

Issue 85 December 02 2021

Thornhill enews



Dear Thornhill Family

While we are all undoubtedly looking forward to the holidays and to all the excitement that is attached to the Festive Season, there is the sadness that we shall soon have to bid farewell to a number of our children, who have become important and valued members of the Thornhill family.

As most now look forward to moving on to secondary school, there will be many who will later look back on these Thornhill years, as being the happiest in their lives. I would like to thank all our leavers for the many and varied contributions they have made while at Thornhill. They have all left their mark and we will remember each and every one of them for their uniqueness.

To our Std 7 children some tongue-in-cheek lighthearted advice to follow:

- When there is a piano to be moved don't reach for the stool.
- Watch a sunrise at least once a year.
- Make new friends but cherish the old ones.
- Smile a lot. It costs nothing and is beyond price.
- Become the kind of person who brightens the room just by entering it.

To all the Std 7 leavers – go well, may your lives be exciting, wonderful and successful and treasure your memories of life with happy the Thornhill family.

To the many parents leaving, we shall miss you too, and wish you well. Thank you for entrusting your children to us during these important years and for your continued and heartfelt support.

To our wonderful Thornhill staff, words cannot begin to tell you how I appreciate each and every single one of you for your amazing contribution you bring to the children of this school. The many hours you have spent ensuring the well-being of every child is plain for everyone to see. The year has not always been easy to navigate, with Covid often creating many obstacles and diversions along the way, but you all remained resolute, resilient and constant in your approach, always putting the children first and foremost. As I have always said, it is an extreme privilege to be part of this amazing staff and I wish you all a relaxing and memorable holiday. Thank you for your incredible part you play in molding our children into the leaders of tomorrow.

Alumni News

So pleased to tell you that Reese Manowe won third place in a Gauteng wide Grade 9 poetry competition in French, held by Alliance Francais, last week.

Pupil Achievements

Some of our children recently took part in the Engen Junior Series Final. Congratulations to Tiisetso (30) for coming second in the Under 11 Girls section. Further to this, congratulations to Joshua (2P) and Declan (2J), who came first and third respectively in the Under 9 Boys section.

Staffing

As corresponded, Mr and Mrs Jogee are retiring and will be relocating to the Eastern Cape. I would like to thank them for their unflinching commitment to the school and for their part they have played in molding the lives of the many children they have taught. They leave behind a remarkable educational footprint.

Mrs Talbot is relocating to Cape Town, as she wants to be closer to her children. We wish Mrs Talbot safe travels and thank her for her enormous effort and dedication that she put into Thornhill over the years.

Mrs Burkett will be relocating to the United Kingdom for her children to return to school in September next year. However, she remains on at Thornhill, but as part time support, as she readies herself and her family for the big move.

Mrs Bradley bids us farewell, as she takes a sabbatical away from teaching. We thank her for her wonderful input into teaching our Std 7 children this year and we wish her well.

Finally, Mrs Rodger relocates to Australia with her family and we would like to thank her for her enormous contribution to the Art Department, where she contributed so much and created a love for art during her time at Thornhill.

The following changes come into effect next year:

- We welcome Mrs Solomon from Clifton in Francistown, as she joins our Std. 2 team.
- Ms Hall who joined us in September this year moves to Std. 3.
- Ms Meswele moves into our Std. 4 team and we look forward to her input.
- Mr Lekhane and Ms Willie who have been at Thornhill since 2017, join the Std 5 team and we look forward to their valued input.

Office times

Times for the office will be as follows:

2021			2022		
Friday	03.12	Closes at 11:30	Wednesday	12.01	09:00 – 13:00
Monday	06.12	09:30 – 12:30	Thursday	13.01	09:00 – 13:00
Tuesday	07.12	09:30 – 12:30	Friday	14.01	09:00 – 14:00
Wednesday	08.12	09:30 – 12:30	Monday	17.01	08:30 – 15:00

Uniform Shop Times

The Uniform Shop will open as follows in the new year (2022):

Friday	14.01	12:30 – 15:30
Monday	17.01	12:00 – 15:00
Tuesday	18.01	12:00 – 15:00

Times will revert to normal after the above schedule, which sees the Uniform Shop open on a Monday and Wednesday from 12:00 to 14:30.

A reminder to all parents, in order to purchase school uniform, please make an appointment with Sally Chabedi in the administration office. Nobody without an appointment will be able to go to the Uniform Shop. Further to this, please use the administration pedestrian gate to gain access and proceed to the office, where you will be assisted.

Finally, in closing, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a 'Happy Holiday' and I trust you all have an incredible and memorable holiday with your family and that 2022, will be filled with much success, joy and happiness.

Until we meet again on 18 January, 2022, I wish you all farewell.

I Greaves

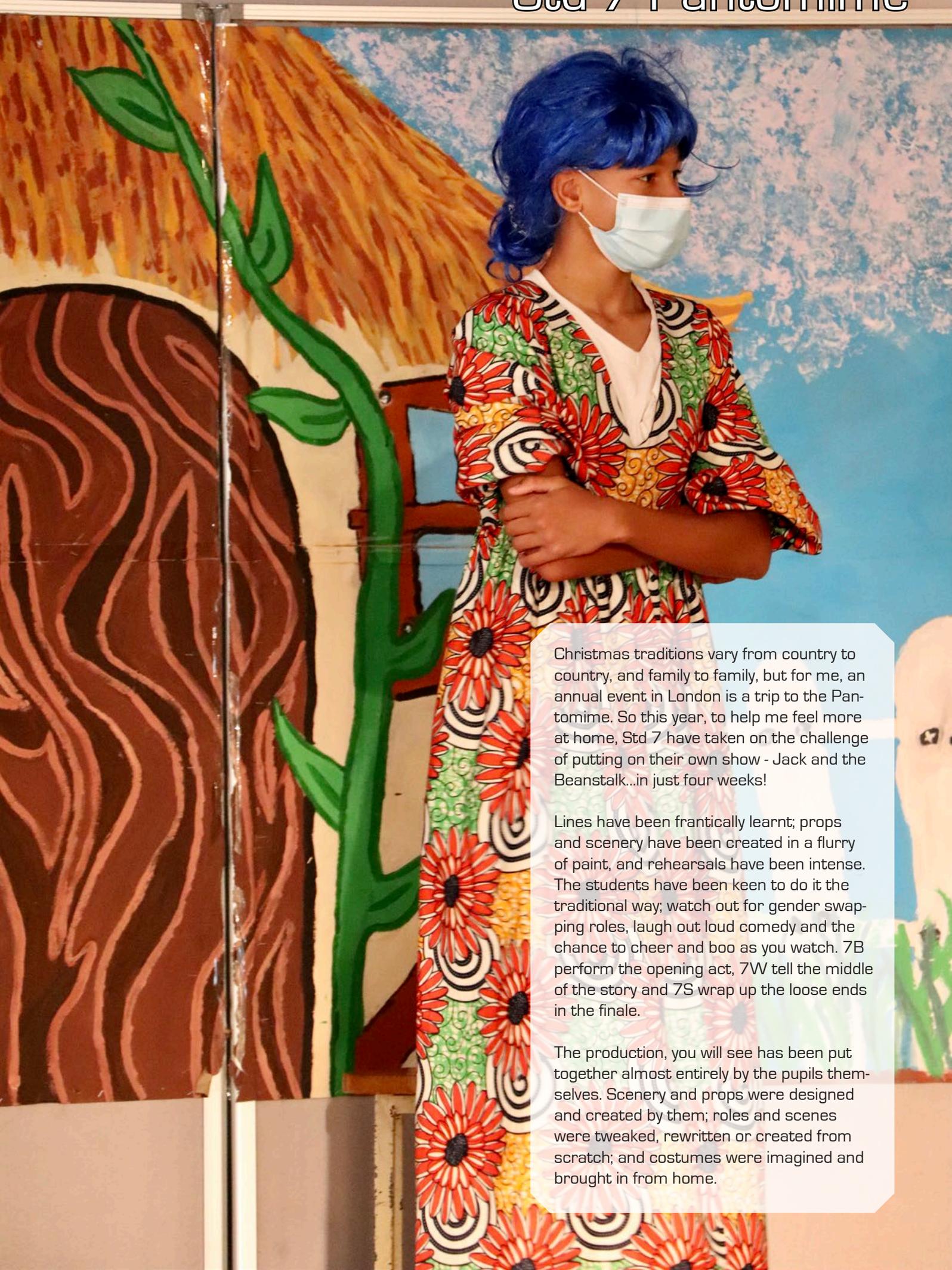
Headteacher

Std 4 Egypt Day

A young girl with dark hair is shown in profile, wearing a light blue surgical face mask. She is dressed in an Egyptian-themed costume, featuring a gold headband adorned with a green cobra (uraeus) and several gold beads. She also wears multiple necklaces made of gold and colorful beads. The background is blurred, showing other people in similar costumes.

It was a hive of activity as the Std 4 children put up a breathtaking display of their dive into history to create a museum of wonder and mystery! The Std 4 classrooms were transformed into scenes of enchantment and artifacts of ancient civilization as teachers and students were decked in costumes of a bygone era. Mummies, the mighty pharaohs, you name them, were all there. The veranda, outside walls and benches were plastered with artistic replicas of this fascinating world. A picture is indeed worth a thousand words. The children from different standards enjoyed themselves as they explored some of the sights and wonders of the earliest civilization, home of the pyramids, enchantment and mystery. As usual, our trooper students were abuzz explaining and elaborating on this great wonder of the world.

Std 7 Pantomime



Christmas traditions vary from country to country, and family to family, but for me, an annual event in London is a trip to the Pantomime. So this year, to help me feel more at home, Std 7 have taken on the challenge of putting on their own show - Jack and the Beanstalk...in just four weeks!

Lines have been frantically learnt; props and scenery have been created in a flurry of paint, and rehearsals have been intense. The students have been keen to do it the traditional way; watch out for gender swapping roles, laugh out loud comedy and the chance to cheer and boo as you watch. 7B perform the opening act, 7W tell the middle of the story and 7S wrap up the loose ends in the finale.

The production, you will see has been put together almost entirely by the pupils themselves. Scenery and props were designed and created by them; roles and scenes were tweaked, rewritten or created from scratch; and costumes were imagined and brought in from home.

Thornhill at the Movies

This idea was birthed in 2019 and summarily shut down when the pandemic hit the world in March, 2020. The script, costumes and music and dances were filed away... sadly.

In May 2021, dance practices happened in the PE dance lesson slots...wonderful. The speakers were chosen from Std 2 and they worked tirelessly to learn their words. Mr Greaves ensured that all COVID regulations were met and we were finally ready to film the performance early in November, 2021. The first visit to the hall was quite eerie...the stage was huge, quiet and unused. Receptions stepped onto the stage for the first time ever- eyes wide and curious. One Std 2 child whispered..."I haven't been in here since I was in Reception".

With the professional help from Pumi Soundz and Crazy Cj Productions, we were able to put the little ones, onto the stage and record them over a week. The dancers were so engrossed and comfortable and excited to display their talents...every one of them. The speakers loved the opportunity to enact a visit to the movies and munched on their popcorn throughout the performance- yes, it's why we go to the movies....popcorn!

The 250 little children as always were the stars of the show. We were so proud of each and every one of them. They did the unexpected and gave us a glimpse of the old world we once knew.



Std 5 Viking Day



The Std 5 classes have been building up to this day since Term 2, through various in-class activities: looking at the Viking's way of life, clothing, food, and factors that pushed and pulled the Viking from their homelands to their new settlements. These learning areas were linked to Art lessons, where children drew dragons and made dragon eyes through modelling clay, marbles and paint and other artefact-like creations.

On the day, the items displayed in front of the Std 5 classes ranged from Viking longboats, shields and swords to Viking flags and Art drawings.

The children attended school for the event in authentic Viking clothing (Thank you parents for your invaluable assistance in dressing up your children so beautifully). The rest of the school had the opportunity to walk through the display area and learn about Vikings. Most were fascinated by the Viking writing called runes, the Viking Gods and the kenning style of writing, which the Std. 5 children had had the opportunity to incorporate into their creative writing by producing kenning poems.

