

Issue 74 September 22 2020

# Thornhill enews



# Dear Thornhill Family,

Term 3 has well and truly started and although we have strict protocols around the pandemic, there is a great deal of exciting learning taking place. The children certainly complete the school with their enquiring minds, 'noise' and character and it is a blessing having them all at Thornhill.

## **Botswana Day and School Holiday:**

We will celebrate Botswana Day virtually this year and once again the Setswana Department have an exciting programme for us. However, we will still miss last year's programme, which saw our children take part in traditional games and sample delicious food.

We have decided to add Friday, 02 October, as a school holiday, which will mean that the children will be welcomed back to school on Monday, 05 October. Please note the change of date and ensure you diarise it appropriately.

## **Staff News:**

Congratulations to Mrs Osman (née Rossenkhan) on her marriage during the holidays and we wish her and her family all the best in the future.

I would like to introduce Ms Lily Gabriel to the Thornhill community, as she takes over as our school nurse. Ms Gabriel started at the beginning of Term 3 and I trust she enjoys her time with us at Thornhill.

## **Morning and Afternoon Collection:**

Firstly, may I thank you all for the part you have played in dropping off and collecting your children from school since we introduced the COVID-19 protocols. You have all been prompt in your drop-off and collection and this ensures and enhances the smooth running of the response and procedure policy in place.

However, please ensure you abide by the speed limit, especially when you travel along any of the drop off roads, or near the school gates. The speed limit is 40 KM and must be adhered to for the safety of all concerned.

When parking near the Std 5 entrance gate or the Reception pedestrian gate, please may I request where possible, all parents to reverse park their vehicles, as this gives you a clear and unobstructed view when pulling off. Again, this request is made purely from a perspective of safety.

When dropping off or collecting your children, please wear a mask, out of respect for the Thornhill community and Botswana. You are an example for your child to look up to at all times.

Please adhere to the rules and regulations around the collection points at the end of the school day. Standards have entry and exit gates, which again are there for the safety of everyone concerned.

Finally, the estate and security staff are there to ensure that your child arrives and is collected safely daily. They give of their best and I would urge all parents to treat them with the respect and dignity they deserve. I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank them all for the outstanding job they do.

## Change to Summer Times

We will be changing our starting and finishing times to accommodate the summer season that lies ahead. I have sent out a newsletter highlighting the change in times and I would urge all parents to ensure they familiarise themselves with these changes.

## Pupil Achievement:

Before the last lockdown, Leah and Lillian Bruwer took part in the COVID-19 Mountain Bike Sprint series, which consisted of three separate mountain bike events, each between 20 and 30 km in distance.

Leah achieved second place in the ladies category, which included adults, and Lillian achieved third place in the same category. Well done to both Leah and Lillian – we are very proud of your achievements.

Please feel free to share any achievements of your child/children with us, as well as any past pupils who attended Thornhill. We do enjoy sharing their achievements with the greater Thornhill community.

## House Points

Congratulations to Shashe and Limpopo, as they shared the spoils for the Term 2 House Points trophy. They were followed closely by Notwane in third and Chobe in fourth place.

## Cookery Challenge

This edition has a cookery challenge for our Reception and Std 1 children to participate in. Due to the strict COVID-19 protocols, we have not had any afternoon activities, so we have this exciting challenge for those children in the selected standards, who 'want to be chefs' to take part in.

Mrs Osman has provided two recipes that you can choose from and with the help of your parents, you can produce some delicious mini sausage croissants or banana sushi. If you take part in the challenge, then please take a photograph of yourself and your finished product and send it via email to [twitter@thornhillprimary.ac.bw](mailto:twitter@thornhillprimary.ac.bw)

We will publish some photographs of those children who take part in the challenge in our next eNewsletter. Look out for more information, as we will challenge the other year groups in later eNewsletter editions.

I hope you enjoy reading our eNewsletter and we look forward to many new and wonderful learning experiences during Term 3. Please remember all the COVID-19 protocols both in and out of school, so we keep the Thornhill community and Botswana safe.

I leave you with these words from Nelson Mandela: 'It always seems impossible until it is done.'

**I Greaves**

Headteacher

# Cheetah Foundation News



The Cheetah Foundation ran a challenge early in the year for 'Conservation Botswana Art' to illustrate scenes from the adventurous story, 'Xabe: The Cheetah Hero.'

I am very pleased to announce that the following were selected as winners:  
Udochukwu Emeh (7W) – Scene 4  
Molly Sautereau (7J) – Scene 6  
Neo Bell (4T) – Scene 10  
Kristyn Xavier (7W) – Scene 11

Well done and congratulations to our worthy winners – we are all exceptionally proud of you. All the above mentioned pupils will receive a copy of the book once it is published, as well as a certificate to honour their achievement.



Six months have passed since the world changed in a way we would never have deemed possible. Some of us have not been able to see family or friends around the world and our lives have become very small in that we have not been able to cross borders for a long while.

One thing that has been constant though, is we have been able to stay in school (mostly) and this has been amazing for the children. The children have adapted so well and social distancing and mask wearing in our P.E. lessons have been very easy.


Unfortunately, we are still not able to swim, which is going to be our summer challenge, as the temperatures rise and the heat on the tennis courts becomes almost unbearable. We have started a walking programme with the children to try and work on their fitness levels and even the staff are getting fully involved and doing sometimes more than 12 000 steps a day.

Every class is learning the 'Jerusalema' line dance and much fun is being had by all. We are going to do a mass display before the end of September involving all our children.

Along with the walking and dancing, we are also doing a skill lesson and a game session once a week. Obviously, we have missed the interschool sport, but we hope to see it back on our fields and courts in the not too distant future.

We hope the children keep exercising and stay healthy during this time.

# Spring Week



Our new 'normal' Spring week set off on 1 September 2020, with the Std 2 children and the entire Thornhill staff dressed up in bright, colourful clothes and floral head-gear. Mr Newbery was unrecognizable as 'Miss Posy' in a long floral dress and Mrs Greaves was laden with floral 'leis and tulle'.

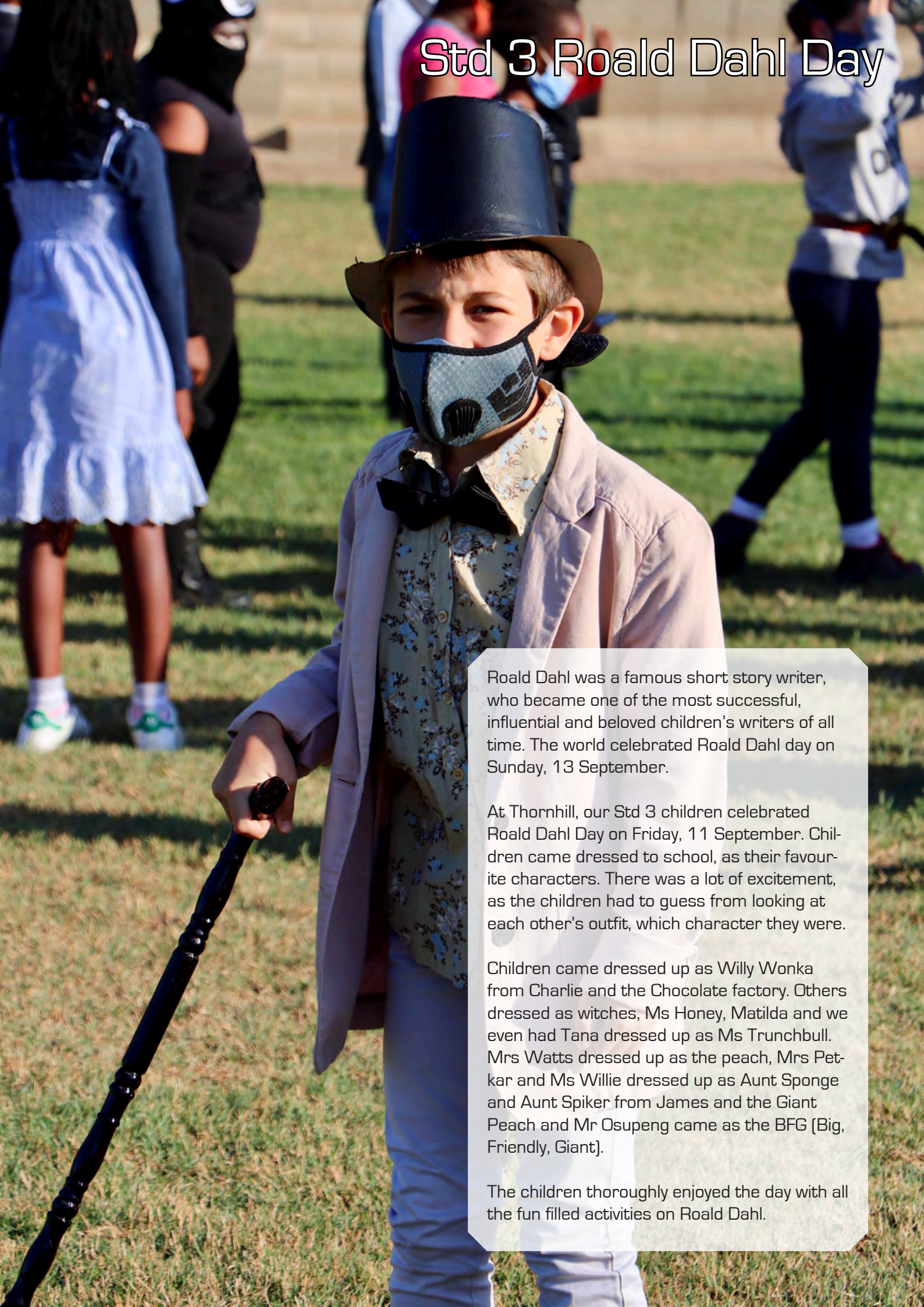
The Std 2 children thoroughly enjoyed their assembly on the Tuesday morning, transforming the hall into a colourful spectacle. They sang and danced happily.

On Wednesday, the Reception children and their staff looked stunning in their best Spring clothes. They sang and thoroughly enjoyed their Spring assembly.

On Thursday, the Std 1 children did themselves proud, dressed beautifully and sang with great gusto at their assembly.

The Junior school joined in the celebrations and concluded the fun and colourful week by dressing up on Friday and everyone loved the opportunity. Despite the COVID 19 restrictions, the whole of Thornhill had a fun week.

# Std 3 Roald Dahl Day



Roald Dahl was a famous short story writer, who became one of the most successful, influential and beloved children's writers of all time. The world celebrated Roald Dahl day on Sunday, 13 September.

At Thornhill, our Std 3 children celebrated Roald Dahl Day on Friday, 11 September. Children came dressed to school, as their favourite characters. There was a lot of excitement, as the children had to guess from looking at each other's outfit, which character they were.

Children came dressed up as Willy Wonka from Charlie and the Chocolate factory. Others dressed as witches, Ms Honey, Matilda and we even had Tana dressed up as Ms Trunchbull. Mrs Watts dressed up as the peach, Mrs Petkar and Ms Willie dressed up as Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker from James and the Giant Peach and Mr Osupeng came as the BFG (Big, Friendly, Giant).

The children thoroughly enjoyed the day with all the fun filled activities on Roald Dahl.

# Trinity Music Exams

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Trinity College London introduced a digital option for the first time this year. It was a very exciting innovation and I am very pleased with the outcome.

Each candidate's parent had to verify the conversion to the 'digital platform' and record their children's exam recital from home. They then submitted the recording to Trinity College for grading.

The standard expected for these exams is extremely high and the grading is as follows:

- Pass - 60% to 74 %
- Merit - 75 and 86%
- Distinction is 87% and above

Well done to everyone involved in these exams – the Music Department is exceptionally proud of you for your perseverance, commitment and resilience.

The results were as follows:

Anaya Mere	Initial Guitar	Merit
Batsile Lecage	Initial Guitar	Pass
Alex Jun Xiu	Grade 1 Violin	Distinction
George Lee	Grade 1 Saxophone	Pending
Samantha Chivazve	Grade 2 Piano	Distinction
Sally-Louise Ingwe	Grade 3 Saxophone	Merit
Molly Sautereau	Grade 4 Saxophone	Pending

Finally, 'Thank You' to all the parents involved for supporting your child by being willing and able to be involved.



# Std 1 News

The teachers are very grateful to the parents of our Std 1 children. We can see just how hard they have all worked to help their children during this COVID 19 pandemic. The children, more than the adults, have all adjusted very well to the wearing of masks and to the drastic protocols that we have had to enforce - no toys, no games.

Thankfully, we have RIVET and other online reading websites to look to for our reading programme to continue unhindered. For the most part the children's reading never suffered any setbacks and some children's reading improved in leaps and bounds, as they benefitted from the one on one tuition and the attention they received from their parents.

We have written many stories since our return to school and the children are getting better and better at writing coherent sentences and methodical stories. Mrs Phillips, from Learning Support, spends an hour a week assisting us with the stories and most of the children have excelled.



# Cookery Challenge Rec & Std 1



## Banana Sushi

After school snacks are essential! This quick and easy, protein-rich banana sushi is a favourite healthy snack that you will love. Give it go!

### Ingredients

- 1 Banana
- 2 tbsp Peanut butter
- 1 smear of Nutella
- 1 Flour tortilla
- Strawberries & Blueberries for decoration

### Method

1. Warm your tortilla for 10 seconds in the microwave.
2. Smear with a thin layer of peanut butter.
3. Then smear with a layer of Nutella.
4. Peel the banana. Place it in the middle of the tortilla.
5. Ask an adult to help you here. Tightly wrap the tortilla around the banana.
6. Place the wrap on a chopping board and slice the wrap in 4 cms pieces and place on a serving dish.

Enjoy with strawberries and blueberries!



## Mini Sausage Croissants

More yummy snacks to make and a little baking too. Give it go!

### Ingredients

- 375g pack ready-rolled puff pastry
- A little flour
- 20 cocktail sausages
- Cheese Slices
- 1 Egg

### Method

1. Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Unroll the pastry on a lightly floured surface and cut in half horizontally. Slice each half into 5 equal strips. Cut each rectangle in half diagonally to make 2 long triangles.
2. Put a sausage on the fattest end of the pastry triangle and roll up. Repeat with the remaining sausages, then pop them all onto a greased baking tray.
3. Brush the rolls with the beaten egg and cook for 25 mins until puffed up and golden.

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Thornhill ICT Department



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