

Issue 75 November 06 2020

Thornhill enews



Dear Thornhill Family,

The year keeps marching on and as we see October coming to an end, we see that there are approximately five weeks of school left. It has been a bizarre year looking back and I feel exceptionally sad for all our children who could have excelled outside of the classroom this year. Unfortunately, our Std 7 pupils did not get to make all the memories they might have taken on to secondary school of their final year in primary school.

However, our children have taken up the challenge with tenacity, vigour and built an immense resilience in the process and I am so proud of the way they have developed academically.

We have planned for the beginning of 2021, but we will have to look at how COVID-19 pans out during the final part of the year. We continue to hope and pray for a vaccine, so that we can start up our after-noon programmes and host our various events and functions. We will hold on firmly to these positive thoughts and interventions.

Casual Friday

We will introduce a 'Casual Friday,' where the children may wear civvies every Friday according to a different theme each week in November. This is to give the children something to look forward to at the end of each week.

Please remember if you have PE on a Friday, then your child needs to dress practically, so they can still take part in their lesson.

Cambridge Examinations 2020 are over

This time last year who would have thought we would have been experiencing times like this as an unseen enemy spread across the world radically changing the way we live, learn and teach.

Yet, amongst all of this, our Std 6 classes showed remarkable resilience, tenacity and an unbelievable commitment to writing their Cambridge Examinations. Lockdowns and social distancing became the order of the day and the new normal. However, the children were determined not to be defeated in their quest for academic success.

Rarely, if ever did a smile leave their faces. As they walked out of the examination hall after their final exam, you could feel the sense of relief wash over them. Every child gave one hundred percent and we can ask for no more.

These amazing children are a credit to the school, their families and above all, themselves. No matter what the final outcome is, they can feel justly very proud of themselves.

My sincere thanks and appreciation must go out to the Std 6 staff involved in preparing the children through these very trying times. Throughout, they were committed and dedicated to each and every child. On behalf of all the children, parents and Thornhill staff, well done and congratulations on a job well done.

Some comments from the children after exams finished as follows:

'I thought the exams went off excellently.' Wazha

'The nervousness from my soul was blown away by the wind.' Shamit

'After exams I felt like I was taken out of a blazing hot stove.' Matthew

'The exams were not easy but I am happy, that I've made it through this extraordinary adventure.' Rehana

'All this stress, all the anxiety, all the studying, gone just like that, I'm glad exams are over.' Kagello

'I felt happy, free and relieved!' Tafara

Rhino Civvies Day

On Tuesday, 25 September, we all celebrated World Rhino Day by coming to school dressed in the colours of red and black. It's always good to have the whole school dressing up according to some theme, and not only is this fun for all, but it highlights the cause we are promoting.

Thornhill has a proud history of supporting the conservation of Botswana's wildlife and the Black and White Rhinos are both iconic to Botswana and its heritage. It's important to conserve and protect these beautiful animals as they play an important part in our country's ecosystem and the way in which they clear grass and bush, means that many other herd animals have easier access to their own sources of food.

Going on a safari in Botswana would just not be the same, if we weren't on the constant lookout for these magnificent animals. It is such a thrill to spot a rhino. Tourism is essential in Botswana and so many peoples' jobs depend on it. In these challenging times of the pandemic, it is important that we all do our best to support local conservation and ensuring the rhino's continuance in Botswana, also protects peoples' livelihoods.

Pupil Achievement

Congratulations and well done to our two cycling superstars, Leah and Lilian Bruwer.

The girls took part in the 20 Km category of the Cycle4Life club race that took place on Saturday, 24 September. Both girls excelled and Leah was placed third overall and was followed closely by Lillian in fourth in the ladies category. We are proud of their excellent performances and we wish them good luck for future events.



Cookery Challenge

Well done and thank you to all the children that took part in the Rec and Std 1 cooking challenge, there were some wonderful and very tasty looking dishes! Be sure to check the second last page of this edition for some of our young chefs in action.

Look out for the Std 2 & 3 challenge further on in this edition of the eNews.

As we move into the final sprint finish to the end of the year, I hope you will continue to ensure we follow all the Covid-19 protocols vigilantly, so we can keep our community and Botswana safe.

I leave you with these words for our Std 7 children, as they prepare for their final five odd weeks of primary school:

"Behind you, all your memories.
Before you, all your dreams.
Around you, all who love you.
Within you, all you need."

I Greaves

Headteacher

Jerusalema Challenge

After a few weeks of preparation, we went from wanting all standards to take part, to 'freaking out' at the thought of the Foundation children performing at all. However, the actual performances on the day were fantastic!

We had many practices with the classes, then with each standard and then sometimes, two standards together. Very often, it would be a Foundation class and a Junior class together, which was a great help and experience for them all. On the day, all the children performed so well, with the overall finished product looking excellent.

Our 'challenge' footage looked superb and it was a really good advertisement for Thornhill School. Thank you to Mr McLaggan, Mr Warwick and our ever willing IT Department for their expertise, patience and input for the filming of the final performance.

I would like to add my thanks to the PE Department for the many hours put into ensuring the children were ready and able. As always, your commitment towards the children is sincerely appreciated.


Std 4M Acrostic Poems

Std 4M have been working on acrostic poetry and here are some of them, all about Botswana.

Beautiful people, beautiful places
Our country has transformed from Bechuanaland to Botswana
Together we are stronger
Seswa is our goulash
Wise chiefs and leaders
Amazing and blessed nation
Nnaa ke rata Botswana!
Always room for visitors

Best and peaceful country
Our home forever
Traditional clothes worn on special occasions
Sir Seretse Khama was the first President
We don't have a lot of rain, but we have a lot of cattle
A lot of wild animals
Notwane is one of Botswana's big rivers
Awesome place to live!

Std 7J Library News



Children in Std 7J were given a creative piece to write, where the children had to design the most amazing and weird job and this is what some children came up with. Please note, this work is not edited.

Hello there, my name is Tariq Devon Johnson Southhampton the Third. And yes, that is my full name. I am a legal bank robber - to test security. I chose this Career path as I thought I was the right man for this job. I excel in many types of martial arts, which makes me so unique. What I do on a daily basis is as follows; I wake up at 3am and do a little workout to keep me in shape. From 4:00 - 4:30am, I have a heavy breakfast to jumpstart my day. I then fly around the world to any country and the bank of my choice to later rob it (legally). One thing I love about my job, is that I can never go to jail. I make trillions on a daily basis, how delightful is that? I opt to live alone, as I don't enjoy the presence of other people. I don't have a wife or kids, because it seems like a lot to handle. I don't plan on retiring from this job any time soon, as I'm quite happy doing this till I die. Oh, and you can just call me Tariq. **Lerako**

My name is Kirsten and I have an amazing and weird job, I am a Marine Biologist. I am constantly in the ocean helping fish and other ocean organisms, if they are stuck in plastic or have been cut by a piece of coral. I even help corals stop bleaching, by that I mean building coral frames to regenerate coral reefs. Now a bit about me. I live in the Maldives in the Indian ocean. I was born on 31st July 2007 and that means I am the youngest Marine Biologist. I am 13 years old and have my dream job. What more could you ask for? It all started when my family and I went to the Maldives for a holiday and at the resort we stayed at, they had a marine biology lab with a real marine biologist working there and I got to help build a coral frame. I posted a video on YouTube about how to identify marine animals and another video on how to build a coral frame. Together with this, I already have four different scuba diving licences from different parts of the world. I honestly couldn't be happier with my place in the world right now. **Kirsten**

Std 7J Library News Continued

My name is Justin Smith, my job is to test water slides. It is one of the best jobs ever, and I am only 21 years old. I am really lucky to have such a wonderful job. When I went to university, I studied to be a mechanic, but it did not go as planned. When I finished university I went to Namibia, where my parents live, and I started looking for work. I saw that the waterpark needed someone, so I went there and met the manager. We had a discussion and he said that he would let me know if I got the job. The next morning my phone was by my side everywhere I went, and when I got home, I saw that there was a message, so I opened it and it read: "Good morning Justin, I just wanted you to know that you got the job." That is how I got this great job. I am very happy with my job. Let me tell you more about what I do at my job. I must go down each slide and feel if the slide is smooth, no sharp edges or something sticking out. Then I must take a tube and go down the slide and make sure that there is no danger of going over the edge of the slide. When that is done, I go and tell the manager which then lets the receptionist know, and then we open the waterpark, and the people can start coming in for a lovely day. **Dreyer**

A Day In the Life of a Full-time Netflix Viewer-Valerie Menosa. Being a full-time Netflix viewer is an unusual job, but it's something that I enjoy. One of the best parts about it, is that I'm able to lie down on my couch and do absolutely nothing, but watch television. My day starts off with some muesli and plain yoghurt, and a cup of coffee. I then take a nice, calming hot shower and get dressed into my comfortable, cozy hoodie and sweatpants. Next, I make myself a massive bowl of popcorn and add in some 'salt and vinegar' for flavour. To accompany my delicious bowl of popcorn, I have a chocolate bar, some nerds and a tall glass of pink lemonade. Finally, I sit down, pick up the remote and click the Netflix icon. Once I'm on the Netflix home page, I keep searching until I find different movies and series that catch my eye. When I've found a few, I add them to "My List" on Netflix. Since I'm a full-time viewer, I watch Netflix for a full five hours and then take my well needed two-hour nap. Once I wake up, I'm back at it again. Now, I know what you're thinking. How do I not run out of things to watch? Well, because of my job, Netflix has acknowledged me and I've been given the privilege of having....., Premium Netflix! That's right, I receive the brand new Netflix releases before anyone else for free! How lucky am I. On top of that, I get paid one thousand dollars for each review and rating I make on Netflix! In addition to all of this, the recognition I get from the world helps to add to my monthly income. Whoever told you that watching television does nothing for you was lying! Just take a look at me! **Sesame**



Std 5A The Day the Rains Came

The Standard 5 children have been working incredibly hard towards their exams this week. However, in a spare few minutes we like to do a 5 minute write to encourage imagination, getting their ideas on paper and to have some fun with words!

This time the children had this image and the sentence starter: It had been an ordinary day for Jack, until the rain came. Below are some of their pieces written in just 5 minutes. Please note, this work is unedited.

It had been an ordinary day for Jack, until the rain came. The rain came and it filled the dam. It filled it so much that it flooded the town. Jack was out in the rain in the flood. An umbrella came into his reach and he grabbed it with all of his might and climbed in. The boy didn't know where he was going or what he was going to do, but he went with the flow. Another umbrella came in sight. He grabbed it and held it over his head with a huge smile on his face. **Onalenna**

It had been an ordinary day for Jack, until the rain came. It gushed and brushed the umbrella he was sitting on and it swooped him off his feet. Twisting and turning, rumbling and tumbling was what he felt in his stomach. And slowly but surely, the grin on his face started to go into isolation in another world. Suddenly, he remembered the hot and cold stinging death of his Father. Was this really rain that he saw? Or the aftermath of a large volcanic shockwave. **Samuel**

It had been an ordinary day for Jack, until the rain came. Jack had just been clearing up his toys with his parents, who were the owners of an umbrella factory so of course, there were multiple umbrellas at the house. But one day, after tidying his toys as usual he heard the deafening sound of thunder. He just kept playing but he soon realized he was sitting in a puddle of water. **Atang T**

It had been an ordinary day for Jack, until the rain came. At first it was light, light rain but then it became heavier, harder, beating Jack's bare skin. He started to run, the sooner he got home the better he would feel, but he slipped onto a slippery puddle. As soon as his knee hit the ground, he felt dizzy, his head was spinning like a tornado and his hand started to shake. Before he knew it, his mother shoved him onto an umbrella and pushed him away. He was floating on an umbrella in a flood. How on earth had he got here? **Ayaana**

Cookery Challenge Std 2 & 3



Mini Pizza

Who doesn't love pizza!

Ingredients

6 crumpets or mini pittas
4 tbsp ketchup
½ tsp dried oregano
Toppings of your choice (peppers, cherry tomatoes, red onion, sweetcorn, olives, ham, basil, mushrooms, pineapple, avocado, shredded cooked chicken... all work well)
75g cheddar cheese, grated

Method

1. Heat the grill to high. Lightly toast the crumpets/ pittas in a toaster or under the grill. Meanwhile, mix the ketchup and oregano together in a bowl. Season. Chop your chosen toppings into small pieces – young children can tear basil, or chop soft veg in a cup using safety scissors.
2. Line a baking tray with foil. Spread the sauce over the crumpets or pittas, then add the toppings and top with cheese. Arrange on the tray and grill for 3-4 mins, until the cheese is golden and bubbling. Leave to cool slightly before eating.



Blueberry Pancakes

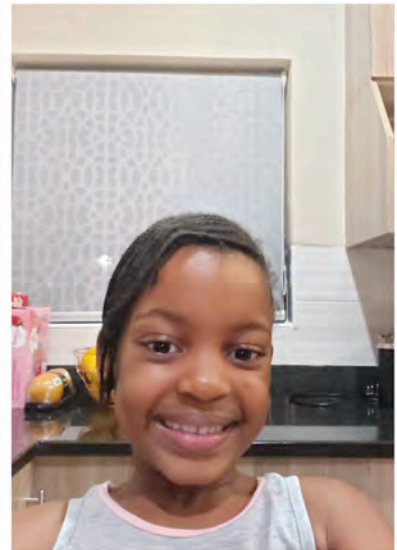
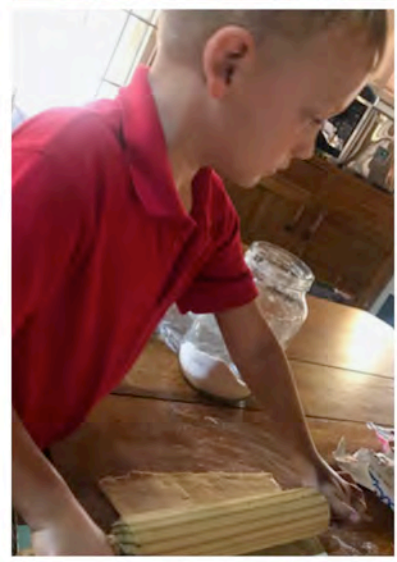
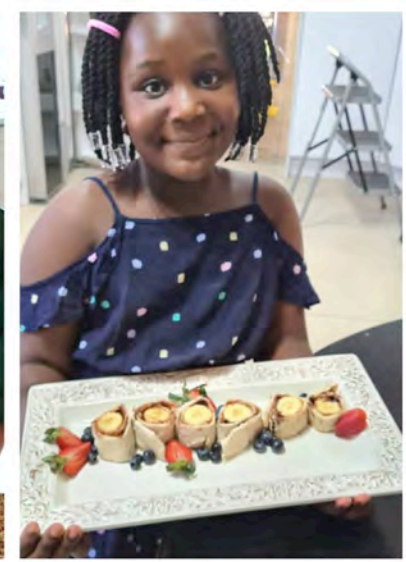
Ingredients

200g self-raising flour
1 tsp baking powder
150g blueberries
Sunflower oil or a little butter for cooking
Golden or maple syrup

1 egg
300ml milk
Knob of butter

Method

1. Mix together 200g self-raising flour, 1 tsp baking powder and a pinch of salt in a large bowl.
2. Beat 1 egg with 300ml milk, make a well in the centre of the dry ingredients and whisk in the milk to make a thick smooth batter.
3. Beat in a knob of melted butter, and gently stir in half of the 150g pack of blueberries.
4. Heat a teaspoon of sunflower oil or small knob of butter in a non-stick frying pan.
5. Drop a large tablespoonful of the batter per pancake into the pan to make pancakes.
6. Cook for about 3 minutes over a medium heat until small bubbles appear on the surface of each pancake, then turn and cook another 2-3 minutes until golden.
8. Serve with golden or maple syrup and the rest of the blueberries.



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Thornhill ICT Department



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