

Issue 67 August 16 2019

Thornhill enews



Dear Parents and Pupils

As I sit in my office and the holiday has already begun, the school is quiet and I look back over the term, I have so many wonderful memories of the awesome events of the second term. I know that many of these are etched in the memories of our children and that gives me great satisfaction.

To my fantastic staff, on behalf of the myself, the children and parents, I sincerely 'thank you' for the amazing job you have done over the term to date. Your unfailing dedication and commitment to nurturing 'our' children never goes unnoticed by me and 'we' are all so privileged to be part of this amazing school and community.

Love in Box Civvies Day

We recently held a 'Love in a Box' civvies day, where we are able to collect items that our Std 4 children will put together for the children's ward at Princess Marina. The Thornhill families once again supported this initiative superbly and together with the money raised from the various cake-sales during the term, we will donate wheelchairs and 'Love in a Box' gifts to the children. I would like to thank the staff and children for the wonderful initiative and support they give to this fantastic cause. My thanks must also be extended to the Dellow family, who have generously donated a wheelchair to this cause as well.

Std 1 Interactive Maths Morning

The Std 1 Maths morning was a huge success again and it is gratifying to see how many parents came to learn more about the Std 1 Maths programme. Mrs Stuart's presented in the hall prior to the classroom event, outlining the curriculum and informing parents to ensure that they are in a better position to help and assist their children at home. Furthermore, Mrs Stuart explained about the many uses of the 'Math's Pack,' which has been sent home.

The children love seeing that their parents are interested and involved in their learning and they thoroughly enjoyed teaching their parents how to play the inexpensive, but very functional 'teacher made' games. Thanks to all concerned for making this important morning such a great success.

Polar Bear Challenge

There was a positive response to the annual polar bear challenge that the Std 7 children undertake every year during the Winter term. Twenty Six children braved the early morning chill on a weekly Wednesday morning to swim a length of the small pool. In order to receive their certificate, the children had to complete four of these swims.

Well done to those brave souls who took up and completed the challenge. Mr Greaves promised to swim the last one with the children and Mrs. Greaves made sure that he did just that. Well done one and all. You challenged yourself and overcame a testing task. You can be proud of your achievement and hopefully the next swim will not be as chilly.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open as follows before school starts on Tuesday, 10 September:

09/09	12:00 to 15:00
10/09	12:00 to 15:00
11/09	12:00 to 14:30

The shop will revert to normal times from Week 2 of the term as follows:

Monday	12:00 to 14:00
Wednesday	12:30 to 14:30

Administration Office Times

The School Office will be open on the following days before school reopens on Tuesday, 10 September:

12/08 – 14/08	09:30 to 12:30
04/09 – 06/09	09:00 to 13:00
09/09	08:00 to 15:00

Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, 10 September as follows:

Monday to Thursday	Finance opens at 07:00 and closes at 15:30 Administration opens at 07:00 and closes at 16:00.
Friday	Finance Office closes at 13:00 and Administration Office closes at 13:30.

Past Pupil News

McDonald Ferguson (Std 7 Class of 2015) has made great strides in his football since leaving Thornhill and we are extremely proud of his achievements:

- International School of South Africa - ISSA Best player of the tournament 2018
- IH Manchester Football Academy at Ellesmere College 2018
- Ellesmere College U15 Football Team Captain 2019
- Ellesmere College Football Half Colours 2019
- Notwane Football Club U20 Team July 2019

Congratulations and well done McDonald. We would love to hear news of any of our past children, so please feel free to share with me at head@thornhillprimary.ac.bw

Support for Learning (S4L)

Once again Support For Learning put together an outstanding seminar, that was well attended by teachers, parents and members of the medical fraternity. Professor André Venter, who lectured on 'ADHD: Causes, and Treatment,' did not disappoint his audience, as he is a stimulating and knowledgeable speaker. Dr Venter took what is a complex topic and delivered it effectively in a manner that all the delegates could understand. According to South African statistics and those of countries in the West, ADHD only has a prevalence of 6%. ADHD is no longer an unknown learning disorder, in fact it is spoken of and written about quite commonly and therefore it may seem as though it is more widespread than it actually is. Professor Venter's overview of the causes of ADHD had quite a few surprises. Generally, it is widely accepted that ADHD is a genetic condition, however, there are many other factors that can contribute to ADHD developing after birth.

As educational practitioners, it was important for Thornhill Staff to attend, so that we can increase our effectiveness in the classroom. However, this information is also important for parents who are raising children with ADHD. Therefore, I would encourage parents to keep an eye open for future Support for Learning Conferences, since the themes presented are often about the mental and socio-emotional wellbeing of children.

Pupil Achievements:

The following pupils were selected to represent Southern Schools in various sporting disciplines, which the South managed to win for the 2019 encounters, well done to them all.

Netball:	Kese, Nikoleta and Siyanda
Soccer:	Jaydon, Lerako and Thebe
Cross Country:	Kese, Jacinda, Tefelo, Marang, Naledi, Rayhan, Isla, Imogen, Neo, Lillian, Tema, Kaene & Leruo

I Greaves

Headteacher

An excited group of Reception children went on an adventurous bus ride to the Honeycomb Hub during the second last week of school. Lovely singing and giggling filled the air, as they anticipated what was to come.


When we arrived, much to their surprise, there were no bees, or any honey to taste! We were welcomed by Mrs Burkett and her friendly staff and the children were split into two groups. One group went upstairs where they did science experiments. The milk and food colour experiment was a favourite for some, while others enjoyed the play dough and the 'feely' box. The second group enjoyed playing downstairs in Tiny Town, where imaginations went wild with dressing up, construction, shopping and a vet's room.

Here are a few comments given by our children:

'I liked the shop and the vet.' **Anele**
'I liked wearing the masks and jumping on the squares.' **Aone**
'I liked playing dress up.' **William**
'I liked playing in Tiny Town.' **Aahana**



Bastille Day



Bastille Day celebrations was an occasion for pupils (and parents) to learn about the History of France and the origins of its independence as well as the modern day French culture and fashion, like dressing up in a 'beret'. The Std 7 children did the research and had boards up to present this information.

The children in Std 3 to Std 7 thoroughly enjoyed the 'sweet reminder' of this celebration, as there was a sale of French croissants, hot chocolate and biscuits, which had been made throughout the week. In total they made 450 croissants au chocolat, over 500 'biscuits francais' and loads of 'chocolat chaud'! C'etait fantastique! Merci pour votre participation!

St Peter's Visit

A few weeks ago the children and staff of St Peter's came to visit us at Thornhill. They came to play with our Foundation children and everyone had a great time.

The Std 6 children were also there to look after the smaller children from both schools, and they did an excellent job. A great hit was the new tricycles, scooters and the rickshaws, using the foundation track, although not much notice was taken of the traffic lights!. The children also loved our jungle gyms and slides as well.

The visit came to an end after a delicious tea of sausage rolls and apples. Thanks to everyone who made this visit such a success.



Std 3 visit the BSPCA

On Friday, 28 June, the Standard 3 children went to visit the BSPCA to learn about animal welfare and how to best take care of their pets. They also had the opportunity to collect pet food and give a donation to the BSPCA. This is a valuable life lesson about giving to the needy.

We also learnt about the importance of taking care of any pet and then went for a tour. We saw puppies, dogs, kittens, cats and rabbits. We had a lot of fun playing with the puppies and kittens after the tour.



Inter House Quiz



Thornhill is home to many 'general knowledge whizz-kids.' The Inter House Quiz conducted in the library on Friday 2 August, for Standards 5 to 7 aims at promoting a fun way of staying abreast with world news and current events and knowledge in general, as well as fostering team building.

The library was buzzing with participation from enthusiastic audience members, as well as teams. The following pupils made it through preliminary rounds and represented their houses:

Chobe - Chukwu, Sara and Tendai
Limpopo - Dayyan, Tawanda and Kese
Notwane - Annika, Gokul and Kao
Shashe - Joshua Molly and Sahara

Apart from the usual trivia, world news and school subject categories, the students also answered questions in the visual round by spotting differences in photos of teachers and solving puzzles in order to unlock a padlock to a box containing mystery clues.

The pupils always astound us at how quickly they are able to recognise and answer questions on pop culture. Shashe won convincingly with a superb effort from Sahara. Limpopo came second, Notwane third and Chobe fourth.

Netball

vs Legae

U9A won 11 - 10

U11A lost 2 - 5

vs Northside

U13A mixed both teams

U13B won 7 - 2

U11B won 4 - 2

U11C won 4 - 2

North vs South Netball

Firstly, I would like to congratulate Nikoleta, Kese and Siyanda for making it into the 2019 Southern Schools Netball team.

On Friday 19 July, the girls travelled to Francistown for this event. On arrival, they played their first set of matches, which were followed by their second set on Saturday morning.

Results were as follows:

South B 22 vs North A 26

South A 40 vs North B 20


South A 33 vs North A 12

South B 35 vs North B 30

With such great results, the Southern teams brought the trophy home.



Soccer



On Friday, 26 July, Thornhill U9 soccer team played in a Wimpy Soccer Festival. The Festival started off well as we played our biggest rivals, Northside. We won the match 1 - 0. With our only win against Northside, all our other games were draws. At the end of the 6 games we played, we were placed second out of eleven schools.

All the boys played incredibly well, but Diako was a little star. Well done to the whole team.

Cross Country

Thornhill has had another very successful Cross Country season. We participated in five different meets throughout the term, at various schools in the greater Gaborone area and one relay event held in Jwaneng.

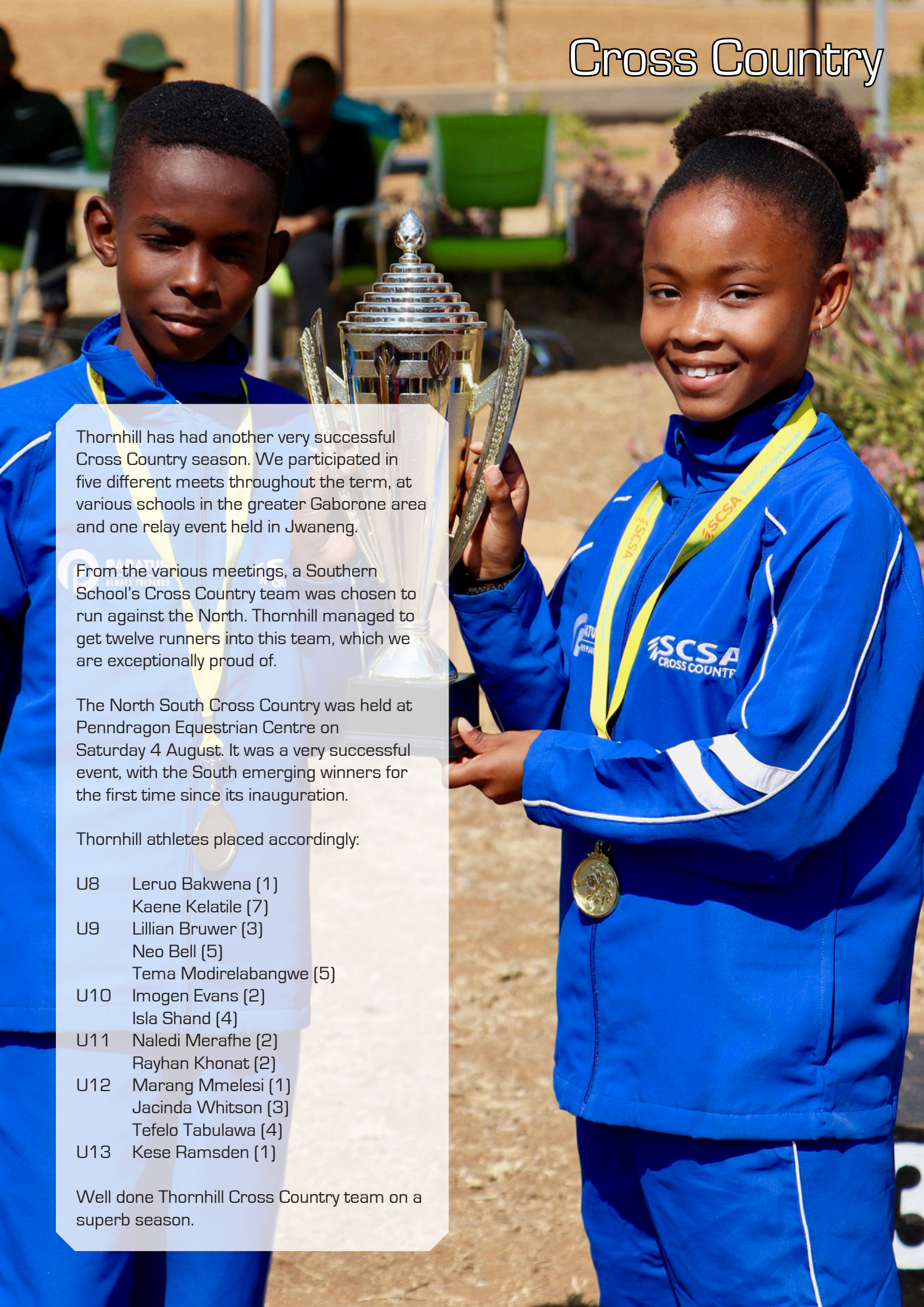
From the various meetings, a Southern School's Cross Country team was chosen to run against the North. Thornhill managed to get twelve runners into this team, which we are exceptionally proud of.

The North South Cross Country was held at Penndragon Equestrian Centre on Saturday 4 August. It was a very successful event, with the South emerging winners for the first time since its inauguration.

Thornhill athletes placed accordingly:

- U8 Leruo Bakwena (1)
Kaene Kelatile (7)
- U9 Lillian Bruwer (3)
Neo Bell (5)
Tema Modirelabangwe (5)
- U10 Imogen Evans (2)
Isla Shand (4)
- U11 Naledi Merafhe (2)
Rayhan Khonat (2)
- U12 Marang Mmesesi (1)
Jacinda Whitson (3)
Tefelo Tabulawa (4)
- U13 Kese Ramsden (1)

Well done Thornhill Cross Country team on a superb season.



Inter Schools Athletics

Inter schools athletics took place over two days. The first day of competition comprised of all the field events namely; high jump, cricket ball throw, shot put and long jump, all hosted at Thornhill. Five new records highlighted the afternoon and four of these came from our very own Thornhill athletes:

U10 Boys Cricket Ball
Advaith Harith - 46.62m

U13 Girls Shot Put
Nikoleta Popovic - 8.15m

U13 Boys Long Jump
Jaydon Delpont - 5.00m

U13 Boys Shot Put
Jaydon Delpont - 11.10m

Our team did extremely well on the field and was 100 points clear with the track events still to go.

The track events were held at the University of Botswana stadium and hosted by Broadhurst. The first part of the meeting saw the older age groups (U11 - U13) compete in the longer distances, 400m and 800m and finished with the shorter distances and finally the relays.

Our runners did extremely well and were placed well throughout, managing to retain the top spot and finish first overall. The final points standing for the 2019 Inter Schools Athletics (A Division Schools) were as follows:

1. Thornhill	879
2. Crescent	692
3. Baobab	616
4. Botlhale	552
5. Raserura	536



August 16 2019
Thornhill ICT Department



@ThornhillPrimarySchoolBW

#ThornhillBW252

/thornhillprimary

