



Thornley Primary School Newsletter July 2021

2021- 2022 End of Term & Holiday Dates		
Holiday	Date of School Closure	Date School Re-opens for Teaching Purposes
Summer Break 2021	Friday 16 th July	Thursday 2 nd September 2021
October Half-term	Friday 22 nd October	Monday 1 st November
Christmas 2021	Friday 17 th December	Tuesday 4 th January 2022
February Half-term	Friday 18 th February	Tuesday 1 st March
Easter 2022	Friday 8 th April	Tuesday 26 th April
May Day	Friday 29 th April	Tuesday 3 rd May
May Half-Term	Friday 27 th May	Tuesday 7 th June
Summer Break 2022	Thursday 21 st July	To be arranged
Staff Training Days : 1 st September, 4 th January, 28 th February, 25 th April, 6 th June		

Hello everyone!

We are almost at the end of another school year. It does not feel like the end of Summer Term (today's weather isn't helping) but fingers crossed that once we return in September, we can look forward to a full year in school with some return to 'normality'.

Here is an update on what will be happening over the next week or so until we break up:

Wednesday 7th July – Moving UP Morning

Pupils will meet their new teachers and spend 45 minutes in their new classrooms.

Friday 9th July – EYFS Pedal Push

Bikes or scooters at the ready! Our youngest children will pedal for all they are worth. No parents will be allowed on site this year.

Monday 12th July – Year 6 Leavers' Assembly & Presentation

We will try to film this and share it with parents on Dojo.

Monday 12th July – Morning – Key Stage 1 Sports Day



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Children need to bring their PE kits and trainers or plimsolls in to school for Sports Day events.

Monday 12th July Afternoon – Key Stage 2 Sports Day

Key Stage 2 pupils also need to bring PE kits and sensible trainers/ footwear.

Tuesday 13th July – Y6 Trip to Planet Leisure

Thursday 15th July – Festival Day

We have decided to end the year with some festival fun. Details to follow below.

Friday 16th July – Breaking up day

There will be Praise Award assemblies for the 5 different bubbles across the morning.

Staff News – lots of it!

Farewell to Mrs Legg!

Mrs Legg has decided to retire this Summer and **Wednesday 14th July** will be her last official day in school. She has been here at Thornley Primary for 37 years and probably taught many of you across the years.

We are all beyond sad here in school. Mrs Legg is an absolute pleasure to work with and has so many strings to her bow. She will be absolutely and utterly missed by staff and pupils alike and difficult to replace.

I want to take the opportunity to say the biggest 'Thank You' ever – and it still doesn't seem good enough – to Mrs Legg for being so amazing for such a long time. She represents all that is good about humanity. She is the total package and totally sums up our school's rules of 'Work Hard and Be Kind'. A shining star if ever there was one!

Happy Retirement Mrs Legg – please keep in touch!

Update on Miss Delaney

Miss Delaney had a bad fall just before May half term and has had a major operation on her elbow. She has been quite poorly and will take time to fully recover.

I am sure that you will join me in wishing a speedy recovery to Miss Delaney and look forward to seeing her back in school as soon as she is well enough to be here.

Miss Hunter

When Miss Hunter returns to school in September, she will be Mrs Hughes. Miss Hunter is getting Married in August. We all wish her and her fiancée Glen all the very best for their wedding day and their future together as a married couple. I can't wait to see the photographs!



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Mrs Tateson –

Mrs Tateson is going on maternity leave in September. She will not return to school after the Summer Break. I will miss Mrs Tateson as my Deputy Head as she keeps me grounded and possibly does not realise how much she does to make school a better place.

Our New Deputy Head(s)

Mrs Tateson's post of Deputy Head was advertised internally and interviews held last week. From September 2021 until the end of May 2022, we will have 2 deputy heads sharing the post: Mr Johns and Miss Parker will be 'Joint Acting Deputy Heads' while Mrs Tateson is on maternity leave. Congratulations and well done to both of them. The interview process took place on Microsoft Teams with 5 governors, myself and the school's Local Authority Leadership Adviser. It was no easy ride!

Mrs Reynolds

Mrs Reynolds is also going to be on maternity leave after the Summer break. She is likely not to return to school in September as the current Risk Assessment advises against this in the third trimester.

We all wish them both all the very best and can't wait to meet two more Thornley babies!

Mr Owston

Mr Owston, who is working as a Teaching Assistant in our EYFS has secured a Teaching Post working with Special Needs children. We wish him all the best in his exciting new career as a teacher.

Here is the list of teachers and Support staff for next year:

Class	Teachers	Support staff	SEN Support
EYFS	Miss Delaney Mrs Stephenson	Miss Williams TA post to be filled	Mrs Craven 1:1 (am)
Year 1	Miss Baird	Mrs Best (0.6) Mrs Laws (0.4)	
Year 2	Miss Parker	Mrs Taylor (0.8) Mrs Laws (0.2)	Mrs Stokoe 1:1
Year 3	Mr Maxwell	Mrs Evans	Mrs Craven (pm)
Year 4	Mrs Williams	Miss Mather	
Year 5	Mr Johns	Mrs Unsworth	
Year 6	Miss Hunter	Miss Burlison	Mrs A Williams



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There has been a little bit of a 'shuffle'. Mr Maxwell has come back to cover Mrs Tateson's maternity leave. You may remember him from a couple of years ago. He taught Year 4 and then Year 3 up until the first Lockdown in March 2020.

Festival Day

We would like a Glastonbury or Woodstock (showing my age now!) theme to our festival. Pupils should arrive in school dressed for a festival. There will be some discussions in classes about appropriate clothing and accessories.

All pupils will go up to the field in their double bubbles as follows:

EYFS

Y1 and Y2

Y3 and Y4

Y5 and Y6

Bubbles will 'carousel' around the 4 main activities. We want to keep some of the things a surprise for the day so no further details are to be given but we will make sure that someone from each bubble takes lots of pictures to share with you.

Pupils will need a packed lunch. Those pupils on school dinners will be provided with a special packed lunch.

This year, we are asking pupils to bring their own lunch if they are usually on packed lunch.

Collection of pupils will be at the usual time and place.

I want to end by saying Thank You! (a few times)

To you parents and carers (and extended families) who have been amazing all year. The dropping off and picking up of pupils has been smooth and well organised. You have helped to keep us all safe in school by wearing your masks and keeping your distance. Also for the hard work and support during the school closure from January to March as well as the two recent bubble closures. Well done and Thanks!

To the Teachers and Support Staff who have worked amazingly hard in some very unusual and challenging circumstances. I have the most fantastic team of staff who I have seen go that 'extra half inch' on many occasions across the year. Staff really support each other here at Thornley and provide our children with high quality learning experiences. Included in this is our Parent Support Adviser Jane Gibbon working tirelessly in the background to support parents and pupils when they need it. I absolutely love you all!



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To the lunchtime supervisors (Val Hewitson, Debra Laidler, Donna Peachey and Libby Hennessey) for helping lunchtimes to run smoothly and safely. For fast 'turn-arounds' in the dining room and excellent sanitising routines! Great work!

I will mention Libby for another as she never lets us down, come rain, hail snow or sunshine she is the best school crossing lady on the planet!

And I will mention Mrs Hewitson (Val) for her sterling work in Breakfast Club. She always has a smile on her face and works alone now to prepare and serve children with a delicious breakfast as well as providing activities for them for after breakfast. One amazing lady!

To Iain, the Caretaker, who always goes above and beyond his caretaking duties to make things fabulous in and around school. Not least the great work he has done on the wildlife garden, pond and vegetable garden. Not forgetting the supersonic cleaning team who have kept the school pretty much Covid-free since March 2020! The cleaning budget has more than doubled and shares in Fabulosa have rocketed, but we always smell clean and fresh!

To governors who have supported me (and the school) throughout. It really makes a big difference to have a team of governors who want to make a difference and have the school's best interests at the heart of them. Our Chair of Governors, Mrs Turnbull gives so much to the school. Many thanks to you all for all you do for the school!

Finally, to my absolutely amazing right hand girl. The most efficient and competent person I have ever worked with. Kelly, the school's Office Manager, is so much more than her job title suggests. A total diamond in every way. I could write a book. But you all know how fabulous she is. So Thank you Kelly for making me smile and for making my job so much easier! X

Oops! I almost forgot to thank our lovely pupils. The reason that we are even here! Thanks to you for your hard work and gorgeous behaviour this year. You are all shining stars.

Have a happy and covid-free Summer. I hope you all get to relax. I will be in touch soon with plans for re-opening in September outlining any changes we need to make.

Best wishes,
Mrs Watt