

Thornley Primary School

.....where everyone can shine like stars!



Newsletter

March 2019

2019 - 2020 Term & Holiday Dates

Holiday	Date of School Closure	Date School Re-opens for Teaching Purposes
Easter Holiday 2019	Friday 5 th April 2019	Tuesday 23 rd April 2019
May Day Bank Holiday	Friday 3 rd May 2019	Tuesday 7 th May 2019
May Half Term	Friday 24 th May 2019	Monday 3 rd June 2019
Summer Holiday 2019	Friday 19 th July 2019	Thursday 5 th September 2019

2019 – 20 Term & Holiday Dates

Holiday	Date of School Closure	Date School Re-opens for Teaching Purposes
October Half Term	Friday 25 th October 2019	Monday 4 th November 2019
Christmas 2019	Friday 20 th December	Monday 6 th January 2020
February Half Term 2020	Friday 14 th February 2020	Monday 24 th February 2020
Easter 2020	Friday 3 rd April 2020	Tuesday 20 th April 2020
May Bank Holiday	Friday 1 st May	Tuesday 5 th May
May Half Term 2020	Friday 22 nd May 2020	Monday 1 st June 2020
Summer Holiday 2020	Friday 17 th July	Thursday 3 rd September 2020

Other dates for your diary:

Tuesday 2nd April

Year 5 and 6 Titanic Expo 2.30pm

Wednesday 3rd April

Key Stage 1 Pirate Performance for parents 9.30

Thursday 4th April

Easter Egg Decoration Afternoon (Yay!!) Parents are invited from 1.30pm onwards to be creative and work with children.

Statutory Testing Dates:

Key Stage 2 SATs : 13th -16th May

Monday 13th May : Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test

Tuesday 14th May : Reading Test

Wednesday 15th May : Mathematics arithmetic Test

Wednesday 15th May : Mathematics Reasoning Paper 1

Thursday 16th May: Mathematics Reasoning Paper 2

Key Stage 1 SATs

Testing for KS1 takes place **throughout the month of May**. This does not mean that pupils are tested for a whole month, but that groups of pupils will undergo the statutory tests throughout the month.

Year 1 Phonics

The Year 1 Phonics Screening will take place on **week commencing 10th June**. Any Year 2 pupils who did not pass the phonics screening test in 2018 will re-sit the test during this week.

EYFS:

Foundation Stage Profile Scores will be sent to the Local Authority at the end of June and will be reported to parents at the end of Summer Term.

Attendance

Current attendance is **96.2%**. This is 0.8% short of our target which is 97%.

Please be aware that holidays in term time will NOT be authorised, and that the Local Authority will press for issuing fines for holidays over 8 days in a rolling year and also for persistent unauthorised absences.

Congratulations to Year 2 and Year 6 who have the highest attendance percentages in school to date.

Punctuality

The school bell goes at 08:50 and this is when pupils start moving in to school. The register is taken at 08:55. All pupils should enter school by the back doors and not the main entrance. Doors are open until 09:00. Late marks are given after registers close at 09:00.

Parents wishing to visit the school office are asked to walk round to the main entrance after pupils have come in to school. This is because we need to safeguard pupils and have full control over who enters the building especially at busy times when large numbers of pupils are moving through the main entrance area.

Sporting Achievements

Basketball

Year 6 took part in a basketball tournament on Wednesday 20th March and came second. Well done to the team: Charlie Ashcroft, Luke Wilson, Jack Mangles, Robert Stokoe, Lucas Piercy, Lily Clarkson, and Lilly Jobes.

Football

Our Key Stage 1 team played at Soccarena on 13th March, and also came second in their group! Well done to our up-and-coming Superstars: Jaxon Leigh, Charlie Hodgson, Jayden Carter, Tom Crawford, Taylor Lowes, Jensen Dower, Joe Crawford and Josh Crawford!!

More Football!

The Lower Key Stage 2 Team (Year 3 and 4) did themselves proud when they played at Soccarena on 5th March. Well done to: Harry Davies, Mallie Clayton, Lewis Dowding, Tyler Gilchrist, George Shippen, Kian Dent and Archie Mace.

Other Achievements and Events

Gifted and Talented Pupils

Year 5 pupils visited Wellfield Community School on Wednesday 20th March to take part in a Gifted and Talented Literacy and Numeracy day. We were able to send up to 10 pupils, and so we did. They were accompanied by Mrs Craven, who on return, said that the behaviour of our pupils was exemplary and that Laura-Jane Parker and Skye Turner were chosen to say 'Thank You' at the end of the day on behalf of all visiting schools.

World Book Day Friday 8th March

Another excellent turn-out for World book day with many pupils dressing for the occasion.



Year 1 showing their fabulous costumes. Check out our Facebook page to see pictures of other classes looking amazing.

Book Fair for World Book Day

This was very popular! Thank you for taking the time to visit the Book Fair and spend your hard-earned cash on books for your children. The school made around **£500** in commission, so that is a great boost for topping up our school library books.

Comic Relief: Red Nose Day

Children came dressed in red and had a great afternoon joining in with some challenge activities for which they paid £1. We sent £292.65 to Comic Relief thanks to your generosity.

Robinwood Activity Centre

Pupils from Y5 and Y6 went on the 3 day (2 night) residential visit to Robinwood in Alston, Cumbria. Mr Johns, Miss Barber and Iain went along too! The pupils who went this year were the best behaved group EVER! Thanks to them for keeping our school's reputation positive and excellent! Thanks to the staff, especially Mr Johns for organising the visit and for the lovely assembly this morning.

Sorry to end on a moan, but:

Behaviour outside of School

In recent weeks, myself and other members of staff have had to spend some considerable amounts of time dealing with and trying to sort out incidents and events which have taken place outside of school hours and involving pupils from Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6.

After a long conversation about my concerns with the local PCSO, I have been told to advise you, as parents, to report any incidents involving your child where they have been on the receiving end of threats, harassment, intimidation or physical violence to the police using the 101 phone line or by emailing:

sarah.kinghorn@durham.ppn.police.uk.

I have been advised to do the same if incidents are reported to me so in future, I will not be spending so much time dealing with out-of-school incidents. From today, these will be reported to the police.

It is becoming more and more apparent that incidents happening out of school (including some cyber-bullying and aggressive or abusive behaviour on computer games) are being brought in to school the next day and affecting relationships between pupils.

I am pleading with you to be vigilant about knowing where your children are; who they are with and what they are doing when they are out on the streets after school.

Similarly, please monitor which websites are being accessed on PCs, Tablets and Gaming systems as well as who they are 'talking to' and what they are saying to each other.