

Issue 84 November 25 2021

# Thornhill enews



# Dear Thornhill Family

We are less than two weeks away from the end of another year and we continue to show resilience and adaptability throughout, despite the challenges we find ourselves facing. With the end of term in sight, we always tend to speed up at this time of the year and there are plenty of events and happenings throughout the school and I would urge you all to look out for the images posted via Flickr or the virtual video links that have been sent out via Google Classroom, to highlight these.

## Alumni News

Congratulations to Brandon Rouse on his appointment of Head Paget House at Peterhouse Boys College for 2022. An excellent achievement and we are extremely proud of him and wish him well for his final year.

I would also like to congratulate Chad and Cameron Soutter, who have been selected as prefects for the 2022 academic year at Chengelo School in Zambia. Please share any information or news with me on our Thornhill alumni achievements. We would love to congratulate them in our eNewsletters.

## House Points

An update on House Points to date sees Chobe in first place, followed closely by Shashe in second and Limpopo and Notwane in third and fourth respectively. Keep working hard and giving of your best everyone.

## Pupil Achievements

Tiisetso (30) is a very keen and dedicated squash player and has recently played in two regional tournaments in South Africa in the U11 age category and performed as follows: Northern Junior in Pretoria where Tiisetso was placed 3rd overall and the Johannesburg Junior Open in which Tiisetso won the tournament. Congratulations and well done to Tiisetso on her wonderful achievement and keep practising and working hard at your game.

Congratulations to Dintle Sebedi who has been appointed as a school prefect. We are exceptionally proud of her commitment during this 2021 academic year.

Congratulations to Nathan Pieterse who has been selected to represent the U11 Namspire Cricket team (based in Namibia), which will be playing in a festival in Cape Town from 12 – 18 December. We are certainly very proud of his achievement and wish him well.

There is also a whole page further on in this edition of the eNews highlighting the achievements of all our children who took part in the recent CANA Virtual Swimming Championships, from which they will receive a zonal ranking within Africa, well done to all.

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 week 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

The Three Musketeers and the Very Pretty Diamonds: During our third term English we encountered the drama unit alliteratively titled Dating the Drama, as they all are. Rather than work through the basic play extracts, Chekhov's Uncle Vanya decided that we would use some other sources. So I downloaded a few plays from the Drama Notebook website and we formed groups and acted out scenes from them. 7W really enjoyed this, which set me thinking that perhaps we could perform one of these plays for the school.

Being fully aware of the sheer complexities of making a play work, having made props and scenery since my first term at Thornhill and wanting to get it done relatively quickly, we adapted one of the plays for an audio format. There are several advantages here: we can read the script, do multiple takes (we really needed that) and all that messy prop making and scenery was left to the listener's imagination.

So we made a 1930's style adventure serial, 5 episodes, stirring music, sizzling dialogue and more sword play than you could shake a stick at. It was great fun, the French pronunciation of certain words causing much hilarity, "D'Artagnan" and "en garde" being particularly troublesome. We uncovered many new accents as we practiced the play and incorporated these as we went along, often their first appearance caused much laughter and the take or practice had to be suspended.

Each episode was recorded in the Library, by Mr Gibson, dodging people wandering in and out and the ever present danger of the school bell ruining a near perfect take. We hope you enjoyed listening to it as much as we enjoyed making it. 7W however, found the finished product a little difficult to listen to, with the phrase: "Is this what I sound like?" being the most common, followed by a dive for their desk lid.



# Thornhill Art Exhibition 2021

"To develop a complete mind: Study the art of science; Learn how to see."

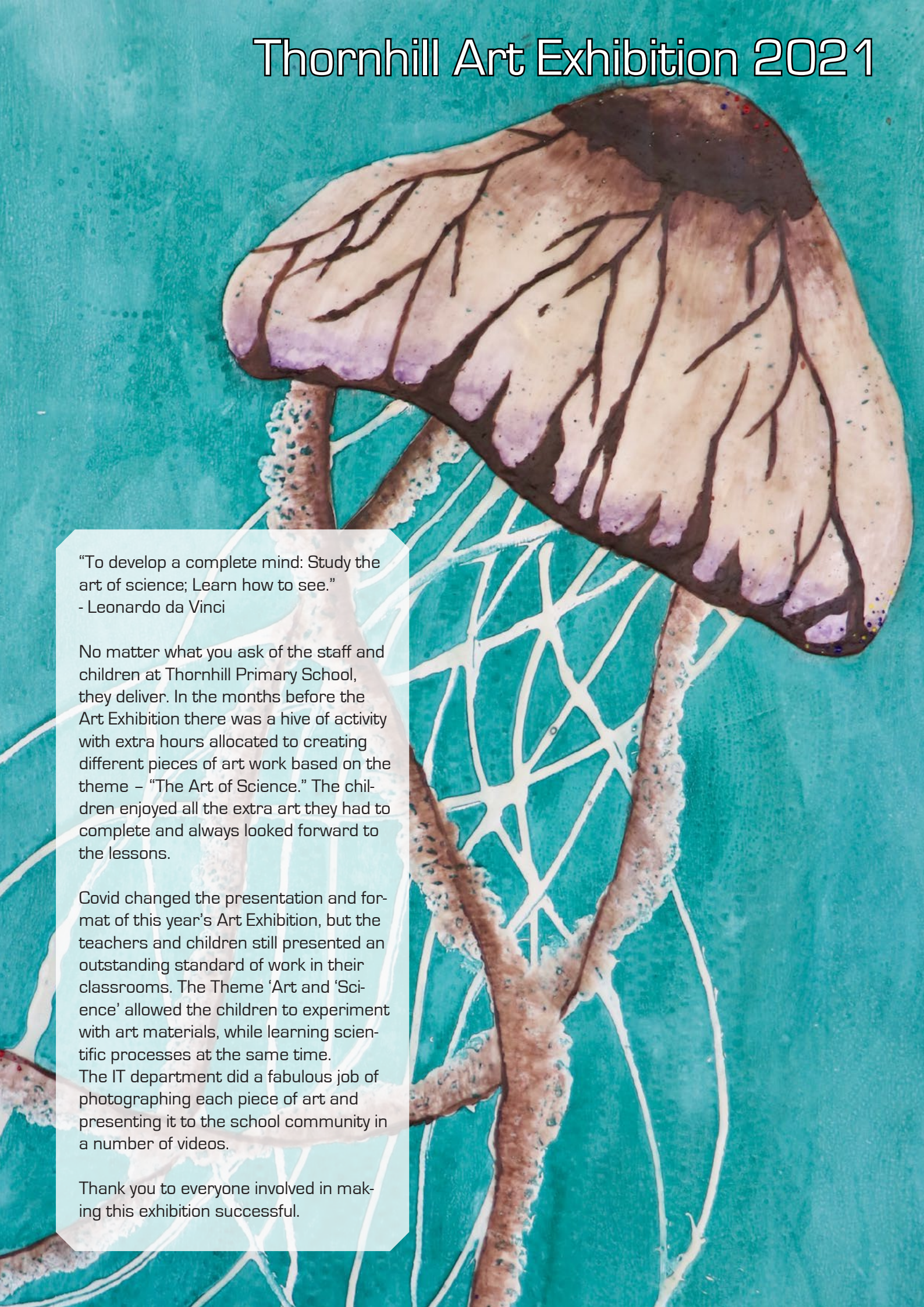
- Leonardo da Vinci

No matter what you ask of the staff and children at Thornhill Primary School, they deliver. In the months before the Art Exhibition there was a hive of activity with extra hours allocated to creating different pieces of art work based on the theme – "The Art of Science." The children enjoyed all the extra art they had to complete and always looked forward to the lessons.

Covid changed the presentation and format of this year's Art Exhibition, but the teachers and children still presented an outstanding standard of work in their classrooms. The Theme 'Art and 'Science' allowed the children to experiment with art materials, while learning scientific processes at the same time.

The IT department did a fabulous job of photographing each piece of art and presenting it to the school community in a number of videos.

Thank you to everyone involved in making this exhibition successful.



# Reception Seaside Day

Thornhill Reception Classes celebrated another fun-filled Seaside Day this year.

The children started the day with a Seaside Assembly, singing all their Seaside songs that they had learnt – and these were all recorded and sent out to the Reception parents to enjoy as well.

We then separated the classes into four rotation stations, where the children enjoyed different activities, all related to fun at the seaside. The children spent time at each of the stations, and they had a fantastic time learning new experiences, and participating in each station's activities.

The first station was manned by Mrs Chetty, in the Science Room, and the children got a chance to see and feel what they would find at the seaside – like real fish, prawns, and crabs. They also saw starfish, octopus, shark's teeth, sea urchins, beach sand and shells.

The second station was with Mrs Peel, and her wonderful drama lessons, where she took the children on an imaginary bus ride to the seaside, followed by enjoying frozen lollies on the beach.

The third station had Mrs Ross and Mrs Schubert doing water play, and showing the children how water makes wheels turn, and then playing in the beach sand, and lastly a fun game related to the "Baby Shark Song" that they had all learnt in music lessons. The fourth, and last, station was hosted by the PE Department, and here the children all tried out their ball skills, throwing balls into water and at sand targets and then they finished off with time on the beach itself - a clever conversion of the long jump pits - making sandcastles with buckets.

A happy, fun day that was enjoyed by all the children – despite the unusual slightly chilly weather, and the necessity of conforming to Covid restrictions – but such a lovely way to escape reality for these little ones.



# Trinity Music Exams

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Trinity College London introduced a digital platform for candidates to enter their music exams. It was an exciting innovation and I am very pleased with the outcome so far. The candidate's parents, with the help of the music teachers, had to record their children's exam recital from home or school, thereafter, submit the recording to Trinity College for grading.

Well done to everyone involved in these exams – the Music Department is very proud of you.

Parents can view the exam concert at the following link:  
<https://vimeo.com/645087499/dac757e14c>

The results were as follows:

Liseli J. Kamwi	Initial Piano	Distinction
Ayush Harith	Grade 1 Guitar	Merit
Alex Jun Xiu	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Bianké van Staden	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Nina Luhanga	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Leona Sunny	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Lianne Ardern	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Liseli J. Kamwi	Grade 1 Recorder	Pass
Leah Kokabi	Grade 1 Flute	Merit
Catarina Braun	Grade 2 Piano	Merit
Mira Iyer	Grade 2 Piano	Distinction
Shengen Tang	Grade 2 Piano	Distinction
Shaan Haddad	Grade 3 Guitar	Merit
Alex Jun Xiu	Grade 3 Violin	Merit
Luca Braun	Grade 3 Drum	Pass
Shubham Patil	Grade 4 Guitar	Pass

# French DELF News



This year, a total of 36 pupils sat for the Delf Prime Exams this year, for A1.1, A1 and Delf A2 Prime Level, with a record of 5 candidates in the A2 level. Further to this, we had one of our students - Zoya Modarrisi - wrote the Delf B1 Junior level, which is usually for secondary school students. Bravo, Zoya. They were all confident of their performance, especially since the external examiners examined them at Thornhill School, where they were comfortable and familiar with their surroundings. Well done to them all. Their feelings about this exam?

Some of the reasons I decided to do Delf was because I wanted to advance my French and challenge myself. Delf has really been an amazing experience for me. Preparing for the Delf exams was challenging at first, but with the French teachers helping us, we all managed to pull through. Our French teachers wished us good luck with some delicious croissants and we were all so grateful. Doing the exams made me feel like I have worked hard and now this is the moment of truth. I went in the French room to write my exams and I felt proud. I am looking forward to doing my next Delf exams next year.  
Chloe 6N

I really recommend other students to write DELF, because you gain a sort of pride in the fact you've really learnt a different language, and you have the chance of writing an international exam with many other students across the globe. I also recommend it just because of the plain fact you can progress in DELF from A1.1 to A1 and so on, which just brings excitement from the fact that you have the opportunity to progress in your French and have multiple certificates from nothing, but hard work.  
Matthew 7S

At first I was nervous as to what was going to come, but after I had done the lessons, my nerves had reduced and I was enjoying learning all the new French expressions. The day of the exam went well, but I was feeling sick, so I wasn't the very best, but I'm confident I did well in it. I would say you should try Delf so you can pick up a new language plus at the end of the lessons you could even get treats!  
Etsi 7S

With CIE fever over, Std 6 can 'chill-out' a little and settle into some form of normalcy again. However, as the saying goes, it cannot be 'All Work And No Play!'

Outside the realm of academics, the Std 6 children have been preparing a dance routine for the online assembly. In Art, the children are busy with self-portraits and miniature museums.

It is also hoped that Mr Sean Taylor will pay the year group a visit along with a collection of snakes, where he will educate the children about the value of these reptiles and the various precautions one needs to take.

As you are aware, St Peters is the Std 6 adopted charity and with the festive season upon us, they are collecting toys and other goodies to bring some comfort to those not as fortunate as ourselves.





# CANA Virtual Swimming Gala

Congratulations to all our swimmers who competed in the recent CANA Virtual Gala hosted at the University of Botswana. The swimmers results were as follows:

Carmen (3P) placed 4th in the 50m Backstroke, 3rd place in the 50m Butterfly, 2nd place in the 50m Freestyle and 1st place in the 50m and 100m Breaststroke.

Leah (7B) was placed 1st in her age group for the 50m Breaststroke and was placed 3rd in the 50m Backstroke and Freestyle 4x50m relay respectively.

Stephanie (5A) placed 1st in the 50m Butterfly and Relay. Placed 2nd in the 100m Backstroke and 50m Freestyle and 3rd in the 50m and 100m Breaststroke.

Emelyn (6N) placed 2nd in the 100m Backstroke and 3rd in the 50m Freestyle.

Nikita (6B) placed 1st in the 50m and 100m Breaststroke and 2nd in the 50m Freestyle and 4x50m Freestyle relay.

Tema placed 1st in 4x100m Freestyle Relay, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Freestyle and 1st in the 4x100m Medley Relay.

Joash (3W) placed 1st in the 50m Butterfly and 50m Breaststroke, 2nd in the 50m Backstroke and 3rd in the 50m Freestyle.

Heinrick (3W) placed 2nd in 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, 50m Freestyle and 3rd in 50m Backstroke.

Liam (6N) placed 1st in the 400m Freestyle, 4x100m Freestyle Relay, 200m Freestyle, 2nd in the 50m Butterfly, 200m Individual Medley, 50 Backstroke and 3rd in the 100m Butterfly, 400m Medley Relay, 200m Freestyle.

Annika (7B) placed 3rd in the 100m Backstroke and 200m Breaststroke.

Tatenda (7S) placed 2nd in the 200m Freestyle, 4x100m Freestyle Relay, 100m Freestyle, 4x50m Freestyle Relay and 3rd in the 50m Freestyle, 400m Freestyle and 50m Backstroke.



November 25 2021  
Thornhill ICT Department



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