

THURNHAM CE INFANT SCHOOL

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Summer Terms 2018

Newsletter No 4

“At Thurnham we learn to love and love to learn.”

Dear Parents,

Thank You!

A huge thank you to all the parents who helped with the Friends Of Thurnham stall (and indeed thank you to the Friends Of Thurnham themselves) at Bearsted Fayre and also parents who spent money there and supported it.

I would also like to thank Miss Pack, Mrs Bodkin and Mrs Pateman as well as the children who worked hard on their Maypole dances in the arena and the parents who supported them on the day and with attendance at rehearsals.

We hope everyone enjoyed them! I have had lots of positive comments about it all.



Assessment Information In Reports Clarification

When you receive your child's report towards the end of term there will be differences in the assessment information given as it relates to the particular assessment for that year group.

Reception: An assessment on the 17 Reception areas of learning (using emerging, expected, exceeding against Reception national expectations).

Year 1: An assessment on all National Curriculum subjects for Year 1 (using emerging, expected, exceeding against Year 1 national expectations) and the result of your child's Phonics screening.

Year 2: The assessment system (using Government terminology of working towards, expected and greater depth). Remember, this is a newer assessment system for Year 2 with much higher expectations than a few years ago and is based on Teacher Assessment, not just a test. Indeed, the Government raised the expectations for the higher achieving writer standard even higher this year. Moderators for Kent County Council assess how robust these assessments are and have the power to change the assessment if necessary. I am pleased to say they have agreed with our assessments.

Reports are due to be sent out on Thursday 5th July.

Teaching Assistant Vacancy / Other Staff Changes

I would like to confirm that we have appointed Mrs Michelle Pinto as the new Teaching Assistant to Orange class from the new term in September. We look forward to welcoming her to the team.

We will also say goodbye to Mrs Shadwell and Miss Crittenden at the end of term who were working with particular pupils who will be moving to Roseacre.

I am pleased to confirm that Mrs Wass will also remain part of the team as one of our regular supply teachers.

Damage To Our Neighbours' Fencing

Yesterday I received a complaint from one of the houses adjacent to the drive, reporting that children had damaged their fencing by climbing up it. Obviously they will now have to replace the damaged fencing.

I want to get on well with our neighbours and am very disappointed if the children are not respecting property, especially when they are being supervised by their parents.

I will be vigilant for children fence climbing, particularly at the end of school and expect parents to keep a close eye on what their children are doing.

All About Britain Day

On Friday 8th June we had an 'All About Britain' Day in school. Not only as it was close to the Queen's official birthday, but also to complement the children's work on 'Global Citizenship week' earlier in the year. The children worked on a number of interesting and fun activities to find out more about Britain today, British Values as well as designing and making sandwiches for a traditional picnic, painting what makes them unique and building parts of Britain with construction materials. Reception particularly enjoyed making scones!



Reminders

- Thursday 5th July - Year 2 Visit Roseacre
- Tuesday 10th July - Whole School Annual Worship At Holy Cross Church.
- Wednesday 11th July - At lunchtime, a picnic with Roseacre. There will be no need for parents of school dinner children to provide a packed lunch from home but you can provide one if you prefer. The kitchen will make up a picnic for them and arrange for it to be taken on the field.
- Thursday 12th July 3:30pm - 5:00pm - Parent Evening (to discuss reports).
- Monday 16th July, 5.45-7:00pm - Open Evening / Walkabout in school, parents and families welcome.
- Tuesday 17th July at 9:15am in school. All Year 2 parents are invited to the Year 2 Leavers' Service. Ticket letters will go out soon.
- Wednesday 18th July - Year R parents can dine with their children.
- Wednesday 18th July 4:00pm -5:30pm - The Year 2 Leavers' Party is in the school hall.

- The last day of term is on Tuesday 24th July and the children are back on Tuesday 4th September. Monday 3rd September is a staff development day for both Thurnham and Roseacre.

Work Taking Place In The Holidays

During the Summer holidays we are planning to have work taking place including:

- The new playground markings painted
- A new screen and projector and 'bluetooth' sound system installed in the Hall
- The fencing around Silver class and the main school gate repainted and freshened (thanks to a site team at the Hilton Hotel who volunteer for the community)
- Improved access to the top of the grassy bank to allow use of our 'Trim Trail' all year long
- Further improvements to site security following the recent vandalism

I look forward to a successful and productive last few weeks for the children and thank parents for your continuing support. We also appreciate the nice things you say to the staff and praise you give - they are much appreciated.

Mr C K James
Headteacher