

# Thorn Grove Gazette

Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Thorn Grove Families,

Welcome to this week's edition of Thorn Grove Gazette. It has been a fantastically festive week in school with Christmas dinner, Christmas performances and Christmas parties. This week I am starting with a plea from me- **IF YOU HAVE MOVED HOUSE OR CHANGED TELEPHONE NUMBER CAN YOU PLEASE UPDATE THIS WITH SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY.** We have had far too many incidents recently where we have out of date details for our parents. Either call school or email [admin@tgps.uk](mailto:admin@tgps.uk).

Have a lovely weekend

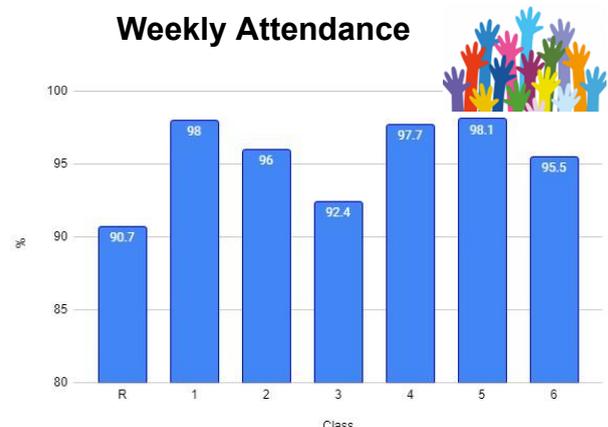
Miss Vose

## Christmas Fair

Thank you so much to everyone for coming along to our Christmas fair last Friday. It was great to see so many parents, including lots of our new Reception and Nursery families together. The fair raised a huge £2936.



## Weekly Attendance



## Key Dates



- Tues 19th Dec - Y4/5 Swimming Gala
- Wed 20th Dec - EYFS Nativity
- Fri 22nd Dec - Last day of term
- Mon 8th Jan - First day back at school
- Tues 9th Jan - Y6 SATs meeting
- Wed 10th Jan - Prospective Parents Tours
- Fri 12th Jan - Y4 start swimming lessons
- Mon 22nd Jan - Y4 MTC meeting



## Star of the Week

### Help!!!!

Our EYFS department needs your help. After Christmas we are reshaping our curriculum and engaging our youngest learners with a brand new way of learning through 'Narrative immersion' allowing the children to enter a magical story world through the use of the magic story box ritual. This will transport our children's imagination with the use of drama strategies, meeting characters whilst developing their language and vocabulary. We are asking for help with resources to enhance this opportunity. If you have any of the following resources at home that you would be willing to donate, we would be extremely grateful.

- Microphones, cameras, old mobile phones, remote controls and torches.
- Large material, blankets, lining/wall paper, clip or badges or lanyards.
- Clapper boards, keys, Ornament boxes, battery operated candles or hats of any kind.

If you have any of the above please either hand them to your child's class teacher or bring them to the front desk. Thanks for your continued support.

## Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance

### *A Fireside Nativity - A Year 1 and 2 Production*

Year 1 and 2 had so much fun performing their Christmas show "A Fireside Nativity" on Wednesday. The two classes came together, much like the story, to share the story of Christmas and get cosy around a campfire. The audience were treated to some spectacular singing, amazing acting and wonderful scenery created by the KS1 team. The children have worked so hard over the last half term to learn their lines and perfect their theatrical skills and their hard work truly paid off!



We hope you enjoyed their performance and are as proud of the children as we are. We would also like to thank parents for supporting practice at home and providing costumes.



## Helping Children at Christmas

All children love Christmas, don't they? The reality is for many children the festive period is tinged with nervous energy and anxiety over too many choices, too many tempting adverts on the TV, bright lights and jangly music. Even the decorations in school and at home are in places that would normally look and feel very different.

The joy of Christmas can be kept and celebrated with some thought to consider how to contain all that energy and excitement without it exploding like a cork in a bottle of pop.

Some top tips -

- Avoid really busy places such as shopping centres in the next week - leave the last minute panic to others. Buy online or from smaller, local retailers.
- Prepare them for gifts and while we want to fulfil our children's dreams it makes more sense to keep their ambitions within a budget that they can understand. Even Father Christmas is feeling the pinch this year.
- Keep your routines going for children that really need structured days. With the odd exception over the holidays it is important to keep mealtimes, bedtimes and wake times in place. This minimises children (and their parents) getting over tired that can, in turn, lead to dysregulated mood and more negative behaviour.
- Accept imperfection - does it really matter if the turkey is a bit dry or Grandad fell asleep during The King's speech? Family Christmases are always the best when everyone finds some joy and good humour in the day - and the mishaps make great stories for future years to come.
- Get outside, go for a walk, visit the park, turn off the screens, ride the new bike, play the new board games and build the new Lego together as a family and try to rest and relax with special family and friends.

May I wish all our families a restful, peaceful and very Happy Christmas. Mrs Arnold, SENDCO.

## Christmas Dinner Fun

On Wednesday we had our festive jumper and dinner day. The atmosphere around school was beautiful. I took on the role of server with our cook and cannot express enough how wonderful our children's manners are. Thank you to Lydia and Keeley, our school cooks and Taylor Shaw for a lovely dinner.



## Peter Pan at the Plaza

Our Sensory Support team took a group of children to the Plaza theatre in Stockport to see Peter Pan this week; they cheered so well they even got to meet the characters!

