

Thorn Grove Gazette

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Thorn Grove Families,

Welcome to the first edition of this year's Thorn Grove Gazette. It has been delightful to see the children return to school this week and share their holiday stories with each other. Children have settled brilliantly into their new 'tribes' and by now you should all be aware what animal mascot your child's class has chosen. I have really enjoyed visiting each class and hearing about the 'what went wells' at the end of each school day; please encourage your child to share these with you at home.

I would like to welcome our new Nursery and Reception parents to Thorn Grove and I hope you have already felt welcomed by our lovely school community.

Finally, with regards to communication, it is really important to ensure as parents, you read each weekly edition of Thorn Grove Gazette as this is my main source of communication to you and it contains important updates and information.

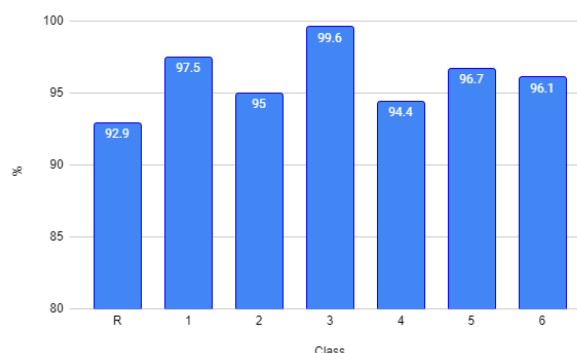
Miss Vose

Key Dates

Mon 11th Sept - Leadership Team Assembly
Fri 15th Sept - Y5 start swimming
Tues 26th Sept - Y6 Height & Weight Screening
Wed 27th Sept - Prospective Parents Tours
Fri 29th Sept - Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
Wed 4th Oct - Y3 trip to Tatton Park
Tues 10th Oct - Rookie Rockstars in school
Tues 10th Oct - Parents Evening
Thur 12th Oct - Parents Evening
Fri 13th Oct - Harvest Donations



Weekly Attendance



Homework

Your child will be told their homework schedule by their teacher this week and this will be communicated to you via Google Classroom. Over the course of this half term Miss Brierley and I will be carrying out an audit of homework practice. Any adaptations will then be communicated to yourselves.

Cleaner Vacancy

We are currently in need of a cleaner to help ensure our school environment is kept in the best condition. If you or someone you know would be interested in applying, please [click here](#).

Key Behaviour Themes

On Tuesday we launched our 4 Autumn Term behaviour themes: Active Listening, Good Manners, Trying your Best and Taking Pride in your Work. We feel a school where children show they can do these 4 themes is a lovely place to be. Children have already begun nominating their peers for showing excellence in these behaviours and teachers are awarding Dojo points for these specific behaviours. We pride ourselves in ensuring our staff team uses positive reinforcement to manage behaviour at Thorn Grove and encouraging these behaviour principles at home will really help.

New Build update

A significant amount of time has passed since I last gave you an update regarding the new school building project and I felt that the start of the new school year was an appropriate time to do this.

Therefore please see a summary of actions taken place so far;

- School have been working closely with the DfE team and Local Authority to write the brief and agree initial design proposals for a brand new school as part of a feasibility study.
- The design will re-provide the current school accommodation in new modern classrooms and be fully Net Zero Carbon in Operation using the latest green building technologies available, including a bio-solar roof.
- Careful consideration will be made to minimise the disruption to the school operations and children's learning.
- The feasibility stage is due to be completed early this term.
- Next steps after this will be to tender the project and appoint a contractor through the DfE framework.
- A final design will be developed by the contractor, and a planning application targeted to be submitted before Easter 2024.
- We will share the proposals and consult with parents before the planning application is made and once the design is nearing a final version.
- The current timescales for building the school are estimating a starting the work Autumn 2024 with the building open by Christmas 2025. The final phase of the project will be to demolish the old school buildings and outdoor areas for a final completion estimated for Easter 2026. Dates will be confirmed when these are fully known after a contract for the work is signed.



Young Voices

We are very excited to tell you about a fantastic opportunity for our budding singers and performers in KS2. This year Thorn Grove will take part in Young Voices. Young Voices is the Largest Children's Choir Concerts IN THE WORLD! It's nothing like a school concert because it takes place in A HUGE ARENA and your children will be part of a choir of up to 9,000 other children. For your child to take part they need to attend our choir group, led by Miss Brierley and Miss Beale on a Monday after school. Here the children will learn the songs for the concert so we ask children to be committed to coming every week. The first choir session will take place on Monday and if you would like your child to attend please complete [this form](#). The concert will take place in early February so we have no time to waste!



Learn to Ride Course

TfGM in partnership with BikeRight! will be running **FREE** children's cycling courses at various venues across Greater Manchester From 16th September 2023 until the end of March 2024. The Learn to Ride course is aimed at primary school children and aims to give them a good start on their cycling journey. Places need to be booked and further details can be found below:- Learn to ride a bike with BikeRight's experienced instructors.

Minimum age – 6 years old. Maximum age 16.

Bring along your own bike (with no stabilisers) and helmet. If you don't have your own bike, we may have a small selection to borrow (Please check details on each event).

The sessions are in a small groups with two experienced Bikeability instructors. You can sign up for more than one session if you wish.

Important

Parents/carers must stay for the whole session. The training will go ahead whatever the weather (unless conditions are dangerous) so please dress children appropriately.

Places must be booked following this link <https://bikeright.co.uk/courses/child-group/>

If you have any further questions, please email active.travel@tfgm.com

