

Dear Parents and Pupils

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all children and parents at the start of this 2019 academic year. A special Thornhill greeting goes to all our new children and families joining us this year. I trust your time at Thornhill will be happy and successful and that you will be made to feel truly welcome here at Thornhill.

Thornhill is very much a family orientated school and we look forward to continued interaction and relationship building opportunities with all, who in any way, are associated with this institution. We work hard from within the school to maintain a professional sense of contact and I encourage parents to use the available channels of communication.

The 2018 year ended off exceptionally well, but we had a few very difficult farewells to get through during the last week of the final term, but none so much as bidding farewell to Mrs Selekanyo Moremong. Mrs Moremong had been a teacher at Thornhill for the past 39 years. At one of the events, her grandchild, Tsetsa Makuku, wrote a poem and I would like to share it with you:

My grandmother, my teacher, Nkuku, morutabana wame.

You have ears that truly listen, Arms that always hold tight, Love that is never ending And a heart made of gold.

You have been a little bit parent,
A little bit teacher,
A little bit friend to every child and teacher at Thornhill.
I will miss having you around.
But I know that Thornhill will miss you more.
I get to see you on weekends,
Tsamaya sentle nkuku.

Staffing

As previously corresponded, I would like to welcome the following new staff members to Thornhill and I trust that their stay will be both happy and fulfilling. I know that you will all make them feel welcome and I look forward to a successful year.

- Mrs Peel joins our Reception unit
- Mrs Nevin joins Std 1
- Mrs Jongman joins our Setswana Department

The following movements have taken place between standards:

- Mrs Talbot moves from Std 1 to Std 4
- Mrs Graves moves from Std 4 to Std 5

Congratulations to all our 2018 interns, who have all passed their examinations and will join the ranks of newly qualified teachers (NQT). 2019 will see our NQT's continue to receive mentoring, while gaining valuable experience and we know they will add so much value to our staff.

2019 Calendars

We still have 2019 calendars on sale (P50) and should you wish to purchase one, or come in and view them, then please see the staff in the administration or finance office.

Pupil Achievements

Please will you keep me informed of any competitions, accolades or events that your child (present or past children from Thornhill) has taken part in, or achieved well at, so I can share it with staff and on the eNews with the Thornhill community.

Holiday Projects

We had a terrible storm during the first week of the holiday and this caused a great deal of damage to the shaded areas, tennis court fencing and many trees that were blown over. So there was a great deal of maintenance necessary to get the school looking good again. We are still replacing shaded areas, and the suppliers are working hard to ensure these are manufactured as quickly as possible.

The school was painted during the December break, however there are still areas where the painters are still busy. Our cricket nets were given a facelift, with new astro grass being laid as well. A new office has been added to the old 'workroom' for the purposes of meeting parents.

We have worked hard on the field, but the severe and extreme temperatures have taken its toll, but we hope to get it back to normal, provided we have sufficient summer rainfall.

Parent Information Meetings:

These were held for all parents during week two this term. Parents had the opportunity to come in and familiarize themselves with the curriculum, classroom management, daily procedure and more importantly, meet the teacher. I trust the Information Meeting was informative and helpful to parents, and if there are any concerns in the future, please feel free to come in immediately and speak to your child's teacher.

Marimba Band 2019

Congratulations to Kese and Jaydon who have been appointed captain and vice-captain respectively of the Marimba Band for 2019. I would to wish them and the band the best of luck for 2019.

Updates to Calendar

Please note, the SIMS calendar will be uploaded on a 'two week cycle.' If you do get a message, please check if you have received the relevant correspondence from the school, as some activities are for selected children, teams etc.

All parents, if registered, should have received an electronic copy of the Term 1 calendar.

Please follow us on Twitter at ThornhillBW252.

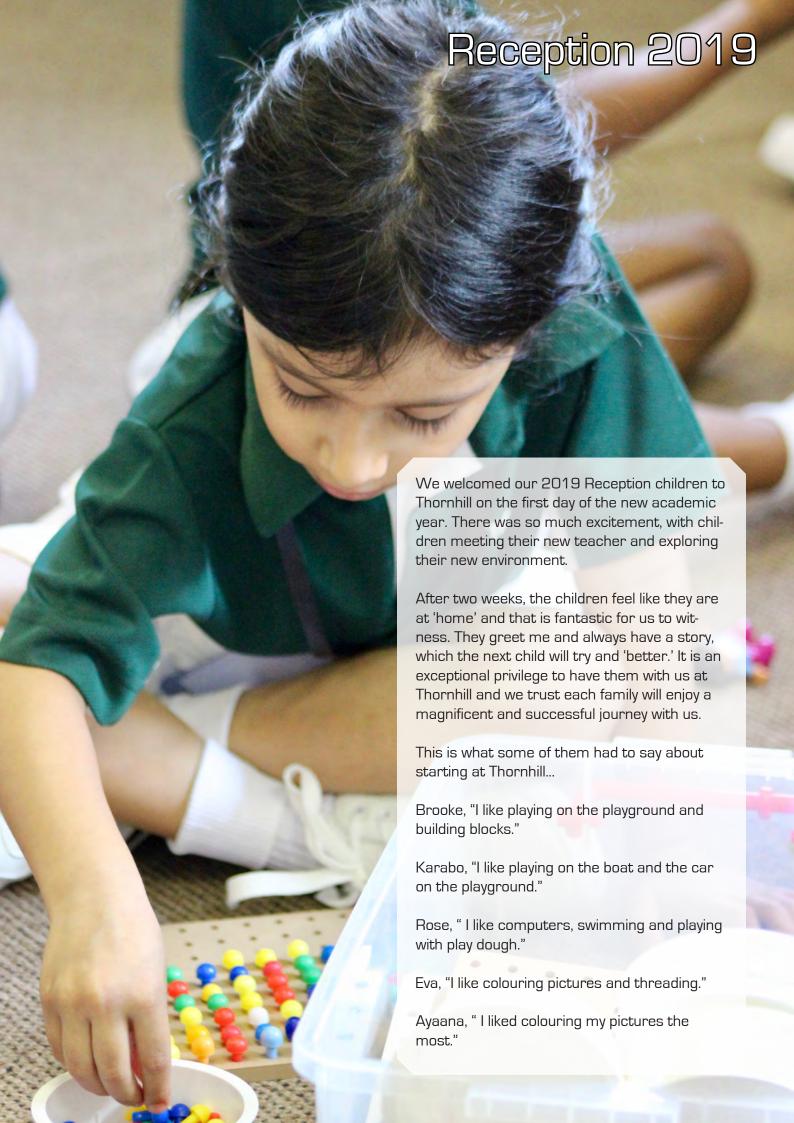
We are currently upgrading our website and this will go live soon, but we will keep you updated.

I hope the term is an exciting one for you all, one filled with many wonderful learning opportunities and experiences. I leave you with these words from Eric Hoffer:

"A plant needs roots in order to grow. With man it is the other way around: only when he grows does he have roots and feels at home in the world."

I Greaves

Headteacher









Cambridge Results 2018

Congratulations to our Std 6 Class of 2018 on the excellent results achieved in the Cambridge Primary examinations in October 2018. The following children achieved 6.0, which is the highest grading possible in either Mathematics, Science or English:

Three 6.0 or A* Nikoleta Popovic and Joshua Thomas.

Two 6.0 or A*

Sahara Podiephatswa, Daniel O' Connell, Daniel Gonzalez, Emy George, Swarajan Sasitharan, Shayan Gogoi, Siyanda Courage, Ogone Molefi, Tashatha Moseki, Tsetsa Makuku, Kese Ramsden and Kevin Mangani.

One 6.0 or A*

Sandra Modongo, Myra Mantle, Ebuka Nnebo, Abigail Jamu, Tefelo Tabulawa, Marko Nikolic, Faiz Osman, Jaydon Delport, Jon-Martin De Jesus, Dominick Mogomotsi, Naiko Lisenda, Tendai Rugara, Katso Mokogosana, Mohammed Hussain, Kao Jacobs, Junior Kasale, Lepe Rammirwana, Akhlaaq Khan, Hrithika Patel.

In the assessment, children are graded between 0.0 and 6.0. 6.0 is the highest result that can be achieved and is equivalent to an A*.

Congratulations and well done to all our top achievers.
Collectively this Std 6 Class of 2018, performed exceptionally well as a year group and every child can be very pleased. To the staff, on behalf of the parents, school and Board, our sincere thanks and appreciation for a job well done.

Prefects 2019





