# Thornton Times





www.thornton.bham.sch.uk

11/09/20

#### Hello everyone!

#### **New Headteacher**

I want to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself as the current Acting Headteacher of Thornton Primary School. It is an absolute privilege to be asked by Governors to lead the school at this time, and I want to thank all those parents who have said such lovely, positive things to me on the playground already this term about how well their child has settled back into school. Having worked at Thornton for the past 24 years, in a variety of roles, from class teacher in the early days to School Business Manager and then most recently Deputy Headteacher, I can assure you of my total commitment to our community. I share your passion to make sure every child gets the very best opportunities and experiences during their education at Thornton to achieve their true potential. I look forward to saying hello to you and want to reassure



you that I have an open-door policy which ensures you will always be listened to. Our Thornton Family ethos will continue to be strengthened, particularly as we find our way through these challenging times supporting one another: the safety and wellbeing of everyone in our school community is our number one priority.

## **Amazing Shaun Tan work!**

It has been a very busy first full week in school, and I want to say congratulations to the children for making sure everyone has had a happy and creative time! Their enthusiasm and personalities have shone through this week and we are extremely proud of them. I hope you read on to hear about the fantastic work they have been doing based on the work of the author and illustrator Shaun Tan: his positive themes of belonging and hope have been especially meaningful to all of us and echoes our strong school family values.

#### **Morning drop-offs**

Another thank you to all our parents and carers who have fully supported us by dropping off their child/ren at the 'IN' gates. This has really helped us reduce the number of people on the playground and support our social distancing. **Please remember that no children should arrive at school before 8.30am** as the gates will not be opened until then. For safety reasons NO CHILD MUST BE LEFT UNSUPERVISED AT THE SCHOOL GATES.

### Afternoon pick-ups

PLEASE can you make sure that only **ONE ADULT** enters the playground, at the requested time to collect your child. **It is vital that EVERYONE plays their part to maintain social distancing.** We appreciate it is challenging, but we all need to try to **KEEP MOVING** and exit the playground as quickly and safely as possible.

Pick-up times are: Year 3 3.15pm

Year 4 3.20pm Year 5 3.25pm Year 6 3.30pm

Could parents bringing younger children on to the school playground please make sure they are fully supervised and DO NOT attempt to climb or play on the playground equipment that is taped off.

Have a great weekend everyone, and stay safe!

Mrs Cathy Grace

Acting Headteachers – 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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## **Welcome Back Year 3**

Hi everyone and welcome back to school!

I am Miss Brown and I am the Year Head of Year 3.

I am so happy to see all the smiling faces around school and I am especially impressed with how well Year 3 have already settled into Thornton. This is going to be a fantastic year!

In Year 3 we have been designing and creating our own 'Lost

Thing' based on the book The Lost Thing by Shaun Tan. We are using recycled materials to create our Lost Thing and next we are going to decorate it and make it look real!

# I love how all the Lost Things look different, the children have put their own spin on their designs!









# **Welcome Back Year 4**



Hello everyone, I am Miss Hughes and I am Head of Year 4.

I am so excited to be back in school and I have loved seeing all of the children in their new classrooms ready to learn.

Everyone is trying extremely hard to remember and follow all the new routines we have in place to keep everyone safe at

school. Year 4, have had a fantastic start to the academic year! This week, they

have all been demonstrating their creative talents by making puppets and theatre boxes linked to our Shaun Tan book 'Rules of Summer'. Next week make sure you check out the school website to watch their finished iMovie's.

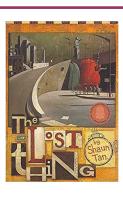












## Welcome Back Year 5



Hello everyone, I am Mrs Ahmed and I am the Head of Year 5. I am extremely pleased to see the children back in school after such a long absence. There are many changes to our daily school life but the Year 5 children have been fantastic at adapting to these changes and have been very happy and eager to learn!

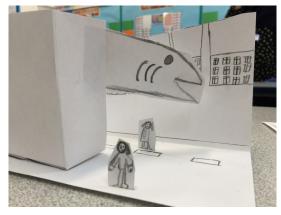
It was a pleasure to see the children in Year 5 engaged in so many wonderful activities based around Shaun Tan's book 'The Red Tree'. The children made a diorama based on one of the pictures from the book, portraying their own feelings and ideas. They also created a piece of art based on another image from the book to indicate the idea of endless repetition and the boredom of being trapped in the same routine. During the English lessons, the children explored

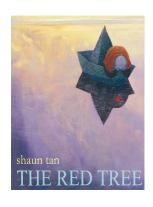
vocabulary in a piece of text and chose words that were meaningful to them to create 'Blackout

Poetry'. They also wrote a letter to the character in 'The Red Tree' giving her advice about how to overcome her sad feelings. Well done Year 5 for a









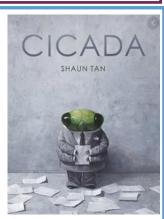


## Welcome Back Year 6



Hi, this is Mr Igbal, the new Head of Year 6! We have made a fantastic start to this year and can not wait for all the wonderful work the children are yet to produce. The year 6 team are so proud of how the children have settled in and that could not have been possible without your support. We have started this year with our Shaun Tan text, 'Cicada', a story of hope and equality. This week has been all about exploring our creative side and finding ways to

express ourselves by creating our wings of hope, clay models and beautiful watercolour art. The children have settled in really well and look incredibly smart! They are following the routines and helping to keep our Thornton family safe and happy.



## How incredible do Year 6's Art and DT projects look!







# **Important Reminders**

## **Medical Information**

If your child has an inhaler it is very important that they have one in school. Can you also complete and return the allergy form if your child suffers from any allergy by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. This will help the school nurse devise a care plan for your child to ensure their well-being whilst at school.

## **Attendance**

Please can you contact the school office to inform us of the reason why your child is absent. The school has had a new phone system installed this term and the attendance option is currently unavailable, instead please use option 1 and report the absence to the reception office. If you need to discuss your child's symptoms with the school nurse please ring the reception.

# **Healthy Lunch Boxes**

At school, we are promoting healthier lifestyles and making good choices when it comes to eating. Therefore, please support the school by sending healthy snacks such as fresh or dried fruit, or fresh vegetables such as carrot sticks. Crisps or biscuits are not a healthy option. A healthy packed lunch consists of a sandwich e.g. tuna, chicken or cheese salad, a piece of fruit, a yoghurt and a non-fizzy drink.

## **Dinner Money**

Please make dinner money payments in advance via ParentPay (www.parentpay.com).

Dinner money is £2.40 per day and £12.00 per week If you require any assistance in setting up your account

ParentPay

please ring the school office who will

be happy to help you.

# **School Photographer**

On **Monday 21st September** we have booked School Photography company to take photos of the children. Please make sure your child is dressed smartly in their uniform on this day.

Unfortunately, this year we will not be able to do any family or sibling photos due to our new safety procedures.





## P.E. starts next week!

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately as lessons may take place outside (weather permitting). It is really important that the children have as much time as possible exercising outside so we would be really grateful if you could support us by making sure your child comes to school in appropriate P.E. kit on the day they have P.E.. We do not expect children to wear their normal uniform on their P.E. day.

Year 3 on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September Year 4 on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September Year 5 on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September Year 6 on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September

# A perfect P.E. kit consists of the following:

Blue or black jog bottoms or shorts

White Thornton t-shirt or a plain white or blue t-shirt

Trainers or black plimsolls'

Warm blue or black round neck jumper or tracksuit (from October onwards)



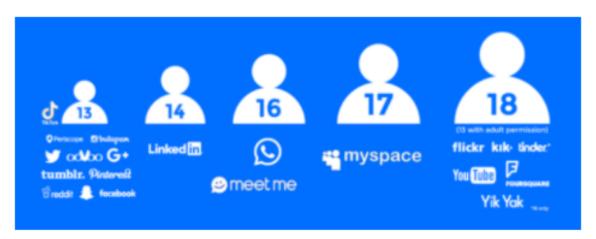
# **Esafety**

Children love to go online nowadays but it is important that we ensure they stay safe. Please be aware of what social media apps and websites your child is using. Content on these sites is not always appropriate and we would urge caution to be taken! Children should be supervised online and age restrictions should be set up. You can visit the websites below to find out more information regarding age restrictions.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/





# **Coronavirus Advice**



