

Thorney Times



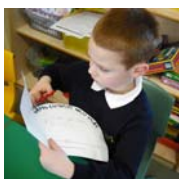
www.thorncloseprimary.org.uk

Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers, Parental views are really important in helping us to develop our school, therefore we would appreciate you taking a little bit of time to fill in the response slip on the back of this newsletter. We are looking at the quality and impact of children's homework across school. By collecting the views of children, staff and parents we should be able to improve our system and further aid achievement. We will use the Thorney Times to seek your views on different aspects of school life from time to time. Thanks for your anticipated co-operation.

Catherine Jones (Headteacher)

Reception/Year 1— Ms Dixon

In R1D we have been learning about Chinese New Year. As part of this learning in mathematics we have been ordering ordinal numbers linked to the 12 animals of the Chinese calendar. We have also been making masks with the faces of the 12 animals, as well as a range of other Chinese related activities. WE made red and gold envelopes which are used to gift money and wish others good luck for the coming year.



Year 5 — Miss Chedzoy



This week in Year 5 we have begun learning about solids, liquids and gases. We surprised ourselves by being able to name hundreds of different objects which fitted into the categories. Some of us were even able to think of objects which could be both gases and solids! We the learnt about how the properties of solids, liquids and gases and then used this to take the role of each one in the hall. Bruce was a fantastic gas particle, whizzing around the hall, Daniel and Tanisha were close but not too close when they acted out how the particles looked in a liquid, and we all squashed up to form a super, strong solid!

Year 4 — Mrs Buckle



Y4 have been studying recount texts and newspaper articles in literacy. They are writing a newspaper recount about an alien spaceship landing in the playground at school. They have interviewed four aliens played by Darren, Reece, Ben and Callum James and they also interviewed Mrs Buckle who was working late when the spacecraft landed. Mrs Buckle is looking forward to reading the published recounts.

Year 2 — Miss Honnor

This week we had some special visitors in school. Because we have been learning about endangered animals, including those from Britain, a wildlife sanctuary kindly brought a barn owl, a hedgehog, a corn snake and a skunk to show us. We found out lots about these animals and the things we can do to help them. We decided that we would organise a fundraising event to raise some money for the Sanctuary Wildlife Care Centre- we will be sending a letter to parents shortly.



Attendance

The Spike Trophy goes to Miss Wharton's Year 1 class for the second week in a row. Well done Year 1! Phillip has been chosen to take Spike home this weekend.



Cookery Club

Children in the after school cookery club had a fantastic first week learning to cook healthy food.



Year 3 — Miss Adams

This week in science, Year 3 have been investigating magnets. We did an experiment to find out which materials had magnetic properties and which materials didn't. We had lots of fun!



Year 1 — Miss Wharton

In year 1 this week we have been really busy making things for our Grace Darling museum. We have been writing fact sheets and leaflets and painting pictures to tell the story of the famous sea rescue. We have been looking at images of different memorabilia that was made in the past to celebrate Grace Darling's story. We then made our own items to display in our museum, these include model lighthouses, a model of the rescue scene, clay coble



boats and Grace Darling tea spoons. We have really enjoyed our Grace Darling topic and can't wait to show people around our museum. We even have our very own museum guide identity badges!



Nursery — Miss Averill

Happy New Year! We have had a great time finding out about Chinese New Year. This is the year of the Dragon so we have made dragon masks. We have learnt there is usually a big parade to celebrate the New Year with dancing dragons and firecrackers. Children get red packets containing money



and usually wear new clothes. People send each other New Year cards. We have a Chinese restaurant in Nursery and have tried some Chinese food but ate it with a spoon instead of chopsticks!

Reception — Mrs Chard

This week we have started to learn about 'Chinese New Year.' We read the story 'The Great Race' and talked about the Chinese Zodiac. This year is the year of the dragon. 2006 was the year of the dog and 2007 was the year of the pig. We have drawn pictures of the animals and written captions to go with them. During maths we looked at ordinal numbers placing them animals in the position that they completed the race. We have also been having a go at Chinese writing, tasting noodles and next week we are looking forward to making a Chinese stir fry.



Diary Dates

- 7.2.12 Whitburn Primary school will visit our school for the day linking and working with Mrs Buckle's Year 4 class
- 10.2.12 Last day of half term (school closed for half term 13.2.12 — 17.2.12)
- 20.2.12 School reopens for new half term
- 22.2.12 Year 2 visit to Washington Wildfowl Park
- 24.2.12 Year 6 Safety Works Visit—Whickham View, Newcastle
- 30.3.12 Last day of term (school closed for Easter holidays 2.4.12 — 13.4.12)
- 7.5.12 School closed — May Day Bank Holiday
- 31.5.12 Last day of half term (school closed 1.6.12 — 8.6.12)
- 11.6.12 School reopens for new half term
- 20.7.12 Last day of term (school closed for Summer holidays)

Year 6 — Mrs Colborn

In science we have been learning about germs! The children studied famous scientists from the past and looked at how micro-organisms can cause illness. We Identified the different types of micro-organisms; fungi , bacteria and viruses. Soon we will be experimenting with how to make our own germs and growing mould! Don't be surprised if you see a bit of the green mouldy stuff in your house soon, too!



Question for Parents

Please answer the below questions and return to the school office.

1. Do you consider the amount of homework to be correct for your child? YES NO
2. What do you like about the homework your child receives? _____

3. What would you like us to improve about homework? _____

What year group is your child in? _____