

Dear Parents

Welcome to the September version of our school newsletter. We hope that you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. It is hard to believe that we are only in week 4 of the new academic year as so much has already happened. Please take time to read our first newsletter, it is jam packed with all of the Thingwall news – I am not sure how we have managed to fit in quite so much! As ever, if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will be happy to help.



Welcome New Pupils and Staff:

Welcome to all of our new FS2 pupils and those who have started in other year groups across school. You have all settled in beautifully and we are very proud of you all. We would like to also extend a warm welcome to Miss Taylor (Year Six's class teacher) and Miss Ainsworth (Year Three's class teacher), we hope you will be very happy here. Finally, we would like to say a MASSIVE welcome back to Mrs Jones in Year One, we have missed you very much indeed!



School Calendar:

Mrs Blackbourn has been busy uploading all this term's calendar dates onto the school website, so please have a look. Key dates for the remainder of this term include...

Date	Event
FS2 Stay and Play Parent Sessions	9-9.30 on 27.09.22 and 29.09.22
FS2/Year One/Year Two Phonics and Literacy Sessions (free crèche available)	3.30-4.00 w/c 03.10.22 – actual days to be confirmed by staff
FS2/Year One/Year Two Maths Sessions (free crèche available)	3.30-4.00 w/c 10.10.22 – actual days to be confirmed by staff
Black History Month	October
Scholastic Book Fair Week	3.30-4.00 w/c 03.10.22
Year Three/ Year Four Visit to Birkenhead Mosque to experience the Call To Prayer	10.10.22
Harvest Festival – all welcome (Collection for the Charles Thompson Mission, Birkenhead. Please drop off tinned and dried food items and toiletries from 03.10.22)	2.30-3.15 14.10.22
Themed Week – Art, Music and Creativity	w/c 17.10.22. This week will be filled with creative opportunities. Many thanks to Miss Collins who will be overseeing the week's events.
Pop Project Visitors – Beatlemania!	20.10.22
Beatles Dress Up Day (dressing up is optional) Sponsored Danceathon (sponsor forms to follow)	21.10.22
Half Term	w/c 24.10.22
Year Two Visit to Birkenhead Park/Port Sunlight	w/c 08.10.22

Year Two Class Assembly	Arrival from 9.00 starts 9.30 – 11.11.22
Parent's Evening	4.00-7.00 - 09.11.22 4.00-7.00 - 10.11.22
Anti-Bullying Week (including P.A.N.T.S Campaign NSPCC)	w/c 14.11.22
Flu Vaccinations	14.11.22
Islamic Bangladeshi Workshops for Years Five and Six	14.11.22
Children In Need Day Children are able to wear spotty items if they wish in return for a voluntary contribution of £1 per child. Please don't feel you have to donate, we are aware lots of families like to donate together during the television show.	18.10.22
Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Hat & Jumper Day	07.12.22 – Please book Christmas Dinner well in advance for your child to ensure the kitchen order enough turkey etc. Details to follow.
KS1/FS2 Nativity in School Hall. Parents and Grandparents welcome to attend. Please note that this is a ticketed event (free of charge) to enable us to keep numbers to the fire limit.	2.30-3.30 – 08.12.22 & 9.30-10.30 – 09.12.22
KS2 Christmas performance in St Michael's Church, Pensby. Parents and Grandparents welcome to attend. Please note that this is a ticketed event (free of charge) to enable us to keep numbers to the fire limit.	6.00 - 12.12.22 & 6.00 - 12.12.22
Coverdale Puppet Show – The Meaning of Christmas (free of charge)	19.12.22
Christmas Party Afternoons – Own Clothes Children will eat their normal school dinner/packed lunch. You will need to provide an additional paper plate of party food for the afternoon's events – please name the plate and avoid nut based products as we are a nut free school.	19.12.22
Toy Day and Own Clothes Please do not bring mobiles phones or toys that can take photographs or require access to the internet.	20.12.22
End of Term	3.30 – 20.12.22
Spring Term Starts for Staff	04.01.23
Spring Term Starts for Pupils	05.01.23



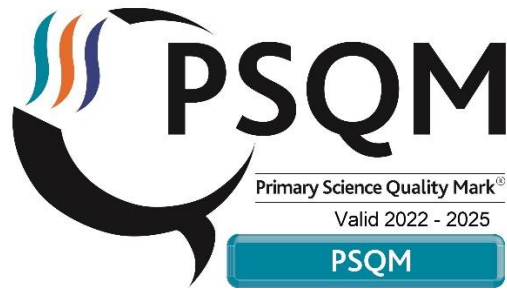
Primary Science Quality Mark (PQSM):

We were thrilled last week to be awarded our PQSM in recognition of the high quality science work that takes place across school. The assessor felt our application was very thorough and showcased all of the fabulous science that we do across the school. The final judgement was lovely to read so I thought that I would share this with you all...

“What an honour to review a PSQM submission where such significant impact has occurred over what has been a difficult year in schools. When I look at the initial self-assessment compared to the evidence at the end, I find it remarkable that such significant improvements have happened over such a relatively short period of time. Mrs Holroyd – you are remarkable! I hope your whole school community are proud of all you have achieved and will continue to support you as science

at Thingwall goes from strength to strength. Congratulations and thank you for the last couple of thoroughly enjoyable hours.”

Well done to Mrs Holroyd, our Science lead and also to all the Thingwall staff and pupils – a great team effort!



Eco-Schools:

We have been awarded our Green Flag Eco School status for the second cycle, in recognition the hard work our pupils do in protecting the planet and ensuring we are environmentally conscious in all areas of school life. Well done to Miss Yardley and all of our dedicated Eco-Warriors!



Learning Through Landscapes Grant:

Miss Collins has secured a bid for us through the 'Learning Through Landscapes' scheme to enable children from all classes to access outdoor learning by providing us with a den building kit and also an all-weather outdoor circle time kit. We will make very good use of these outdoor resources, especially amongst our younger children. Thank you for securing this bid (worth £500) for us Miss Collins!



Ernest Cook Foundation Grant:

Miss Collins has been very busy as she has also secured us another £500 bid from the Ernest Cook Foundation to enable us to improve our central quad environment. The money will be used to plant a variety of shrubs, plants and flowers to attract insects and birds. We will also develop a bird hide and a bird feeder area to enable the children to watch the our local wildlife. Thank you Miss Collins!



Be Happy Resources:

Many thanks to all our parents who voted to allow us to access these useful PSHE/Mental Health teaching materials over the summer holiday. We are delighted to say that Thingwall won the most votes so we have been awarded this set of resources for the first half term. Thank you to everyone who voted for us, we are making good use of the resources.



Health & Safety Audit:

The start of term has seen us welcome Jeanne Fairbrother Associates into school to conduct our Health and Safety Audit. We are thrilled to announce we received 97% and, as such, we have been awarded a Gold Certificate, in recognition of the high quality H&S provision we have across school. Many thanks to all staff for all their hard work but especially to our superb caretaker, Mr Wearing, for all his hard work in helping us to achieve this accolade.



Health & Safety Reps:

Our Health and Safety Reps will be working very hard with Mrs Evans over the next few weeks as they are undertaking an exciting new project do to with Risk Assessments and looking after our school grounds and building. Watch this space!



British International Award:

We are thrilled to have been awarded the British Council's International Award once again in recognition of the rich and creative range of international work we do in Thingwall. We have held this status for almost the last 20 years which is quite the achievement! Congratulations to all staff but especially to Miss Collins who co-ordinated the whole reaccreditation process – thank you Miss Collins.



Paul Lavelle Foundation:

We had representatives from the Paul Lavelle Foundation in school last week to speak with our Key Stage Two children about consent, self-worth, resilience and the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if things go wrong. It was a really informative morning and staff and pupils alike learned lots of useful information from the sessions. Thank you to all the Paul Lavelle staff who visited our school (including one of our school Mums!) we appreciate all you have done to help us to keep Thingwall pupils as safe as we possibly can.



Mosh Tots Musical Morning:

FS2 to Year Four had a thoroughly enjoyable morning with a musical performance from Mosh Tots last week. The children had a fabulous time and experienced music, song and dance from a whopping seven different genres – country, rock, reggae, jazz, blues, disco and hip-hop! Thank you for organising such a great performance, Mrs Holroyd, we can't wait for them to visit us again soon.



Double Blue Children:

You may see pupils across school proudly wearing an enamelled blue badge in the coming weeks. This is because these children were awarded 'Double Blue' status on their end of year report last year – in other words they were classed as outstanding in effort, attitude and behaviour. If your child comes home wearing one of these highly sought after school badges please make a fuss of them as there were only 40 badges awarded out of 210 pupils! Well done children, thank you for being such superb ambassadors for our school.



School Council, Eco-Warriors and Ethos Reps:

Pupils have been busy nominating themselves for the roles of School Council, Eco-Warrior and Ethos Rep in each class this month. The roles and responsibilities for each job were discussed and the secret ballot ensured that the voting was a democratic process. Congratulations to the following children who have been chosen to represent their class this year...

	School Council	Ethos Reps	Eco-Warriors
	These children will meet half-termly with Miss Taylor. They will work on whole school issues and try to improve our school.	These children are good role models and they will welcome new pupils into school, who join us mid-year. They will also check that their classmates are happy and included at breaktimes.	These children meet half-termly with Miss Yardley. They look after our planet and they try to make small changes to our school and our community to make the world a better place to live for everyone.
FS2	Scarlett and Fenn	Lily and Max	Evelyn and Jacob
Year One	Emily B and Dougie	Seth and Leila	Freddie and Elizabelle
Year Two	Leo and Mason	Theo and Emily B	Freya and Elsie E
Year Three	Luca and Elina	Grace and Jack L	Annabelle and Emily
Year Four	Spencer and Lavinia	Jack S and Violet R	Kyle and Charlotte
Year Five	Mila and Leon	Zeid and Inoa	Harriet and Reuben
Year Six	Mia and Rosalie	Jack J and Erin	Ethan N and Ava



Harvest Collection:

We will be supporting the Charles Thompson Mission once again for our annual Harvest Festival. This fantastic charity provide care, support, food and clothing to the needy across our borough. If you would like to help us support this charity we will be collecting dried food (e.g pasta, rice) and tinned/jar products as well as warm socks, gloves etc. The Harvest Festival is on 14.10.22 from 2.30 to approximately 3.15. All are welcome to attend if they wish.



Extreme Reading Challenge:

We had some fantastic Extreme Reading Photographs for our summer holiday challenge and the following children have each been awarded a £5 Lingham's book voucher for their efforts...

Jack D, Gabriella, William H, Jacob S, Emily B (Y1), Evelyn R, Mia M, Annabelle, Emma-Jayne, Charlotte, Bea.



Rainbows of Nature Photography Competition:

We also had some gorgeous photography entries – they were so creative and colourful. Thank you to all who entered. The following children have been awarded a £5 Lingham's book voucher for their efforts...

Evelyn R, Archie, Lucas B, Jacob S, Robyn, Mia M, Oliver B, Emily B (Y1), Will H, Annabelle, Grace P.



Summer Holiday Library Reading Challenge:

Congratulations to all the children who completed the library reading challenge and received a certificate and medal. The first infant to show us the medal was Niamh and the first junior was Oliver – we hope you liked your prize from the prize tray.



Scholastic Book Fair Week:

Next week is our Scholastic Book Fair so please visit us after school in the canteen to view an exciting range of books!



Technical Whizz Kids:

Thank you to these two Year Six boys who have really risen to the occasion and done a fabulous technical Whizz Kid job during our assemblies so far this year. They are calm, professional and ensure that our assemblies run smoothly by selecting music and working the computer. Thank you boys, you are doing a great job!



Celebration Corner (or HUGGS – Huge, Unbelievably Great Goals!)

Please note that this area of the newsletter is your child's chance to celebrate anything they have achieved outside of school e.g. Cub Scout badges, swimming certificates etc. If you would like to tell us about any achievements, please email the school office and we will celebrate your child's achievement in our next monthly newsletter.

Many thanks.

Leon (Year Five) – Congratulations to Leon who was awarded a judo medal by Wirral Judo recently for his skill and sporting attitude. Keep up the hard work Leon and we may see you representing Great Britain in a future Olympics! Well done! ☺

FS2 – Well done children for settling in so beautifully and for showing your parents/carers around your classroom in our recent Stay and Play sessions. ☺

With very best wishes

Mrs D L Evans