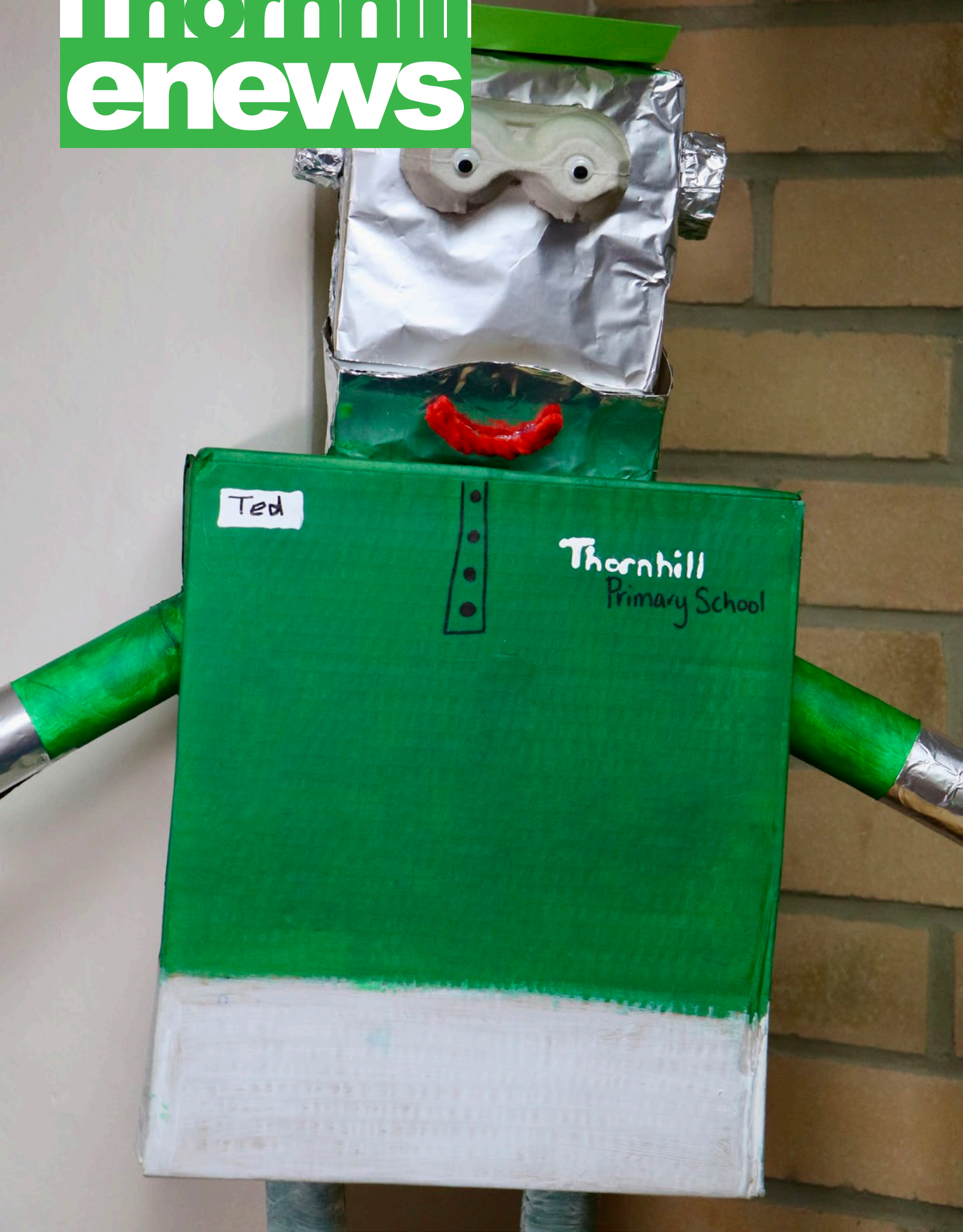


Issue 98 June 21 2023

Thornhill enews



Dear Thornhill Family

Welcome to the second term and I hope you have got used to the chilly and dark start in the morning. Any thoughts of the past holiday are but a distant memory and we look forward to a busy and fruitful term.

I would like to welcome all the new families that joined Thornhill Primary School at the beginning of Term 2. I trust you will all enjoy your time at this wonderful school and that you have been made to feel welcome.

Inter House Points Term 1 2023

Congratulations and well done to Chobe House who won the Inter House Points trophy for Term 1. They were closely followed by Limpopo in second place and Notwane and Shashe in third and fourth.

Marking Clothes and Lost Property

Once again, we issue a plea to all parents to mark all items that come to school. With Winter here, lost property remains a huge and unnecessary problem. With a greater sense of responsibility and awareness to value, I hope to see an improvement in this area. Please check your child's clothing and return any items that do not belong to them to your child's teacher.

I look forward to your usual support and commitment.

Pupil Achievement:

On 3 - 7 May 2023, Leruo Bakwena participated in the CANA Zone IV International Swimming Championships in Luanda, Angola representing Botswana.

The Competition consisted of 12 Countries being, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. He competed in the 11-12 year old category and he participated in eight races and performed as below:

50m Breast	Bronze Medal	100m Breast	Bronze Medal
200m Breast	Bronze Meda	50m Fly	Bronze Medal

Well done and congratulations to Leruo on his magnificent achievement. We are exceptionally proud of him.

Itai Blumin, Jaden Moskovic and Logan Debrowsky recently flew to Basel, Switzerland to participate in the International Swiss Junior Open for karate. There were over 475 entries from eleven countries and all three students performed exceptionally well and gathered valuable experience and exposure, which will stand them in good stead moving forward.

Itai was placed 2nd in Kata, bringing home a silver, which is a truly fantastic achievement. Logan was placed 5th in the Kata and Jaden received a Top 10 finish in the Kumite. Well done to all three boys on their achievement – we are all exceptionally proud of all three boys.

Well done and congratulations to Alexander Ellitson who took part in the 'Two Rivers' off road race recently. This was his first 'race' that he has participated in. Alexander came second in the 50cc class and we are proud of his achievement.

Literacy Meeting with Reception Parents

“The more you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.”
Dr Seuss “ I can read with My Eyes Shut”

The Reception Parents showed up for the Literacy meeting in good numbers eager to receive ideas and information to support their Reception children. We have not been able to meet in person for such a meeting since 2019 due to COVID restrictions.

Building a solid, transparent relationship between school, teacher and parent from the onset ensures a strong support for learning from the Foundation Phase to the end of the school career. The beginning of reading and its complexities were discussed. To support reading, Letters and Sounds, the multi-sensory phonic programme was presented in the six phases and highlighting the principles of high-quality phonic teaching.

The Reception teachers shared the plan for the year and some fun activities that could be played at home to support the programme, impressing on mums and dads to ensure that all the activities are fun, fun, fun!

As we work together, we can only look forward to a year of significant success. We can ensure that each little learner has an equal opportunity to receive a secure foundation to learn to read, to love books and to take the success to the years that follow.

Thank you to Mrs Stuart for presenting this very important meeting for our Reception parents and to the Reception staff.

News From Std 4

Even though the cold has set in for the Winter and we are looking ahead to a long and chilly term, the children all returned to school with spirits fired up with excitement and anticipation for all the upcoming events this term.

The classrooms are buzzing with the ongoing projects for the art exhibition and the children are thoroughly enjoying the various mediums used, from water colour, to papier mache, constructing buildings to working with seeds and grain. Our Science lessons this term are jam-packed with loads of thrilling, interactive experiments as we learn about energy. During our Topic lessons, we will be exploring map work, learning how to read co-ordinates as well delving into the History of our beautiful country.

I hope you enjoy an exciting and successful Term 2 with your children and I hope to see you supporting them in their activities and events. I leave you with these words by William Pollard:

‘Learning and innovation go hand in hand. The arrogance of success is to think that what you did yesterday will be sufficient for tomorrow.’

I Greaves

Headteacher

News from Std 5



We hope you had a fantastic break, filled with fun, relaxation, and special moments with your family and friends. As we kick off the new term, we implore the students to continue to bring enthusiasm, positivity and a growth mindset to the classroom so as to achieve their set goals. The new school term has some exciting things in store for our Std 5 learners; Viking Day and the Maths Olympiad.

Viking Day has become a Std 5 tradition that we all eagerly anticipate. On Viking Day, we will transport ourselves back in time to the era of fierce warriors and epic adventure. Get ready to dress up as Vikings, complete with helmets, shields, and the spirit of adventure. We will have a range of activities planned, including Viking arts and crafts. It will be a day filled with laughter, camaraderie, and a chance to continue to learn about Viking culture and history. So, start gathering your Viking gear and prepare to unleash your inner warrior!

It is also worth mentioning that one of our students, Quentin Bucheman, will represent Botswana on an international stage, at the Maths Olympiad online. This competition will give him an opportunity to showcase his sharp Maths skills and quick thinking.

We are looking forward to a truly successful term with the rest of the Thornhill community.

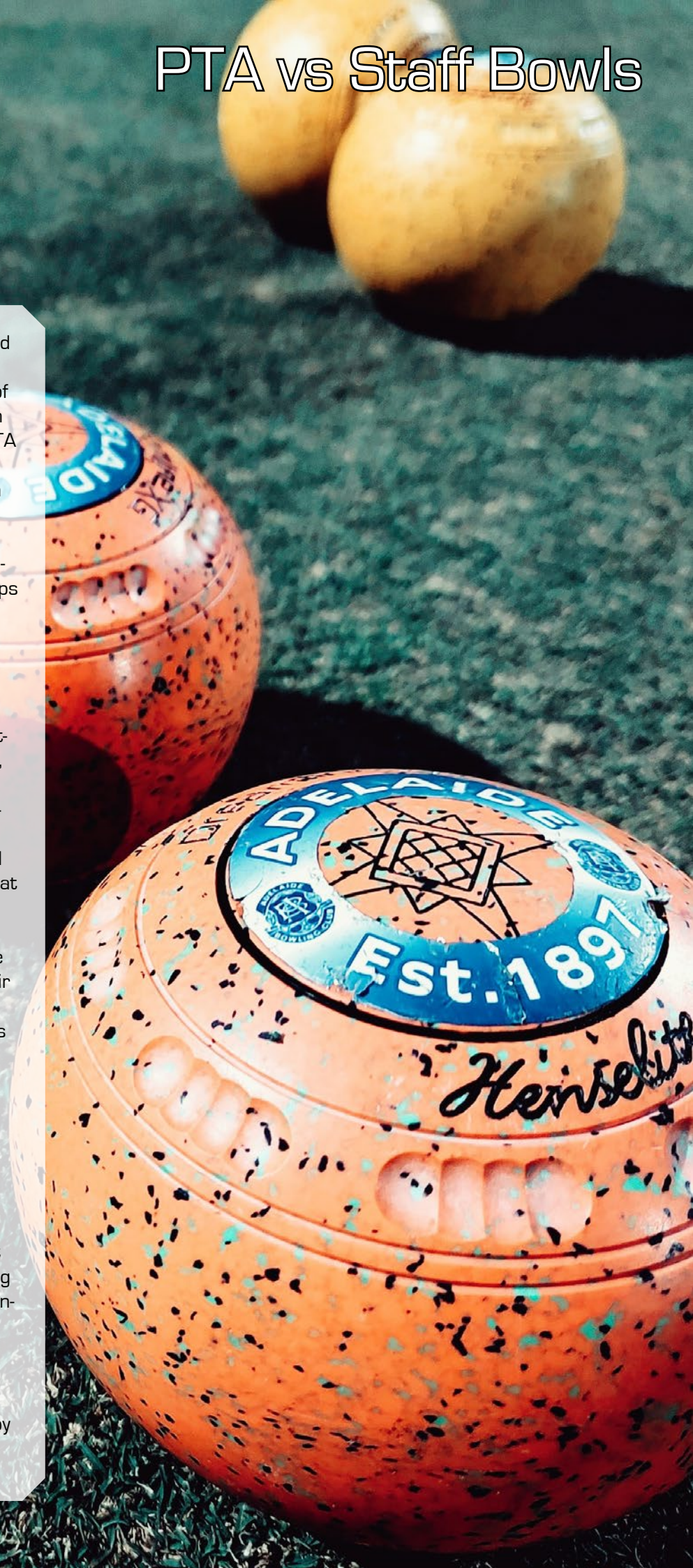
PTA vs Staff Bowls

In a delightful clash of camaraderie and competition, parents and teachers recently gathered for an evening game of bowls. You could tell the bowling green was sorely missed as teachers and PTA members alike hurried to sweep away the cobwebs off their bowling skills. An aptitude test is vital on an occasion such as this one. Amidst the laughter, banter and cheers, this evening provided a perfect opportunity for both groups to showcase their aiming skills, enjoy some quality food and time together, and strengthen the bond between the school and the parent community.

The parents, representing the supportive backbone of the school community, were determined to showcase their hidden talents and outshine the teachers on the green. Likewise, the teachers, with their competitive spirit honed in classrooms, were eager to prove that their skills extended beyond the realm of academia. Following the draw from last year and each team's pride on the line, the players skillfully strategize their shots, aiming to land their bowls as close to the jack as possible in a series of two games, consisting of ten ends each.

However, one of the endearing aspects of our evening game of bowls is the social aspect that accompanies it. The atmosphere was buzzing with anecdotes, jokes and friendly teasing, ensuring that the evening was not just about the game, but also about building connections and strengthening relationships. Such outings remind us of the importance of coming together and celebrating shared interests.

Congratulations to the PTA who won by a score of 20 to the Staff's 12.



Std 1 Robots

Every year the Std 1 children are asked to make a robot from recycled items. The idea for this came from a book called Chip's Robot in our reading scheme.

The project was always intended to be a collaborative one so with the help of one of their parents, another adult or a sibling the children all built a robot.


As always they out did themselves with their creativity. Not one of the robots, and there are 80, were similar in any way. Everyone created unique and interesting robots which were very different in their construction. Some were bigger than their little creators and others were small whilst some had lights or buttons which could flash.

En route to school some met with a calamity and so 'robot surgery' was born at Thornhill.

We, as Std 1 teachers were thrilled to see the effort that was made and we wish to thank the parents for their participation in this project.



Std 6 Outreach Programme



During our 'Winter-Warmer' campaign, we received many blankets and warm clothes for the St Peter's children, as well as for the orphans from AAP and African Havens. We would like to thank all of you for your efforts on donating these items. The children really needed them for winter to stay warm. Thank you to everyone who donated and have a wonderful day.

Thornhill organised this year's Winter Warmer campaign for African Havens, St Peters and AAP. I would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and students, who donated clothes and blankets. It is always better to give than to receive. Goutham 6M

My heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in this project, and thanks to Mrs Whitfield for organising this campaign. Quoting from Marie Osmond "Being of service to others is what brings true happiness". Olivia 6C

Thank you for helping us make a difference to others' lives this winter. Kelaegile 6C

We have had some lovely messages from the organisations, who received these donations, they send photos and videos of very happy children receiving these clothes and blankets - It was very humbling to see how happy we have made them. Thank you to you all.

As a school, I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs Whitfield who champions these campaigns, as well as the Std 6 staff and students. You certainly need to all be commended for your exceptional commitment towards providing for the above charities.

Mathematics Olympiad 2023

Congratulations to the children below who received medals in the Botswana Maths Olympiad competition.

Gold

Henry Patton
Quentin Bechmann
Abigail Campbell
Shengen Tang
Rania Modarresi
Fariha Patel
Mengjing Qu

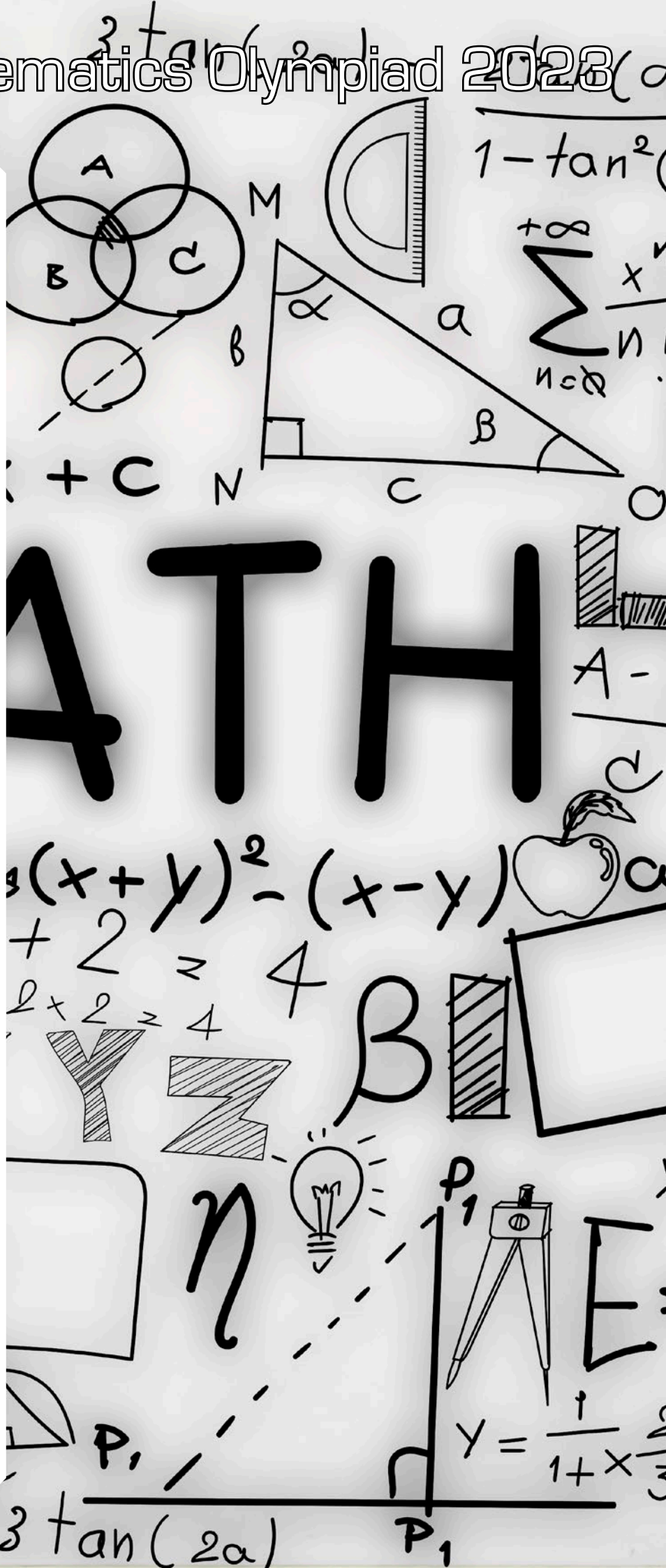
Silver

Behraad Shiri
Goutham Suresh Babu
Ayanda Orapeleng
James Cloete
Nina Luhanga
Nicholas Fern
Raymond Lee
Katlo Manale
Yashe Masomosomo

Bronze

Lea Nortje
Johan Van Tonder
Joash Kurewa
Cameron Cloete
Huzeifa Kala
Nsha Sebeo
Miles Arthey
Caleb Hassam
Reneilwe Mokgosi
Bianke Van Staden
Daniel Kemp
Reneilwe Kebonang
Suhail Dellow

Further to this, we are proud to inform you that two of our pupils, Nina Luhanga (Std 7) and Quentin Bechmann (Std 5) have been selected to represent Botswana in the International Mathematics Olympiad this year. This event will be a virtual event and will be hosted by Bulgaria in July. We wish these two pupils the best of luck in their endeavours.



Interhouse Football

The Interhouse football was, as usual, a keenly contested and colourful event, with everybody in their house t-shirts.

The U11 teams played first and they were followed by the U13 teams. The results were as follows:

Limpopo was placed first followed by Chobe in second place. Notwane and Shashe followed in third and fourth respectively.

It was wonderful to see so many children on the the field all giving their best for their respective houses. Well done to all the players who participat-



Interhouse Netball

The Interhouse netball was, as usual, a keenly contested and colourful event, with everybody in their house t-shirts. The U11 teams played first and they were followed by the U13 teams. The results were as follows:

Shashe was placed first followed by Chobe in second place. Limpopo and Notwane followed in third and fourth respectively.

It was wonderful to see so many children on the courts all giving their best for their respective houses. Well done to all the players who participated in this event.



Cross Country

On Tuesday 29 May, the Thornhill Cross Country team ran in the first cross country meet of the season at Thornhill.

Eight schools came to the venue to take part for the first time since 2019. Thornhill ran exceptionally well, coming first overall and hopefully this form continues throughout the season.



U9 Netball Camp

The U9 netball girls arrived at school on the morning of 13 May, excited to kick-start this year's netball season with a three hour camp. Upon arrival, the girls were directed to Mrs Graves class for the theory presentation part of the camp. This comprised of discussions and reviews of netball rules, watching of various clips and putting together celebratory and motivational chants that the girls could use in game situations.

Following that, the team went off to the courts for drills and stamina-building activities with past Thornhill students: Victoria Graves, Wedu Chilume and Logan Meyer, who were eager to share their skills. The U9 girls were thrilled to be coached by their near-peers and followed the activities with great effort.

Mrs Graves and Mrs Tweed then assisted by teaching rules of the game, working on court movement and helping the girls choose positions best suited to their abilities. This then led to mini matches between the girls and having a few parents watch the matches was very much appreciated by both the girls and the coaches.

To end the camp, every participant was given a netball booklet and a much welcomed cold ice-lolly to enjoy on the way home.



June 21 2023
Thornhill ICT Department



@ThornhillPrimarySchoolBW



#ThornhillBW252



/thornhillprimary

