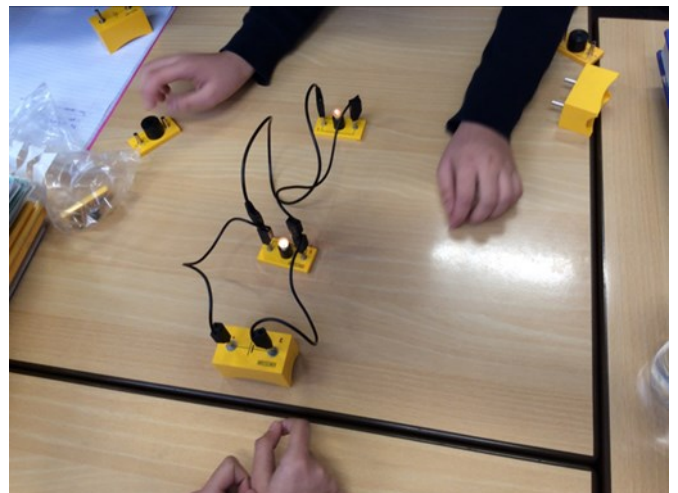
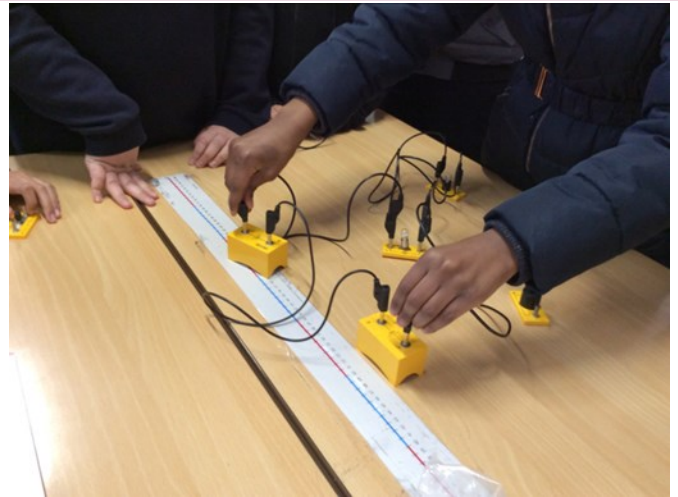
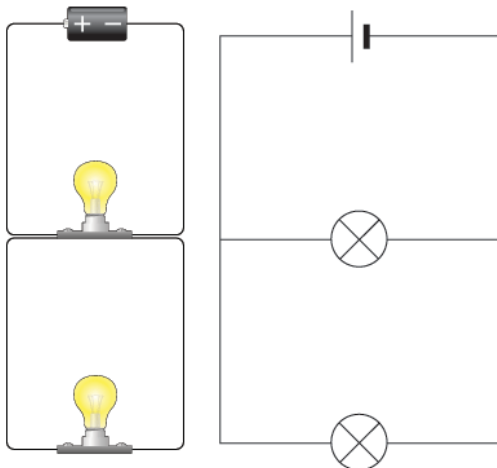
Year 5

Year 5 have had a very busy week. Please look at Thornton's Twitter feed to see the amazing Chinese Workshop they experienced in honour of the Chinese New Year! Continuing the far eastern theme, we have moved to Japan to learn more about haikus. Children are writing their own haikus based on the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) which is linked to our Frozen Kingdom topic. Following our fact-based work, we are finishing the half-term a creative flourish. Here are a couple of the art pieces completed so far. Watch Twitter and the next newsletter for more artistic antics.



Year 6

This week in Year Six, we explored a range of electrical components to construct different types of **circuits**. Using wires, batteries (cells) and bulbs, we connected them to make a parallel and a series circuit. We then explored if these different structures would affect the brightness of the bulbs. We found that the **parallel circuit** was brighter and discussed the benefits of a parallel circuit compared to a **series circuit**.





COMPETITION TIME

Invitation to join our campaign for Environmental Awareness

Ward End Gardeners Association is joining the bandwagon to help save
our beautiful planet!



We would like to invite the children in our local schools to
help us by creating some

“wow factor posters”

we can put up round our allotment sites.

The idea is to change habits as well as make people more
aware of how their decisions can help or hinder climate
change.



Eco councillor 2022



If you think that you can help make the school an *eco friendly* place and that
you have the key attributes and skillset, then you can apply to become an:

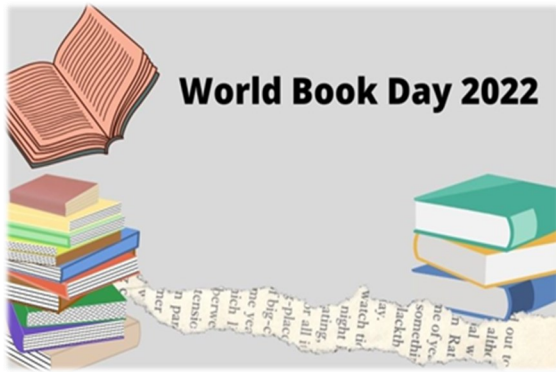
Eco Councillor!

Applications are now open!

ONE student from each class will be voted in as
an eco councillor.

deadline: Monday 28th February 2022

World Book Day



This year the theme for World Book Day is '**You are a reader.**' Thornton Primary School's World Book Day will be celebrated on **Friday 4th March.** Children will be invited to dress up as their favourite character and are also encouraged to be creative and make their own costume. Children who do not wish to dress up in costume can wear non-uniform and come as authors!

On World Book Day the children will all be authors for the day and will be making their own mini books. In

preparation for this exciting event, please encourage your child to start thinking about the six-sentence story book they are going to create. Your class teacher will be posting details about this event on Google Classroom this week so you can find out in advance what they will be doing in school on World Book Day!

Celebrate Stories

WORLD BOOK DAY

Celebrating on Day Friday 4th March 2022

Horrid Henry's Hotdog

Harry Potter's Cheese & Tomato Pizza

Served with

Mr. Stink's Jacket Wedges Peter

Rabbits Super Duper Carrots

Belle's Golden Sweetcorn

Gangsta Granny's Green Salad

Willy Wonkas Chocolate Cake



World Book Day Menu

ABM, our school caterer, will be hosting a special World Book Day menu on **Friday 4th March** for all the pupils that have a school meal.

If your child usually brings a packed lunch to school and would like a special World Book Day school lunch, please call the school office to book the meal.

The cost is **£2.40** per meal and will need to be paid using ParentPay our online payment system.

Medical Notice from the School Nurse

If your child has vomited or has diarrhoea please keep them off school for 48 hours. The most important thing is to have plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration. Your child is most infectious from when the symptoms start and until two days after they have stopped.

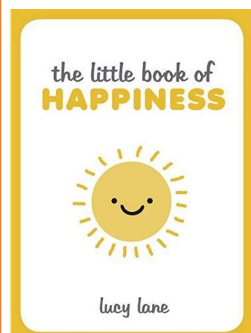
To help us try and prevent the spread of this type of illness please keep your child off school until the symptoms have stopped.

Many thanks for your support.

Miss Pegg
School Nurse



Thornton Staff Book Review



Whenever I need a bit of a brain break, I like to pick up Lucy Lane's Little Book of Happiness. Each page is only two very short paragraphs with advice on how to create a world in which we appreciate the little things and enjoy life. It's so quotable and always leaves me feeling uplifted.

Mr. Jones

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022

Spring Term 1 Dates 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

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**

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.



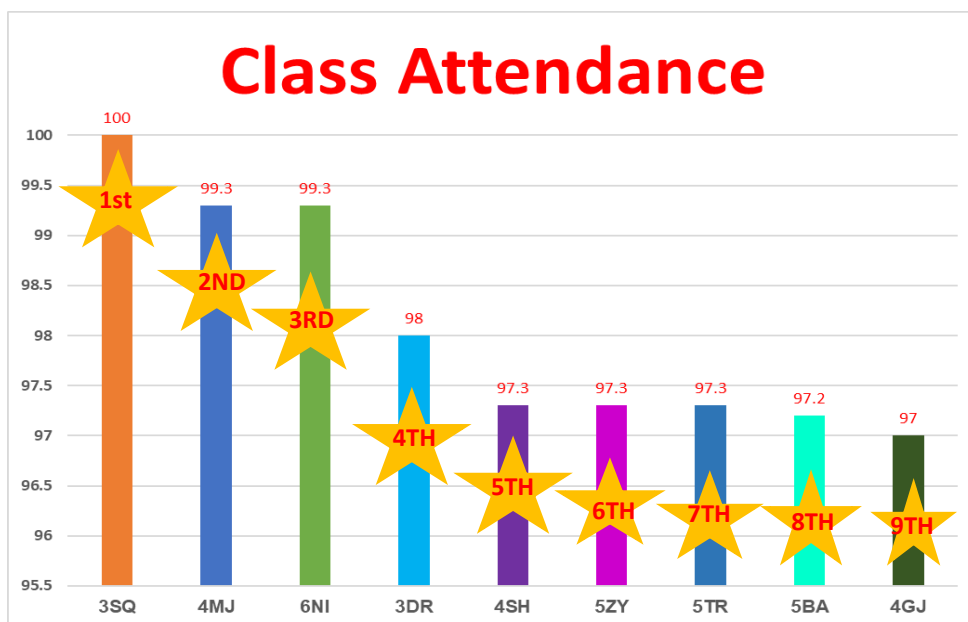


School Attendance

100% Class Attendance Weekly Reward

Congratulations to **3SQ** who achieved **100%** they had a surprise visit from Mrs Grace on Monday and were rewarded with a £25 gift voucher for the whole class to treat themselves!

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



Year 4 Attendance Challenge



A huge congratulations to **4MJ, 4SH and 4GJ** for **WINNING THE FIRST GOLDEN TICKET** and exceeding the school attendance target last week!

Our whole school attendance for last week was a brilliant 96.5% !



Reporting absences 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. Thank you very much for your support. We are proud to work with you to fully support your child's attendance. Remember...everyday counts! **Please ring the school office on 0121 327 0824 our lines open from 8am**

PE TIMETABLE

Monday 28th February
Year 4

Tuesday 1st March
Year 6

Wednesday 2nd March
Year 3

Thursday 3rd March
Year 5

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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