****

**Thornhill News**

Well, what an amazing term it has been! Despite the many challenges with COVID, I am so proud of all our children. They continue to work hard and give their very best, showing exemplary behaviours and attitudes. It is a real pleasure to see them grow and develop and we can’t wait to see what they can achieve next!

This term our children have benefitted from a range of visitors in school as well as educational visits outside of school. These experiences enrich and enhance our curriculum as well as supporting our children’s confidence and independence. Take a look at our Facebook page to see more!

On behalf of myself and all the staff, we wish you a Happy Easter and we look forward to seeing you in the Summer term!

As always thank you all for your continued support.

**Schools For Sport**

We were delighted to have Lucy Turner visit the school as part of our fundraising event and we managed to raise just under £2000, which is absolutely AMAZING! All children received their prizes today in a special assembly. The money raised will be used to purchase new sports equipment and the children will be deciding in Summer term what they would like. We will keep you posted!

**Easter Eggs**

A big thank you to Shildon Town Council for including us in their Easter Egg Appeal. The eggs were donated to the Town Council from the community and every child in our school received an easter egg to take home!

**Clothing Bank**

Our clothing bank in the main car park has raised over £40 so far from your donations. Thanks for getting involved.

**Attendance**

**This continues to be a big focus in our school. Our overall attendance at the end of Spring term was 94%. We would love to meet the national target of 96% by the end of the year and so we hope to continue working with families to ensure good attendance and punctuality. Please remember to contact school before 9.15am if your child is poorly otherwise the absence is unauthorised. Unauthorised absences including holidays may be referred to the Local Authority.**

**Hair styles**

**Just a little reminder about hairstyles as outlined in our Uniform Policy:**

* Pupils must not come to school with their hair dyed, shaved, patterned, sculptured or with any styling products applied. ‘Mohicans’, ‘Rats Tails’ and other extreme hair styles are prohibited
* Hair should be neat (e.g. not over the face or eyes) and presentable and long hair should be tied back for Health and Safety reasons
* Hair styles should be as simple as possible.
* Navy blue, black, brown or red clips and bobbles should be used.

**Packed Lunches**

**To promote a good healthy diet, the following should not be included:**

* Any food with NUTS in. WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL.
* Fizzy or sugary drinks in bottles or cans
* Highly processed foods for example: processed meats, cheese straws, sausage rolls or pies etc.
* Confectionary including sweets or chocolate bars these items are high in fat and low in vitamins and minerals.

**Information about Packed lunches can be found on our website.**

**Covid**

Covid isolation requirements have now changed. From Summer term the new UKHSA guidance is as follows:

* Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
* Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.
* It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.
* If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.
* Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

**Summer term morning procedures**

Starting in Summer term, all children including Reception can access school from 8.45am. Y2, Y4 and YR no longer need to wait on the yard and can enter via the back door.

|  |
| --- |
| **Dates for the diary - DETAILS OF THESE EVENTS WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY.**  **Dates are subject to change**  Monday 25th April – Return to school  Monday 2nd May – May Bank holiday – return to school Tuesday 3rd May  May – KS1 SATs  Thursday 5th May – Year 3 Seven Stories Visit  Friday 6th May – Year 5 Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school - Refreshments and look at books)  Monday 9th May – Thursday 12th May – KS2 SATS (Year 6 pupils to come in early for breakfast – details to be sent out nearer the time).  Monday 16th May – Y6 Bikeability  Thursday 19th May – KS2 Theatre Visit – Billionaire Boy – Sunderland Empire  Friday 20th May - Year 4 Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school - Refreshments and look at books)  Friday 20th May – Sunday 22nd May – Year 6 Residential – Whithaugh Park  Monday 23rd May – Y6 Bikeability  Friday 27th May– Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Concert for parents/carers 1pm  Break up for half term – Friday 27th May  Monday 30th May – Sunday 5th May – Half term  Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday for Queen’s Platinum Jubilee  Tuesday 7th May – Teacher Training Day  Wednesday 8th May – Children to return to school  June – Year 1 Phonics Screening  June – Year 4 Multiplication Test  Thursday 9th June – Year 6 Leavers Service Durham Cathedral  Friday 10th June – Year 6 Cricket Festival  Thursday 16th June – Go Well Sports Dash (Pupils TBC) Kynren 4pm-8pm  Friday 17th June – Year 3 Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school - Refreshments and look at books)  Friday 24th June – Year 2 Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school - Refreshments and look at books)  Thursday 30th June – Theatre Visit – Gangsta Granny  Friday 1st July – Year 1 Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school - Refreshments and look at books)  Monday 4th July – Y1-Y6 Sports Day 1pm  Wednesday 6th July – EYFS Sports Day 1pm  Friday 8th July – Year N Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school for refreshments)  Monday 11th July & Wednesday 13th July – Parent’s Evening (online)  Friday 15th July – Year R Assembly (Parents/carers invited to school - Refreshments and look at books)  Tuesday 19th July – Year 6 Performance for parents/carers 6pm  Wednesday 20th July – Break up for Summer  Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th September – Teacher training Days  Wednesday 7th September – Children start back to school for academic year 2022-2023 |

Facebook – keep up to date via our Facebook page – Thornhill Primary School