

Issue 57 July 13 2018

# Thornhill eneews



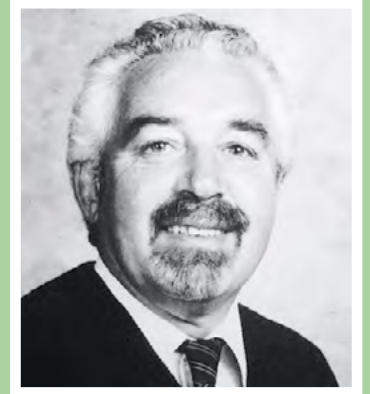
# Dear Parents and Pupils

The freezing cold weather has certainly left its mark this winter and as we all apply extra layers and wish for 'slightly' warmer weather, I wish to draw your attention to how fortunate and privileged we are at Thornhill. We have a school with wonderfully kept grounds, many excellent facilities, sport, culture and above all, the high standard of education. What also makes this school an exceptional place, is also the ethos and atmosphere, which so many of our past pupils and families say they miss the most. More importantly, I have prospective parents highlighting the same attributes.

I hope we take some time in our very busy schedules to appreciate all that is done to maintain these standards, but also to improve them constantly.

## William Hamilton Head Teacher 1973-1985

It is with deep regret and great sadness that I inform you of the passing away of Mr William Hamilton. Mr Hamilton was the Head Teacher at Thornhill from 1973 to 1985. Mr Hamilton left a great legacy that is richly engrained at Thornhill Primary School and in our alumni, many of whom are parents here today. The school ethos, mission and values, which he instilled remain strong to this day. I hope you join us in keeping his family close to your thoughts and prayers.



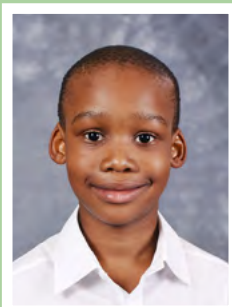
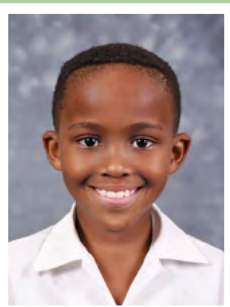
## Pupil Achievements



Congratulations and well done to Anoushka Brahmbhatt on winning gold at the Gauteng Open Judo Tournament recently. Anoushka is now preparing for the SA Championships in July, which takes place in Port Elizabeth. We are all extremely proud of her achievements!



Congratulations to Arnav Sadhana who won gold at the recent chess tournament held by Enpassent Club at the University of Botswana, under the accreditation of FIDE. Arnav won all seven games he played and was awarded the overall medal, as he was declared the player of the tournament. Well done on this fantastic achievement, Arnav!



Well done and congratulations to Seabe and Lorato, who were awarded 'anti-Bullying certificates' at our assembly recently. They stood up for one of their peers and upheld all the values and morals that we come to expect from our children every day.

Congratulations to Bianke van Staden, who recently performed with the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra at the Young Artists Concerto Festival at the Linder Auditorium in Johannesburg. I would like to share her write up in the programme with you:

Bianke van Staden (Age 7), from Botswana started playing the violin at age 5. At the Johannesburg Festival for the Advancement of Music (SASMT), she was a winner in the category of Most Promising String Player, 6 years and under for 2016, as well as 2017. In 2017, she won the trophy for Best Junior String Player at the Jan Celliers Music Competition. Bianke also participated in the 2017 SAMRO Hubert van der Spuy National Music Competition, as the youngest participant for 2017.



What an exceptionally talented young pupil - well done on this outstanding achievement, Bianke.

## Julliard Workshop

The school of Dance and Drama, Julliard in New York came to Thornhill on Tuesday 26 June. All the Std 7 children attended the session, which involved Drama and Dance. We started off with some exercises and were taught a few ballet moves, such as Plie's. Next we all stood in a circle and had to say our names with a dance move added to it. That soon became a dance routine! We were then split into two groups, one for acting and one for dancing. The dancing children were split into smaller groups and had to make their own dance routine with a few twists to it. The actors had to make a small skit of their choice, also adding a few twists all under guidance of the teachers from Julliard. In the end everyone performed their drama and dance shows to each other. We all enjoyed it and had so much fun!

## Std 7 Polar Bear Challenge

For four whole weeks, volunteering Std 7 children took part in the Polar Bear Swim Challenge and once our permission slips were signed there was no getting out of it.

At first, we were all giddy and excited, trying something new and being adventurous, but the second we got into the water, all we felt was regret. Our shrill cries of, "Ahh," brought the supervising teachers a smile, with Mr Greaves looking like he was watching Trevor Noah. Day One, like the rest, was filled with complaints from all of us who did it. But in the end, the delicious hot chocolate made it worth it. Almost. It was still freezing, but definitely an experience. Watch this space, as there are more swims to come.


## Soccer Friday

World cup soccer fever has hit Thornhill Primary, from the shrill blast of the first whistle in Moscow, the pupils have been excited. Each class has it's chosen team and all are desperately hoping that their team will win, so that they can have a day off school. On Friday's the pupils may come to school in their soccer shirts, which represent many countries and teams. This has helped build up both the spirit and competition between the classes. The pupils are also doing research into their different countries and learning about their flags, currencies and languages. Creative soccer decorations are appearing all over the school. As the finals draw near, who will be the champion class?

To the parents and staff I thank you for all your exceptional contribution and support this term and trust that you continue to enjoy the final four weeks of term. I leave you with these words from Winston Churchill: **'Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.'**

**I Greaves**  
Headteacher

# Std 3 Visit the BSPCA



The Std 3 children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the BSPCA. We all collected food for the animals, which we took with us. The BSPCA were very grateful for the donation. First we went to look at the big dogs, who were very excited to see us. Next we went to play with the puppies. It was such fun, as the BSPCA have recently installed an astro turf area, so we could really cuddle the puppies and play football with them. After that, we went to see the cats. Cats are a lot more independent, but some of them were quite happy to be picked up and stroked. Finally, we spent some time with the rabbits. Here's what the children had to say:

I enjoyed it because I was able to touch a dog even though I was scared. Mutsa

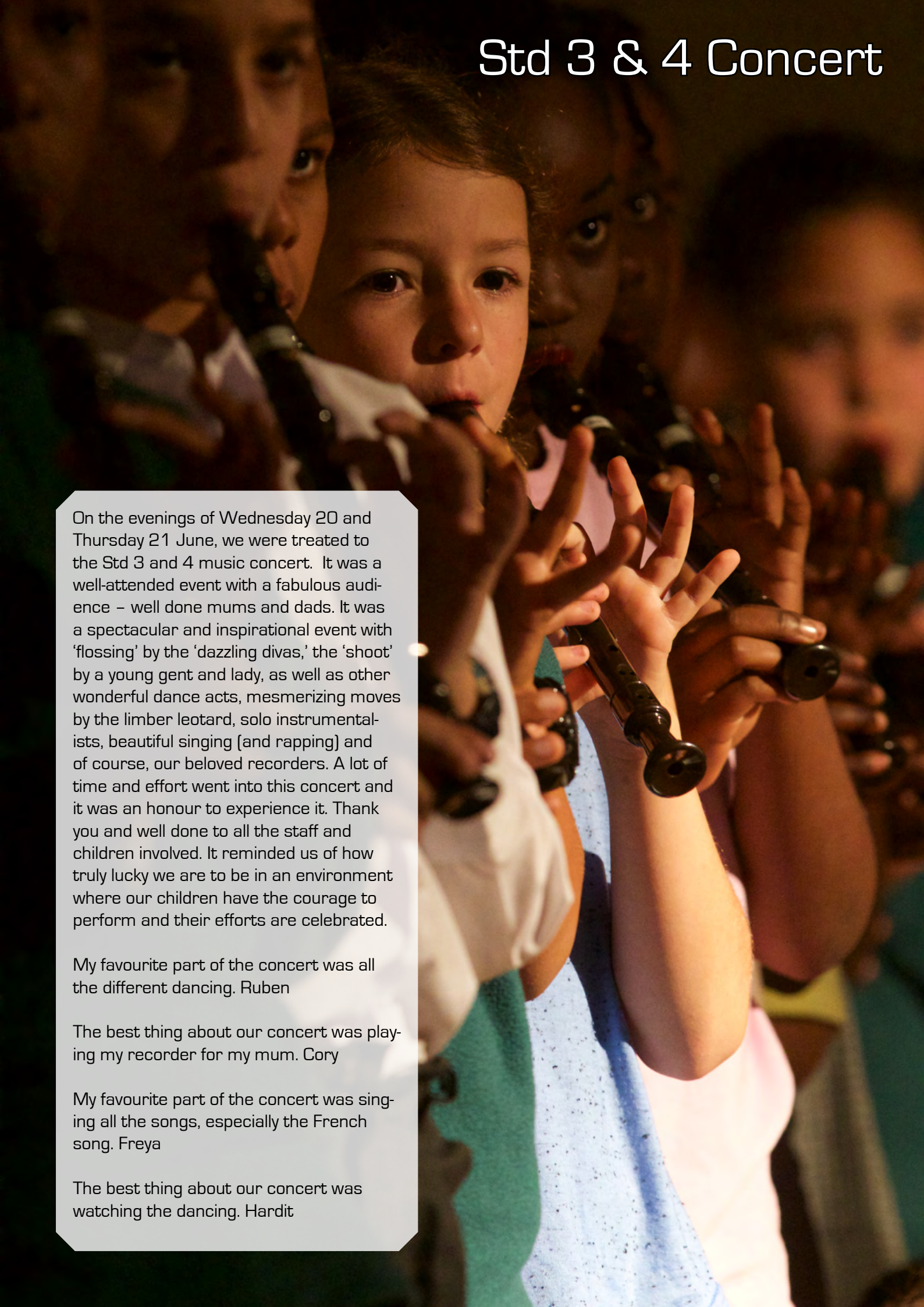
It was fun because we got to play with puppies. Jabari

I enjoyed stroking Chester, a 7 week old puppy. Cal

I enjoyed playing with the rabbits. Arriana

I enjoyed everything! Liam

# Std 3 & 4 Concert

A photograph of several children in a school setting, focused on playing their recorders. The children are dressed in school uniforms, including white shirts and ties. The lighting is warm and focused on the performers, creating a sense of a live performance. The background is slightly blurred, showing other children and possibly an audience.

On the evenings of Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 June, we were treated to the Std 3 and 4 music concert. It was a well-attended event with a fabulous audience – well done mums and dads. It was a spectacular and inspirational event with 'flossing' by the 'dazzling divas,' the 'shoot' by a young gent and lady, as well as other wonderful dance acts, mesmerizing moves by the limber leotard, solo instrumentalists, beautiful singing (and rapping) and of course, our beloved recorders. A lot of time and effort went into this concert and it was an honour to experience it. Thank you and well done to all the staff and children involved. It reminded us of how truly lucky we are to be in an environment where our children have the courage to perform and their efforts are celebrated.

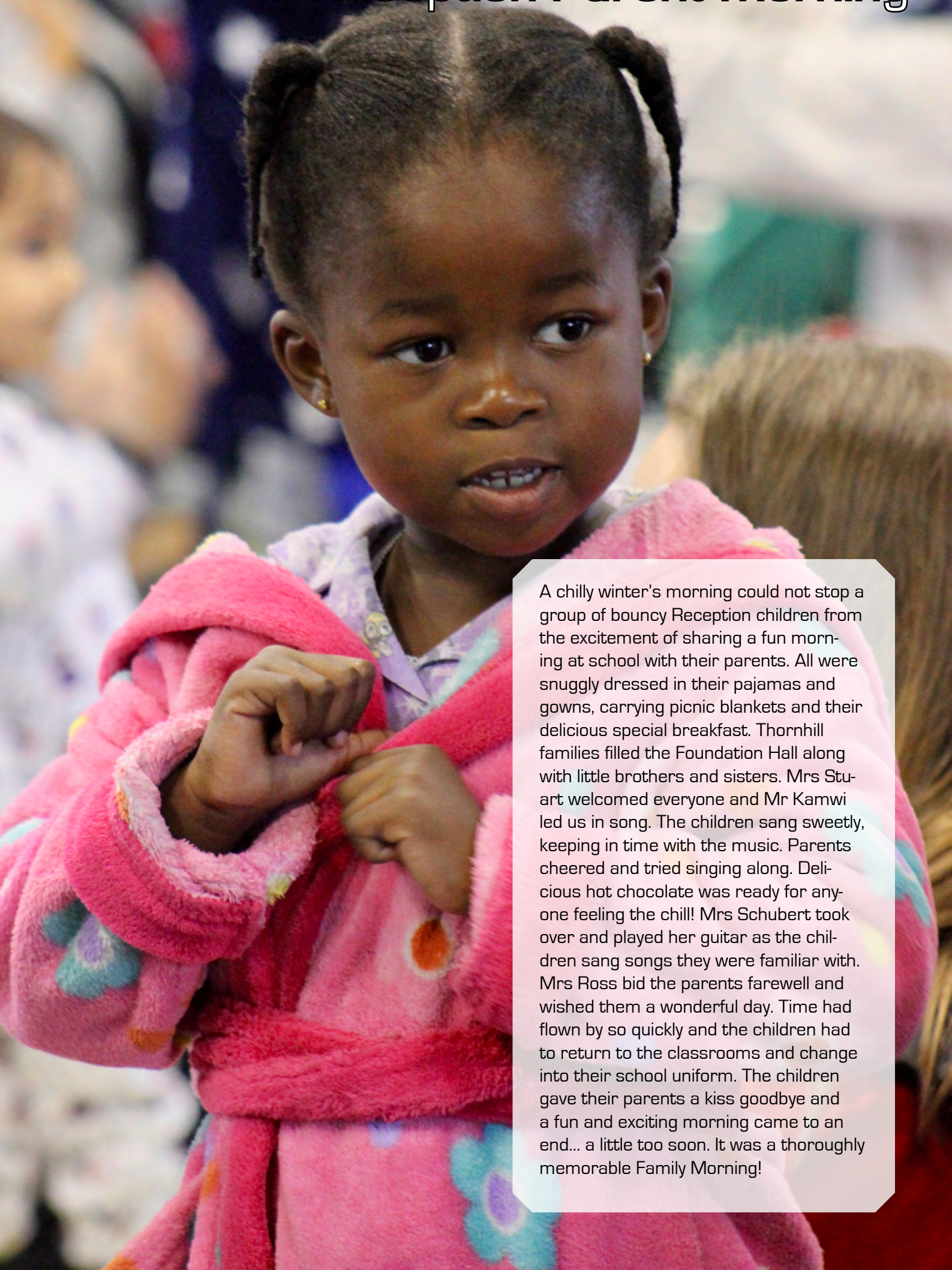
My favourite part of the concert was all the different dancing. Ruben

The best thing about our concert was playing my recorder for my mum. Cory

My favourite part of the concert was singing all the songs, especially the French song. Freya


The best thing about our concert was watching the dancing. Hardit

# Reception Parent Morning



A chilly winter's morning could not stop a group of bouncy Reception children from the excitement of sharing a fun morning at school with their parents. All were snugly dressed in their pajamas and gowns, carrying picnic blankets and their delicious special breakfast. Thornhill families filled the Foundation Hall along with little brothers and sisters. Mrs Stuart welcomed everyone and Mr Kamwi led us in song. The children sang sweetly, keeping in time with the music. Parents cheered and tried singing along. Delicious hot chocolate was ready for anyone feeling the chill! Mrs Schubert took over and played her guitar as the children sang songs they were familiar with. Mrs Ross bid the parents farewell and wished them a wonderful day. Time had flown by so quickly and the children had to return to the classrooms and change into their school uniform. The children gave their parents a kiss goodbye and a fun and exciting morning came to an end... a little too soon. It was a thoroughly memorable Family Morning!

# Std 7 Vulture Talk



On Thursday, 21 June, Dr Mark Bing, a vet from Lobatse and Thornhill parent, came to speak to the Std 7's about Vultures. He gave a presentation in which he showed the pupils the different types of vultures we find in Africa and showed how widespread their flight paths are. He gave an example of a vulture from the Ghanzi region that regularly visits a Vulture Sanctuary in Kimberly, South Africa, thus saying that they are SADC birds.

The status of vultures was also discussed, and figures were presented giving an indication of the endangered species and also the threatened ones. As Dr Bing said, we are all aware of the threat to rhinos because these are the more "glamorous" animals, but in fact we should be as concerned about the threat to vultures as these are birds that affect each one of our lives.

He gave us an idea of how vital they are to all of us. Vultures are one of the animals responsible for cleaning up carrion, and in so doing, prevent diseases which would otherwise spread to humans. He gave us the example of India, where after vultures were wiped out, the population of feral dogs exploded, resulting in about 50 000 people contracting rabies and dying from it between the years of 1992 - 2006. Other bacterial diseases that vultures prevent are: botulism, anthrax and foot and mouth. By eating carcasses, vultures also control odours.

Finally, Dr Bing gave ways of how we can all help. Children need to educate their parents! We should try to prevent laying out poison on our cattle posts so that vultures do not eat contaminated carcasses. We can stop and remove carcasses from the road so that vultures do not get run over. We can raise money, as our Std 7s have done, to donate to organisations responsible for the protection of vultures.

We would like to thank Dr Bing for giving up his valuable time to give us an excellent talk. He has inspired us to make a difference and to care for vultures, an essential part of our ecosystem.

On Thursday 7 June, our students sat their Trinity College Music Exams. For some it was their first individual exam and they performed well.

The standard expected for the individual exams is extremely high and to achieve a pass, you must obtain 60 to 74%, to achieve a Merit your mark must be between 75 and 86% and a Distinction is 87% and above. The Music Department is very proud of everyone for all their continuous hard work.

The results were as follows:

Kao	Initial Violin	Distinction
Changu	Initial Piano	Pass
Samantha	Initial Piano	Merit
Anoushka	Grade 1 Piano	Merit
Naomi	Grade 1 Piano	Pass
Jonathan	Grade 1 Guitar	Pass
Kushal	Grade 2 Violin	Merit
Hrithika	Grade 2 Violin	Pass
Jada	Grade 2 Piano	Pass
Udochukwu	Grade 2 Recorder	Pass
Molly	Grade 2 Recorder	Merit
Munopa	Grade 2 Recorder	Merit
Sally-Louse	Grade 2 Recorder	Distinction
Bone	Grade 2 Recorder	Distinction
Naledi	Grade 2 Recorder	Merit
Lena	Grade 3 Cello	Merit
Chloe	Grade 4 Recorder	Merit



# Inter House Athletics

Inter house athletics took place over 3 days. The first day saw the older age groups (U10 - U13) compete in the 400m and 800m track events, where we saw the first record for 2018 being broken.

Our second day took place in the afternoon and comprised of all the field events, namely high jump, cricket ball throw, shot put and long jump. The afternoon saw 6 new records being set and some very exciting competition, especially in the high jump where the bar was set, in many cases, above the height of the children competing.

The third and final day saw the completion of all the track events and house relays. This session only saw the fall of one record, but it did also have the parents race, much to the delight of the children. Well done to Ntsetsa Mothelesi and Joseph Machokoto for winning the mom's and dad's race respectively.

Congratulations and well done to the following age group champions:

U9: Luba and Lefika  
U10: Salma and Rayhan  
U11: Siyanda and Ebuka  
U12: Rethabile and Leatile  
U13: Tina and Tumo

The final placings for 2018 were as follows:

1st Shashe  
2nd Limpopo  
3rd Chobe  
4th Notwane



# Staff vs PTA

The staff recently took to the courts and field alike to play soccer and netball against the PTA. Competition was fierce from the outset, as motivated and skilled PTA teams ran out victors on the day. There were definitely some training camps that had taken place that the staff did not know about, but a fantastic afternoon of sport was enjoyed by all!



# Cross Country



The Thornhill Cross Country team are enjoying a very successful season. On 12 June, we ran at Acacia against seven other schools. Our team did very well coming first overall.

The individual stars were: Tema (3rd), Rayhan (2nd), Leatile (1st), Lefika (1st), Ryan (2nd), Tumo (3rd), Imogen (1st), Tefelo (1st), Jacinda (3rd), Megan (1st) and Tina (2nd).

On 19 June, we ran at Raserura in Mochudi, once again coming first overall.

The individual stars were: Tema (2nd), Ganda (3rd), Lefika (1st), Tumo (2nd), Imogen (1st), Heather (1st), Lebone (2nd), Tefelo (1st), Marang (2nd), Jacinda (3rd), Rethabile (3rd), Kese (3rd), Tina (1st), Megan (1st) and Puleng (3rd).

We have two more meets this term at Legae and Crescent and wish our runners all the best of luck at these two events.

## **Southern Schools**

Well done and congratulations to Leatile, Roelof and Jaydon on their Southern Schools Soccer selection.

### **vs Botlhale**

U9 won 12 - 0  
U11A lost 0 - 1  
U13B won 4 - 0

### **vs TDS**

U11B lost 0 - 1

## **PnP U13 Soccer Tournament**

Won 1, lost 1 and drew 1

### **vs Westwood**

U9 won 6 - 0  
U11A lost 0 - 1  
U11B won 2 - 1  
U13A won 5 - 0  
U13B drew 0 - 0

### **vs Broadhurst**

U9 won 4 - 1  
U11 lost 0 - 4  
U13 drew 0 - 0

### **vs Legae**

U9 won 10 - 1  
U11 drew 1 - 1  
U13 drew 1 - 1

## **U13 Soccer Festival**

The following results were as follows:

vs Acaia drew 0 - 0  
vs Crescent drew 0 - 0  
vs Westwood won 1 - 0  
vs Baobab won 1 - 0  
vs Rasarura won 2 - 0

The players are to be congratulated for the spirit in which they played these matches, and the way in which they conducted themselves off the pitch as well.



# Netball

## Southern Schools

Well done and congratulations to Nikoleta, Tashatha, Rethabile, Judith and Watapiwa on their Southern Schools Netball selection.

### vs Botlhale

U9A lost 0 - 4  
U11A won 3 - 1  
U13A won 13 - 1

### vs TDS

U11B lost 0 - 25

### vs Westwood

U9A won 13 - 2  
U9B won 10 - 1  
U11A won 6 - 0  
U11B won 4 - 1  
U13A won 16 - 0

### vs Broadhurst

U9 A won 3 - 0  
U9B won 9 - 0  
U11A won 9 - 7  
U11B won 7 - 0  
U13A won 22 - 0  
U13B won 10 - 1

### vs Legae

U9 won 7 - 2  
U11 lost 5 - 8

## U9 Netball Tournament

The team was placed in Pool A and became very nervous when they saw how big the girls were from the other schools. For some of the girls it was their first time in a match situation.

vs Westwood lost 0 - 1  
vs Baobab lost 1 - 3  
vs Baobab B lost 2 - 3  
vs Legae lost 1 - 2

Although we did not win any of our games the girls had a lot of fun and learnt a lot from the festival.

CELEBRATING



Est. 1965

**THORNHILL  
PRIMARY**



July 13 2018  
Thornhill ICT Department