

Issue 100 August 11 2023

Thornhill enews



Dear Thornhill Family

As we draw to the end of another successful busy term and look forward to the holidays, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my entire staff for their tireless efforts and commitment to the children. They continue to ensure that the children are nurtured and taught with so much love and care and they always go the extra mile for the well-being of each little individual. I would certainly like to extend my thanks and appreciation to them for all they do.

I would like to thank the parents for their unfailing support and commitment to the children and the school and I trust that you will enjoy this wonderful opportunity of a holiday with your child. Finally, to the children, you feed our souls as teachers and I would like to thank you all for your valued contribution to Thornhill during this term. I know you have learnt and given so much, in so many different avenues of school life. Enjoy your holiday and may it be memorable.

Uniform Shop Times

The Uniform Shop will be open prior to school starting on the days stipulated below:

Thursday 7 September	12:00 to 15:00
Friday 8 September	The Shop will not be open
Monday 11 September	12:00 to 15:00
Tuesday 12 September	12:00 to 14:00

Please note, it is essential to book a time slot through the administration office with Sally Mangiroza prior to the above dates.

Administration Office Times

The School Office will be open as follows during the holiday:

14 - 16 August	Open from 09:00 to 12:30
6 - 8 September	Open from 09:00 to 13:00
11 September	08:30 to 15:00

Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, 11 September as follows:

Monday to Thursday:

Finance office opens at 07:00 and closes at 15:30 and the Administration opens at 06:45 and closes at 16:00.

Friday:

Finance and Administration offices close at 14:00.

Pupil Achievements

Congratulations to Adam Meyer (5L), who has been selected to represent Botswana in the prestigious Motocross of African Nations (MXOAN) event which takes place from 11 to 13 August, in Cape Town.

PTA Camp Out

It was again wonderful to have an event that had last taken part in 2019, due to the Covid pandemic. As with all PTA events, 'the weather' is always something to consider. After one postponement, the day arrived and some excited campers and day visitors arrived on site to enjoy a 'chilly' experience.

There were fun activities organised for the children and everyone in attendance had a really wonderful time.

This what Johan (5W) had to say:

This event took place of Friday 4 August, and many families braved the cold and either came as day visitors, or pitched their tents on the field and slept over. There was a great turnout, given how cold it was. With plenty of warm fires, braaing, toasting marshmallows, a treasure hunt and a movie, great fun was had by all.

I, unfortunately was not allowed to sleep out because of a club cricket match early the next day, but we stayed as late as we could. I am told everyone survived the night, which is good news. Thank you for a cool event, we enjoyed ourselves.

My thanks to the continued support of the parents towards our PTA events. My thanks is also extended to the PTA members who always go the extra mile, while bringing of Thornhill community together. You all deserve a good break and we look forward to the Fete early in November.

I trust that you all have a wonderful holiday and I look forward to welcoming all our Thornhill families back to school on Tuesday, 12 September. Here's wishing you all some peaceful family days to rekindle, re-charge and ready yourselves for an exciting and busy final term of 2023.

I leave you with these words by Wayne Dyer: 'It's never crowded along the extra mile.'

I Greaves

Headteacher

Std 3 BSPCA Visit



Recently, the Std 3 children went on a trip to the BSPCA. The children were full of excitement on the way there and looking forward to seeing all the animals at the shelter.

Upon arrival, they were greeted by Aunty Bui, who works at the shelter. The children listened attentively as she walked them through all the areas where the animals are kept. The children strolled through the cattery and then went to see the dogs in their kennels. The day ended with the children having some time to spend with the dogs, which all of them thoroughly enjoyed.

The BSPCA was incredibly grateful for all of the food and blankets the children so generously donated. Here are some of the comments from the children:

It was fun because we got to play with puppies. Rui Lin (3J)

I loved learning about the BSPCA and their amazing cause. Jordan (3J)

I loved seeing the cats and how the BSPCA takes care of them. Muntaha (3J)

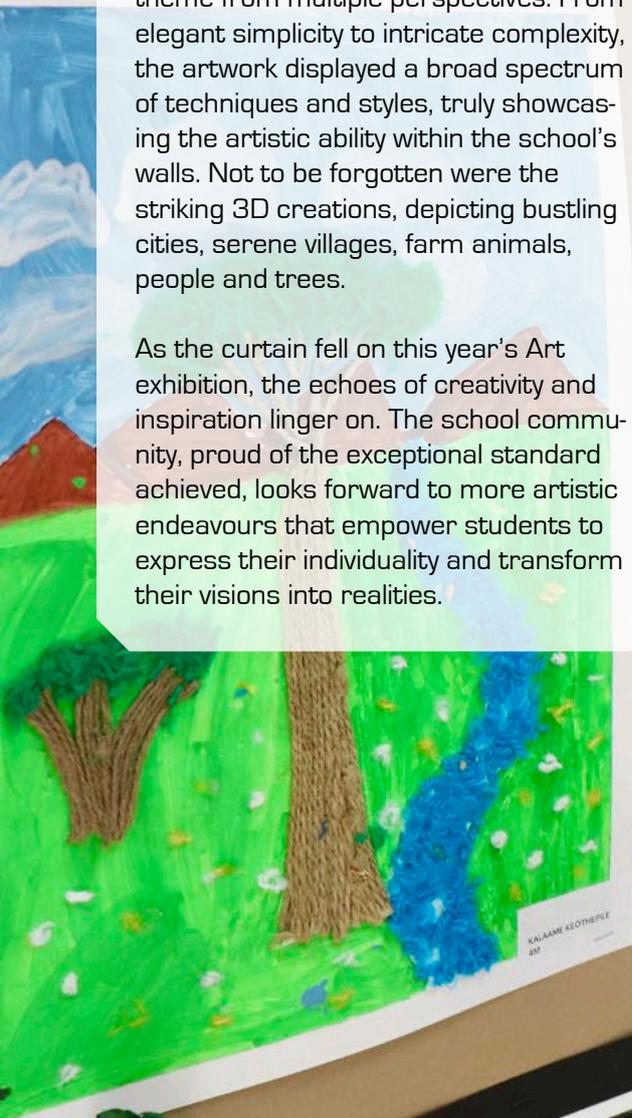
Art Exhibition

This year's Art exhibition has once again captured the imagination of students, parents, and visitors alike, as it delved into the theme of Urban and Rural.

An incredible showcase of creativity and talent, the event saw students from Reception to Std 7 rise to the occasion, producing an array of captivating artwork that left its mark on attendees.

The exhibition, held in the Helen Mathole Memorial Hall, transformed the space into an art gallery. With a diverse collection of pieces that explored the theme from multiple perspectives. From elegant simplicity to intricate complexity, the artwork displayed a broad spectrum of techniques and styles, truly showcasing the artistic ability within the school's walls. Not to be forgotten were the striking 3D creations, depicting bustling cities, serene villages, farm animals, people and trees.

As the curtain fell on this year's Art exhibition, the echoes of creativity and inspiration linger on. The school community, proud of the exceptional standard achieved, looks forward to more artistic endeavours that empower students to express their individuality and transform their visions into realities.



Std 3 & 4 Concert



The Std 3 and 4 concerts were truly amazing this year, full of energy and a lot of talent to showcase.

The children owned the show, every performance was done with so much joy and confidence and it was indeed appealing to everybody, even when filled with nerves, you could see the joy on their faces.

Below are some comments from some of the children involved:

The concert was so much fun. It was really nice to dance with my friends to our own choreographed dances. Playing marimbas and recorders in front of our parents was fun. Anele 4S

It was amazing. The drumming, marimbas, dancing and the instruments. I loved them all. Our parents were cheering us on. I really enjoyed it, I can't wait for next year. Leo 3P

I did not think I could stand in front of those many parents and sing, I was very nervous, I don't know how I did it. It was an amazing concert, I loved the piano solos, violin performances, the dances from Samantha and Azania and also from Sato, Anaya and Atsile. Lone 3H

Std 4 Community Service

With the support of their parents who contributed the 'cakes and various goodies' to be sold at the cake sales, Std 4 children managed to raise money to buy disposable nappies for the Children's Wards at Princess Marina Hospital.

The school supported the initiative by buying the treats during their break time. The hospital representatives were amazed to receive 8000 disposable nappies. The highlight of the handover was definitely the smiles of the recipients and their caregivers.

Std 4 would like to thank all the parents who donated so generously and to the school for supporting us. Everybody certainly has given hope to those who received.



Std 5 Viking Day



Another year of amazing display of Viking knowledge by the children and of course, the stunning outfits for the children by their parents.

This year's group was privileged to have the parents walk into the school and see their children's work first hand. Having parents around our Viking Village and by our shores, along the Std 5 classroom walls, was definitely the highlight. The children posed for photos and took their parents on an educational tour on who the Vikings were, their clothing, the longboats: the design and why they were such efficient vessels, the structure of Viking villages, Myths associated with the Vikings and the weapons used.

Detailed information on Viking Gods, Goddesses and rune writings made for a lovely wall of the village. Dragon art made by the children was displayed above the wall to give the Viking sense of dragons being so scary that even evil spirits would be scared to enter our village.

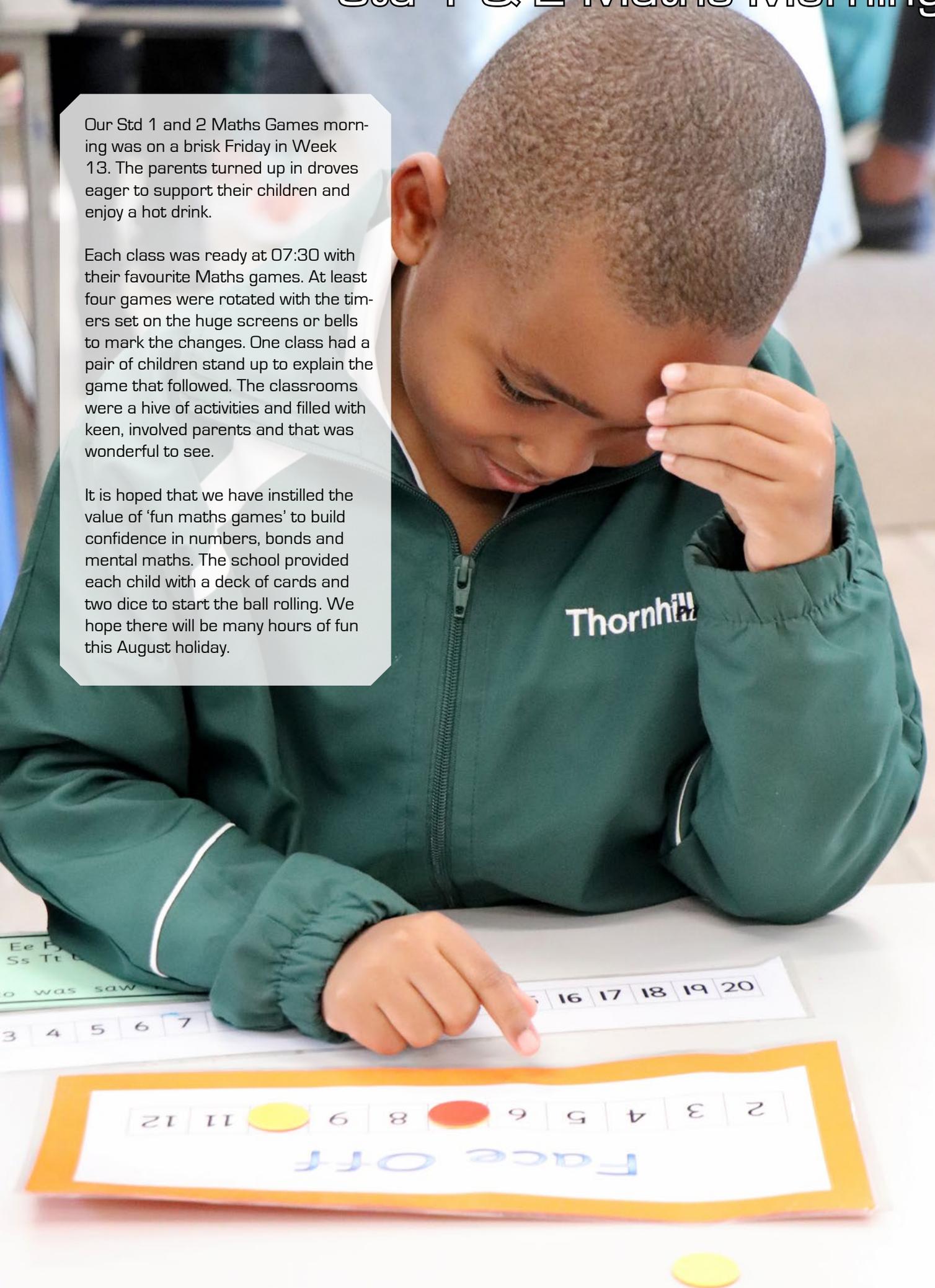
After giving the whole school a tour, the children were put into teams and given colour-coded head scarves to encourage the spirit of team work. The teams then took off to the field and competed against each other, playing games closely related to Viking culture such as raids and toga honk (similar to tug-of-war). This ended the day with very loud, energetic, but exhausted little Vikings.

Std 1 & 2 Maths Morning

Our Std 1 and 2 Maths Games morning was on a brisk Friday in Week 13. The parents turned up in droves eager to support their children and enjoy a hot drink.

Each class was ready at 07:30 with their favourite Maths games. At least four games were rotated with the timers set on the huge screens or bells to mark the changes. One class had a pair of children stand up to explain the game that followed. The classrooms were a hive of activities and filled with keen, involved parents and that was wonderful to see.

It is hoped that we have instilled the value of 'fun maths games' to build confidence in numbers, bonds and mental maths. The school provided each child with a deck of cards and two dice to start the ball rolling. We hope there will be many hours of fun this August holiday.



Std 1 Petting Farm

A few busloads of Std 1 children have been to Lily's Petting Farm in Oodi recently and, wow, were they excited. As the name suggests they were allowed to 'pet' the animals.

The children all enjoyed being shown around the farm and in some cases, they touched the animals from behind a fence and in others they were allowed to feed them inside the pens. They also fed the horses, sheep and cows with hay. Feeding the rabbits was a real hit for some, but others were very reticent to allow the rabbits too close.

The donkey cart ride also proved to be a highlight for some of them. Spare a thought for the donkeys who carried a somewhat 'heavy' load.

After the 'educational part' of the trip the children enjoyed their lunches and were allowed to play on the playground, which included a maze, a jumping castle and various other activities.

A good time was had by all and we came back to school in a much more subdued mood in comparison to the trip to the farm.



Marimba Workshop

A photograph showing several children, primarily young women, playing marimbas. They are wearing traditional African-style clothing with vibrant patterns in black, yellow, and red. The children are focused on their instruments, which consist of wooden bars mounted on a frame. The background is a simple, dark-colored wall.

The Thornhill Marimba Festival was held on Saturday, 22 July. Several schools in and around Gaborone were invited to take part. The children were put into mixed groups and had the opportunity to experience the world of dance, drumming, mbira and of course, marimba.

After a 'chilly' start to the day, the children warmed up quickly as they moved between workshops. Lots of new friendships were formed, as they worked together learning new marimba songs, dance routines and finding their beat on the drum.

In the evening the Helen Mathole Memorial Hall was filled to the brim with family and friends and the children got to showcase everything they had learnt during the course of the day. The show started with the various dance groups, followed by the mixed groups marimba songs, drumming and mbira's.

Every school also got to play their individual marimba songs and the audience enjoyed every moment of the evening. At the end of the evening, the children were surprised by their teachers, showcasing their amazing dance talent on stage in a group dance.

Well done to everyone for an amazing festival.

Std 7 Polar Bear Challenge



As the first day of the challenge approached, some students could not help but shiver like a shivering chihuahua caught in a blizzard. They stood on the edge of the icy pool, their teeth chattering like castanets, and they questioned their life choices that led them to this moment. But, they say that stepping out of your comfort zone is how you grow, right? So, they took a deep breath (or at least tried to before the cold air stole it away) and leaped into the unknown.

The second Wednesday of the challenge was the best! The insightful conversations about the techniques of how not to feel cold after a swim were met with a blend of excitement and apprehension. According to some experts (or possibly just the students' overactive imagination), subjecting oneself to chilly baths or showers can awaken the dormant Viking genes in your DNA, unlock hidden superpowers, and even help one find Waldo in record time! Well, at the very least, it might give your skin an invigorating tingle and wake you up faster than a 'triple shot' of espresso.

In the end, the fierce determination proved that these students were, indeed, a bunch of Arctic warriors ready to plunge headfirst into a chilling adventure. A few of the troopers fell behind, but they must be saluted nonetheless.

Std 3 Boxitect Day

On Friday 4 August, the Std 3 children were excited and full of chatter as they came to school ready for Boxitect day.

During the course of the week, they watched a video on being a Boxitect. They were then put into groups to plan some interesting ideas on making items, using only boxes. Never-ending conversations about tools and equipment revealed their bright engineering minds. Lots of different shapes and sizes of boxes were brought to school along with some fancy decorations.

While planning and building the items, they learned how to work as a team and to communicate with each other in a respectful way. This was a fascinating experience to see, as teamwork was critical to making the dream work. They made some amazing items such as a stable, farmhouse, a boat, fairy garden and a train.

Here is what some of the Std 3 children had to say about Boxitect Day:

We had lots of fun creating and decorating our Starbucks Cafe. We had to work together and change a few of our ideas, but in the end it all worked out and our Starbucks Cafe looked amazing. Faizaan, Chelsey, Eva, Thuo - 3P

We got to build what we wanted to with the boxes we brought to school. It was lots of fun designing and making a railway track and a glittery train. Rumaisa, Magnolia - 3J

We really enjoyed working with our team. We each came up with different ideas and were excited to put the final masterpiece together. We ended up making a very unique boat. Vidyuth, Mohau, Khadeejah, Thobo - 3J



N vs S Netball

SCSA North versus South Netball was held at Northside Primary School recently. The Southern coaches were well prepared and ready with their teams to compete. The afternoon started with meetings, announcements, welcoming, and lunch.

North A and South B players then started warming up for their match to start. It was a spectacular match to watch with lots of cheers from the side line.

On Saturday the girls all met again at Northside Primary School, for a full morning of fixtures and the results were as follows:

Southern B beat Northern A
Southern A beat Northern B
Southern B beat Northern B
Southern A beat Northern A

In the end, a convincing win for the South and congratulations to Renee, Keruntse, Sasha and Reneilwe who represented the South.



SCSA Cross Country



On Friday, 28 July, the Southern Schools' Cross Country team travelled to Orapa to compete against the North.

After a long journey, all the runners arrived safely at their accommodation. Lots of fun was had, with all the participants being able to spend the evening playing with their friends.

After a good night's sleep, all the runners arrived at the Orapa Golf Club, looking very smart in their sponsored shirts, caps and tracksuits and carrying their sponsored bags. The Southern Team definitely looked the part and were eager to get onto the course and start the races.

The U8 girls took off first and put their heart and soul into the race. The Southern runners came first, second, third and fourth in the race leaving the North trailing behind. They set the standard for the rest of the runners and all our children did superbly well. Three of the four girls were Thornhill runners, namely, Reneilwe, Esa and Eyana.

Our U8 Boys also took the first four positions, with Ruben being our Thornhill runner in the top 4.

Lume and Kaylin featured in the top four in the U9 Girls section, while Quade won the U9 Boys race in a record breaking time. Masa Manale was in the top four for the U10 Girls and Jozua Bruwer won the U10 Boys race and also in record breaking time.

Carmen was placed second in the U11 Girls race and Kaene Kelatile and De Vrye came in the top four in the U11 Boys section. Fariha came second in the U12 Girls and Cameron came forth in the U12 Boys.

Lillian, Hailey and Diane came in the top four in the U13 Girls race. Diako won the U13 Boys race, breaking the record for that event and Ushe came fourth.

The South won the event convincingly and we would like to congratulate all the children that travelled to represent the victorious Southern team.

N vs S Football

This event also took place at Northside Primary School alongside the netball. Everyone was very excited to play these fixture again having had no games for three years.

The South B team played on the Friday afternoon against the North A and Logan, Leruo and Myron from Thornhill were in the Southern team. The Northern A team won 3 - 2.

On Saturday, the Southern A, including Poeey, Ushe and Diako from Thornhill played against the Northern B team and dominated to win 9 - 1. The next game was the Southern B vs the Northern B with the South winning 1 - 0.

The final game was Southern A v Northern A with the South A winning, 4 - 1 Congratulations to the Southern team who beat their Northern rivals.

Our thanks to all our supporters (parents and friends), Sponsors and to Northside Primary School for hosting this fantastic annual event.



Inter School Athletics

Interschools' athletics took place over 2 days. The first day of competition took place on Wednesday, 26 July, and comprised of all the field events namely high jump, cricket ball throw, shot putt and long jump, hosted here at Thornhill.

Our team performed well on the field and were placed 1st with track events still to go. The age group champions for field events from Thornhill were as follows:

U9 Girls Corlea Ries
U10 Boys Jasraj Ruprah
U11 Girls Loapi Scott
U12 Boys Leruo Bakwena

The track and relay events were the following session of the inter schools and was held at the National Stadium in Lobatse, hosted by Crescent. The first part of the meet saw the older age groups (U11 - U13) compete in the longer distance 400m and 800m track events and finished with the shorter distances and finally relays.

Our runners performed extremely well and placed well throughout the track events managing to retain the top spot and finish first overall, with the final standings for the 2023 Inter Schools Athletics (A Division) as follows:

1st Thornhill
2nd Baobab
3rd Westwood
4th Crescent

The age group champions for the track events from Thornhill were as follows:

U8 Girls Reneilwe Molimi
U8 Boys Alistair Kurewa
U9 Boys Quade Jones, Theo Madisakwane
U10 Girls Tiiisetso Motshubi
U12 Girls Kaitlyn Barnard
U12 Boys Leruo Bakwena
U13 Girls Lillian Bruwer
U13 Boy Diako Thupayagale



August 11 2023
Thornhill ICT Department



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