

Thorn Grove Gazette

Friday 19th January 2024

Dear Thorn Grove Families,

Welcome to this week's edition of Thorn Grove Gazette. I hope you are all managing to stay warm in this incredibly cold weather we are experiencing. Whilst our children loved the experience of snow day, we understand the incredibly cold weather can cause other complications. If any of our families are struggling with financial matters, we can help and have services linked to us that can help. No family of Thorn Grove should struggle without asking for help. We can support accessing food bank vouchers, help with utility bills and advice on accessing appropriate benefits. If this could help you please email headteacher@tgps.uk



Have a lovely weekend - stay warm

Miss Vose

Old shirts for art

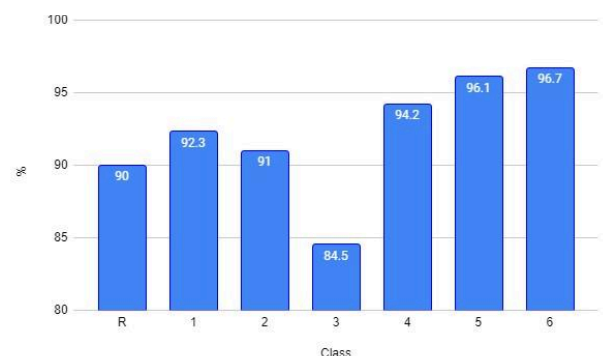
As we develop our creativity and explore in our art sessions we use a range of materials, some of which can get quite messy! We are asking families to donate old shirts or suitable cover ups that children will be able to use to protect our uniforms.

The aim is to get class sets that can be kept in school and shared where needed rather than each child having a specific shirt for themselves.



Please send in from next week!

Weekly Attendance



Key Dates

Mon 22nd Jan - Y4 MTC meeting

Tues 23rd Jan - Reception Vision Screening

Tues 30th Jan - Parents Evening

Tues 30th Jan - UKS2 Athletics

Thurs 1st Feb - UKS2 Netball

Thurs 1st Feb - Parents Evening

Mon 5th Feb - Young Voices

Thurs 8th Feb - LKS2 Golf

Fri 9th Feb - School Closes for half term



Star of the Week



Autism Awareness

On Monday, Sienna in Y5 led an assembly all about Autism. She spoke to the children about what autism is, famous people who live with autism, what autism feels like for Sienna and how people can help. There was also a special visit from her Squishmellow...one of the 79 she has at home. Thank you Sienna for being so brave and sharing such valuable information to help us understand Autism.



Changes to Homework at TGPS

At TGPS we value the role homework plays in consolidating your child's learning experience. Homework can reinforce the concepts covered in the classroom and help our learners to develop their confidence.

By completing their homework regularly, your child engages in independent or supported study, which strengthens their understanding of various subjects. It allows them to apply the knowledge gained in class, fostering a deeper comprehension of the topics/skills covered.

Homework also aids in the development of vital organisational skills. Consistently completing assignments teaches students the value of time management, responsibility, and prioritisation. These skills are essential for future success, both academically and in the world beyond education.

We very much appreciate the importance of your role in facilitating this learning at home.

There have been a few changes to homework this academic year, please take a look at our [updated policy](#) for further information. If you have questions regarding your child's homework, please email the class teacher.

World Book Day 2024

This year World Book Day falls on Thursday 7th March. As a school we have decided to spend the week focusing on books, writing opportunities and their links to art. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to celebrate many of the areas of school improvement we have been working on. The week will be themed around the book 'Inside The Villains' by Clotilde Perrin and together we will be exploring some rather tricky characters, their personality, their appearance and maybe reasons why they are known as the baddies!

I wanted to give you as much notice as possible that we will be dressing up on Thursday 7th March as chosen villain characters from books your child has encountered.



RWI Spelling Y2-6

This term, we have introduced a new way to teach spellings, once our children have completed their RWI Phonics Programme. We have invested in the RWI Spellings, so the skills and knowledge link closely to the way our phonics is taught. It has helped through spelling videos that introduce 3 characters to help teach the spelling pattern in each unit. We are already seeing some great engagement and confidence in using 'dots and dashes' and 'pinching' sounds to support their spelling.

It also means we have moved away from weekly spelling tests as the research shows these are not beneficial to the children actually applying the spelling patterns in their work.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask at our upcoming parents evening.



EYFS Bikeability

This week our EYFS Children completed their first Bikeability session. With the introduction of these sessions it will most definitely develop and improve our children's gross motor skills. Even though the weather was cold and a little frosty this did not stop our fabulous staff from getting out there with our youngest children. They learnt how to pick up the balance bikes and get onto them safely. They learnt how to walk and waddle and how to move their feet to project themselves forward on the bike. It won't be long before they are whizzing round our playground with confidence. The staff and children were thrilled with how the sessions went and are looking forward to next week. Thank you to our wonderful staff and a big well done to our children.



Key Stage 2 Basketball

This week, some children from Year 4 and Year 6 went to a basketball competition at Cheadle Hulme High School. They played lots of games in a mini competition to see if they could win a place in the final. We don't yet know the final results, but both teams gave it their all and had a great time. We are hoping one of our teams will make it through to the final later in the year, so watch this space! All the children behaved exceptionally, showed great teamwork and represented our school well. A special mention to Freddie in Year 4, who won an award for being such a great team player! **Please note that any kits that school lend for events do need to be returned.**

