

Issue 60 November 23 2018

# Thornhill enews





# Dear Parents and Pupils

We continue to 'wind up' to the end of the year and there are many mixed emotions as I write this eNews-letter, as the end of an academic year also means many farewells.

Not only do we have to bid farewell to our Std 7 children, who have etched out their own footprint at Thornhill during their time and contributed to the many wonderful memories and records. However, I still have a few weeks to formalise this goodbye.

Unfortunately, we must also say 'Goodbye' to staff at this time. Mrs Candido will be relocating to Australia with her family at the end of the year and we will miss her energy, enthusiasm and drive. Mrs Candido started off as a locum teacher and this was followed by a year in Std 2, followed by another year in Std 5. I would like to wish her, Jared and the children all the very best as they start the next chapter in their lives.

Mrs Moremong will be retiring at the end of the year and she will be sorely missed. Mrs Moremong has been at Thornhill for 38 years and has given her whole life to educating children in Botswana and to Thornhill Primary School. She has shaped and guided many pupils throughout her time here, many who still come back and ask after her! Every one of them take the time to go and spend a few minutes with her, as they reminisce about life during their time at Thornhill. Mrs Moremong has given her all to education and I hope that she will enjoy her retirement, but this will not be goodbye, but rather until we meet again! Thank you for your enormous contribution and commitment to our school, Mma Moremong! Tsamaya Sentle.

Mrs Schubert will also be leaving at the end of the year, as her husband has been recalled to Germany. Mrs Schubert has been at Thornhill for 8 years and she has certainly contributed in so many ways. She has 'loved and nurtured' our Reception children over the years, giving them a sound foundation, as they moved on to Std 1. She was always game to get involved in staff netball and soccer. Musically, she contributed to both the Reception unit and in our concerts. There is some hope that she might return to Botswana and we hope and trust that our paths will cross again. To the entire Schubert family who have all schooled at Thornhill at some point, we wish you all well with your future endeavours.

## Pupil Achievement

Congratulations to Leatile Bakwena, who was recently selected to represent Botswana Taekwondo. He will take part in two competitions in the United States and Italy respectively in February 2019. We are all extremely proud of his achievements.

## PTA News

The Picnic was supposed to be our first event for the year, but, after several attempts, we eventually filled the school field with blankets, chairs and picnic baskets in Term 3. Liesl filled the air with her beautiful voice, while our 'little ones' had a whale of a time running around and enjoying the fresh air.

Our annual Golf Day once again took place at Gaborone Golf Club in October. We woke up to a chilly overcast morning, but what an amazing day! It was filled with much laughter and fun, thank you to all our valued sponsors and golfers for making this a memorable event.

We will have one final addition of eNews that will hopefully be sent out in the last week, highlighting the final events up to the end of the term.

I leave you with these words from Mitch Albom: **"Every ending is a beginning. We just don't know it at the time."**

**I Greaves**

Headteacher



# French DELF Examinations



This year, a total of 34 pupils sat for the Delf Exams at Delf Prime A1.1, A1 and Delf Junior Level. 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. The children had this to say:


“An opportunity to do Delf is something big. I had mixed feelings - excited and nervous, but it was easier than I thought. Our French teachers were a great help as they supported us through the whole journey. I am very proud of myself and all the Delf students.”  
Hrithika 6N

“Delf exams - if you think about it, the first words that come to your head is tension and exhilaration. We all know that we did well and passed with flying marks. Doing Delf was a special privilege. This also gives us a diploma that shows us our level and love for French. We are all proud of ourselves.” Emy 6N

“Delf was a good experience for us all. It was interesting to only be talking in French though we all got through it with many nods. The examiners and teachers encouraged us through out. Delf has helped me to improve my French and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to thrive in French.” Siyanda 6N



# Std 1 Pie City Visit



Once again the Std 1 children visited Pie City. On arrival, Mr Ross greeted them at the door and told them the rules. He chatted to them about his bakery in an entertaining, fun way and the children loved him. They thoroughly enjoyed their tour and this is what some of the children from 1B had to say.

"At Pie City we saw Mr Ross. He told us not to touch things. He is very kind. I like Mr Ross. We went to the cold room. It was very cold. We saw a juice machine. We saw how they make pizzas and pies. He told us to wear an apron and a hair net." Shane

"We went into a big cold fridge. I put on an apron and a funny hat. Mr Ross gave us some dough. We closed some lids. We folded a pie. We saw a big wooden spoon. They put cheese on a pizza. I love Pie City." Mikyla

"We went to Pie City. Pie City is a bakery. Mr Ross is a kind man. Mr Ross showed us how to make pizza. At Pie City we made pies." Leagile

"We went to Pie City. We saw Mr Ross. We played with the dough. I made a squishy pie. Mr Ross showed us around the factory. We watched how they make juice. We saw how they make pizza." Oliver



# Std 2 Farm Visit

This term the Std 2 children went to visit Julia Farmer's Organic Farm in Notwane. As usual, it was a good learning experience for the children, many of whom think food is made at Pick 'n Pay! After a talk about organic farming and a tour of the farm, the children planted their own spinach seedlings, which were lovingly carried back to school.

Here are some of the 2E children's comments:

"I liked to see all the different fruits and vegetables and looking for insects."

Caitlin

"I liked planting the spinach seeds and the things that you poke holes with."

Miles

"I learned that there are different coloured vegetables. The egg-plants used to be white. That's why they are called egg-plants."

Akeelah

"She told us that if pests are coming to eat your vegetables, you can just put a strong smelling plant in the middle of your vegetables and the pests don't like the smell and they stay away."

Bianke

"Mrs Farmer told us not to use chemicals and then we had to clap every time she said no chemicals."

Diako

"There was a quiz at the end and Caitlin won an egg-plant plant!"

Nina

"Things that can help the soil are egg shells, compost and bull manure."

Tema

"The good insects that kill pests are lady bugs, praying mantis and ants."

Zarar





# Std 5, 6 & 7 Concert



Lights, camera, action! That is how one can describe the Std 5, 6 & 7 Concert! A fantastic concert filled with amazing talent.

Instrumental pieces, singers, and dancers all showcased their talents and the audience enjoyed every moment of the evening. Every class performed a marimba piece with amazing energy, leaving young and old with a smile on their face.

After months of practice they all ended the show with their recorder piece, 'No Matter What.' The children did themselves proud and we look forward to another wonderful concert next year!

To those leaving, we hope that you continue your music journey.



# Trinity College

On Wednesday 7 November, our students sat their Trinity College London Music Exams. For some children, it was their first group, or individual exam and they all performed extremely well. Well done to our ensembles: the Senior and Junior Marimba Bands, who all performed very well, with the Junior Band obtaining 92% and the Senior Band 89%. The standard expected for these exams is extremely high and to achieve a pass, you must obtain 60% to 74%, to achieve a merit, 75% and 86% and a distinction is 87% and above.

The results were as follows:

Junior Marimba Band	Foundation recital	Distinction
Senior Marimba Band	Advanced recital	Distinction
Marissa Norkjaer	Initial Violin	Merit
Sophia McIaggan	Grade 1 Piano	Pass
Sara Dellow	Grade 1 Piano	Pass
Molly Sautereau	Grade 1 Piano	Distinction
Uyapo Ndwapi	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Thobo Motsu	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Kathryn Van Tonder	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Dintle Sebedi-Plaatjie	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Kagello Malumo	Grade 1 Recorder	Distinction
Joshua Bonna	Grade 1 Recorder	Merit
Segonyana Thupeng	Grade 1 Recorder	Merit
Anoushka Brahmbhatt	Grade 2 Piano	Pass
Naiko Lisenda	Grade 2 Saxophone	Merit
Kushal Patel	Grade 3 Violin	Pass
Naledi Merafe	Grade 3 Recorder	Distinction
Sally-Louise Ingwe	Grade 3 Recorder	Distinction
Bone Nkele	Grade 3 Recorder	Distinction
Munopa Maunga	Grade 3 Recorder	Distinction
Molly Sautereau	Grade 3 Recorder	Distinction
Victoria Lee	Grade 6 Flute	Pass



# Std 6 Camp

At 06:00, on 22 October, 75 very excited Std 6 children met in the Thornhill Primary School car park to board a bus taking them to Camp Tantebane. For many of the children, this would be their longest period away from their parents. Some parents looked anxious while others shed the odd tear! The children themselves waved goodbye with smiling faces. Upon arrival at the camp, the camp facilitators quickly and efficiently organised the children into their respective groups.

The children were introduced to a wide range of activities. These included team building exercises, nature walks/ talks, campfire stories and fishing. The various obstacle courses really tested the children and took them out of their comfort zone. It was very special indeed to see many of the children overcome their own individual fears, and feel immensely proud of their achievements.

Fishing was again a highlight. For many it was the first time they had baited a hook! Then to watch them sit patiently on the bank of the dam, waiting for the big one! No matter the size of fish caught, the screams of delight, and smile on their faces said it all.

All too soon the camp was over. On Friday, 26 October, at 05:00, the weary but very happy children boarded the bus for the return journey. The children said they would miss the early morning sunrise wake up time! However no names mentioned, but a female staff member failed to join the other two early birds on their regular pre-breakfast walks!





# Junior Engineers for Africa

On Monday, 12 November, the Std 4 classes spent the day in the Helen Mathole Memorial Hall working with Lego. From all the chatter, during and after the day, the children thoroughly enjoyed JEFA.

Working in pairs, the children spent many happy hours manipulating these small pieces of plastic. The children independently read and followed instructions to build pianos and chairs. They were then instructed to create motor vehicles and towers, using symmetry as their guide. Some very creative, tall and skinny, fat and sturdy towers were built. Gears were introduced and the children had to mesh a sequence of gears together, which then had to move.

The skill of communication was important in order to complete each task, as they had to plan, construct and solve problems, as they built their creations of Lego.

The children across the whole school had fun and an excellent learning experience. Thank you Thornhill and JEFA.





# Swimming

## 2018 Championship Gala

It was decided this year to split the annual inter-house gala into the championship gala and the normal inter-house competition. This was decided to give the swimmers a better chance to fight to be the age group champions.

This proved to be the right decision and we had the inaugural championship gala on Thursday, 08 November. It was a wonderful gala – well contested by the swimmers and well supported by the parents.

The following swimmers were age group champions

U8 Girls	Nikita
U8 Boys	Tema
U9 Girls	Arriana
U9 Boys	Josh
U10 girls	Kathryn
U10 Boys	Uyapo & Rayhan
U11 Girls	Jacinda
U11 Boys	Mthokozisi
U12 Girls	Nikoleta
U12 Boys	Jon-Martin
U13 Girls	Naomi
U13 Boys	Tumo

## Interschool Relay Gala

On Tuesday, 30 October, Broadhurst, Thornhill, Baobab, Northside and Westwood swam in the annual interschool relay gala at Thornhill.

It was a well-contested gala with all the spectators being entertained with some wonderful swimming.

The competition between Northside and Thornhill was exceptionally close and Thornhill were emerged winners of this event for the first time in many years.

Thank you to the coaches and the swimmers for an excellent season of swimming.





# Basketball

**vs Northside**

U13 Boys won 16 - 6





# Softball



## vs Legae

U11 Girls	lost	9 - 17
U11 Boys	won	17 - 9

## vs Westwood

U11 Boys	won	15 - 1
U13 Boys	won	23 - 0

## vs Dayspring

U13 Girls	won	14 - 6
U13 Boys	won	21 - 2

## vs Northside

U11 Girls	won	17 - 9
U11 Boys	won	20 - 12
U13 Girls	won	20 - 4
U13 Boys	won	17 - 2

## SCSA Softball

Congratulations and well done to the following children, who were selected for the SCSA Softball team to play against their northern counterparts in Francistown:

### Girls:

Kese Ramsden, Grace Pillar, Judith Machokoto, Megan Pieterse, Rethabile Tlholwe, Watapiwa Seitibatso, Tasha-tha Semausu and Tina Brink.

### Boys:

Yusuf Desai, Roelof Campher, Michael Badenhorst, Jaydon Delpont and Ammar Sheikh.

These children all did their school and parents proud, with the girls losing two and drawing one and the boys, winning all three. Well done to Roelof, who was awarded the 'Best Batsman' award at the end of the tournament. Further to this, well done and congratulations to Roelof and Rethabile on being appointed captain and vice-captain respectively.



# Sharks vs Pirates

The annual Sharks versus Pirates gala took place on 17 November. Over 120 swimmers, who have represented Thornhill over the year, took part. There was much excitement from not only the swimmers, but the parents as well, all of whom were dressed for the occasion and some of parents even took to the water. It was another tightly contested encounter, which saw the Pirates winning for the first time in quite a few years.

Well done to all the swimmers involved and 'Thank You' for a great year!





CELEBRATING



**THORNHILL  
PRIMARY**

"Was that my Pigeon?"



November 23 2018  
Thornhill ICT Department