

Issue 50 October 13 2017

Thornhill enews



Dear Parents and Pupils

When you read this article there will be less than 40 school days left of the 2017 academic year. This year seems to have flown by in a flash and October and November hold many events and functions, as we head down the final straight.

During this time, when so much is happening, it is necessary to make a concerted effort to slow oneself down in order to enjoy the journey, rather than only being destination orientated.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new parents to Thornhill and I trust that your time with us will be both happy and memorable.

Overall House Points Winner for Term 2:

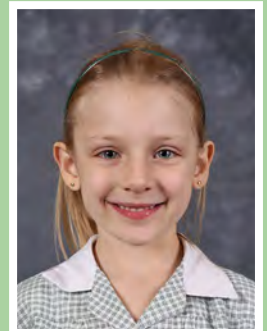
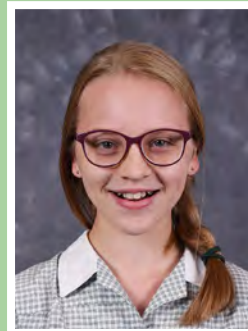
Chobe was declared the Champion House for Term 2 at the final assembly. Second place was awarded to Notwane, with Shashe and Limpopo in third and fourth respectively.

Pupil Achievement

Music

Bianke (1T) and her sister Helené (7W) were invited to attend the Hubert van der Spuy National Music competition in South Africa recently.

Bianke was the youngest contestant, who took part and Helené made it to the semi finals, which is a wonderful accomplishment considering that in total only 60 children across South Africa are selected to participate in the competition.

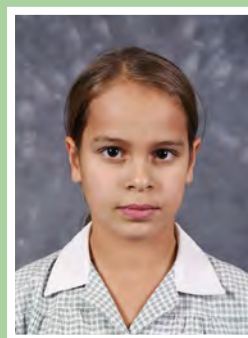
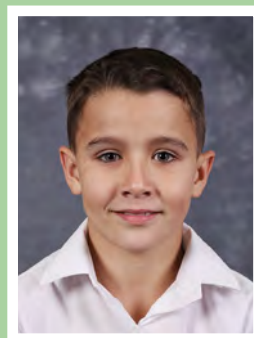


Well done and congratulations to Bianke and Helene – we are very proud of your wonderful achievements.

Judo

The following children from Thornhill School have been selected to represent their Judo Club in South Africa for the South African School championships and the George Open Judo tournaments.

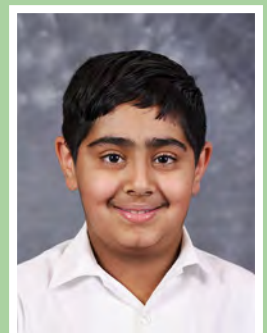
These tournaments will take place from 6-9 October and 26-29 October respectively.



Good luck to Kyle (5B), Brayden (4F) and Anoushka (4S).

Chess

Congratulations to Arnav (4F) who was recently placed first in his age group at a chess tournament endorsed by the Botswana Chess Federation. Well done and congratulations, Arnav!



Inter-House Maths Olympiad 2017

On Friday, 15 September, twelve Std 4, 5, 6 and 7 pupils were selected from each class, to represent their Houses in a Maths Olympiad, held in the HMM Hall.

A selection of challenging, lateral thinking problems were set by the teachers of each standard. Each group was given only 10 min in which to solve the given problem. Groups who completed the set task within the 10 min, could increase their score by solving a bonus problem.

The children enjoyed working together and found the problems stimulating. Everyone had a great deal of fun!

The winners were: Std 4 Notwane
 Std 5 Limpopo
 Std 6 Shashe
 Std 7 Chobe

Std 3 Sleepover

On Friday, 22 September, the Std 3 children had a sleepover at school. The girls slept in the Library and the boys slept in the Hall. When the children arrived at 5pm they were very excited. The girls went for a swim and the boys played soccer on the field.

Thereafter they had 'yummy' pizza and delicious ice cream for supper. After supper they played "stuck in the mud," on the field. Then, it was time to settle down and watch an interesting movie on "How to eat fried worms."

After the movie, the children got ready for bed and had a good night's sleep. They woke up early the next morning. They had to gather all their belongings and put them outside their classrooms. Then they had breakfast and went to the field to play some games until their parents came to take them home. The Std 3 children thoroughly enjoyed the sleepover.

'I enjoyed playing stuck in the mud. I had lots of fun with all my friends.' **Madison**

'I enjoyed swimming and playing soccer. I also liked the delicious pizza and tasty ice cream.' **Lorato**

'I enjoyed watching the movie. It was really interesting.' **Chiche**

Fun Sports Day

This event took place at the end of Term 2 and the children competed in their houses. Much fun, laughter and enthusiasm was displayed by all involved.

The final points were as follows:

1st – Limpopo

2nd – Shashe

3rd – Chobe

4th – Notwane

Congratulations and well done to all involved.

I hope that you have continue to enjoy Term 3 and that we will see you all supporting your children at all the events during the next couple of weeks.

I Greaves

Headteacher

Foundation Spring Day

Our third term got off to an eventful start. On the first Wednesday of the term, the Foundation Phase pupils were well prepared for Spring! They arrived at school in colourful clothes and did not forget to bring fruit and vegetables, for children less fortunate than us.

They gathered in assembly with beautiful spring hats and with their generous offerings that were donated to St Peter's Orphanage and Hospice programmes. Our children are learning kindness, empathy and community service from an early age. The children sang the wonderful compilation of spring songs with great gusto and were happy to bring their donation to the stage. The contribution of fruit and vegetables displayed on the stage was truly remarkable, all attributed to the very generous and compassionate families of Thornhill School.

It was a special way to start the term and our Wednesday morning. Thank you to our creative teachers and kind families who always give willingly and make the success of these days possible. It is always much appreciated.

U13 Softball Festival



The first weekend of Term 3 has become synonymous with the U13 Thornhill Softball Festival. This year we invited Clifton from Francistown, as well as Acacia from Jwaneng. Both schools descended on Gaborone and were hosted by our Thornhill families on the Friday evening. This puts a different slant on the event and much camaraderie and relationship building is done.

Well done to all the players who participated, as they acquitted themselves very well during this festival. The results were as follows:

U13 Girls

vs Clifton won 15 - 5 & 12 - 3


vs Acacia won 18 - 8 & 23 - 8

U13 Boys

vs Clifton drew 10 - 10 & won 10 - 9

vs Acacia won 20 - 1 & 21 - 6

Std 5 Camp Nelu



Once again, the Std 5 year group was able to enjoy their annual camp at Camp Nelu, situated at Hekpoort, in the Magaliesberg.


We enjoyed many activities such as the Giant Swing, where our team members pulled us to a great height and then we were released and felt the exhilaration of flying through the air. Similarly, we did a Zip-line activity, which required courage to step off the deck and once again go flying through the air.

We also loved discovering our artistic talent in the outdoor cooking activity, as we made 'smores' (burnt marshmallows squashed between two Marie biscuits), as well as a fruit kebab and bread - we all thoroughly enjoyed it. We had to prepare table decorations using props from the environment. This year, we were fortunate enough to see a green anaconda during the reptile activity, as well as a dragon lizard.

Low Ropes taught us to trust others to assist us, no matter what, and Rifle and Archery tested our ability to aim at a target.

Our free time consisted of relaxing under the shady trees, playing soccer, volleyball, or swimming in the refreshing pool. We thoroughly enjoyed our trip.

Independence Celebrations

A group of children in school uniforms are performing on stage. They are wearing light blue and white uniforms. Some are holding papers, and they appear to be singing or reciting. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the children.


Foundation Phase: The celebration of Botswana's 51 years of Independence was a wonderful success with parents and children alike, who were at the Foundation assembly ready to celebrate the country's special day. The entire Foundation phase had their part to play in the festivities and were well dressed for the occasion. The Receptions wore hats that showcased the different versions of the song "I live here in Botswana" written by Mrs. Schubert. The Std 1 children sang, "This is the way we wave our flags," and showed off their lovely Botswana Flags. The Std 2 children recited the National Anthem in English, "Blessed Be This Noble Land," and waved their flags to show their respect and support for the country they live in and love.

Junior School: The children who had chosen Botswana Traditional Celebrations as an afternoon activity in Term 2, spearheaded this year's Independence Celebration. After a term's rehearsal, the group had a workshop at the beginning of Term 3 to refresh and prepare for the assembly. On the day, the children showed a contrast between Botswana's traditional dance and the more modern form of dance known as Polka. They also sang songs that are popularly sung across the country within the genre of 'Chorale' and the children were exceptional.

Guests such as Mandisa gave a poem on Rhythm, describing how rhythm is embedded in Botswana's day-to-day activities. Std 4F accompanied Mandisa with a song that celebrates the uniqueness of the people of Botswana.

When the country's motto 'Pula' was chanted, it was heartwarming to hear the Thornhill children respond accordingly with 'a ene,' which translates to, 'let it rain.' The Thornhill community wishes Botswana another great year ahead. Pula!

Softball Tour to Clifton

A group of softball players in green and white uniforms with red helmets are high-fiving on a grassy field. The player in the foreground has 'Thandi' and the number '11' on their back. Other players are visible in the background, some in blue uniforms.

Week 2 saw the U11 teams travel to Francistown where they were hosted by Clifton and enjoyed two competitive days of softball. The players love the experience and the trip and many wonderful memories were left etched in the minds of the children.

U11 Girls

vs Clifton drew 10 - 10 & won 12 - 8
vs Mophato lost 8 - 13
vs JMS won 15 - 2

U11 Boys

vs Clifton won 24 - 5 & 20 - 8
vs Mophato won 14 - 2
vs JMS won 26 - 7

Cricket Tour to Durban



The last week of the holidays saw a very excited and eager bunch of cricketers board an Air Namibia plane from Gaborone to King Shaka International. The U13 cricketers set off on a four-match tour of Natal and enjoyed a very successful time, winning all four games while on tour.

vs Winston Park

Winston Park: 122 all out (Yusuf 2 for 33 and Aidan 3 for 12)
T/Hill Invitation: 127 for 4 (Patrick 32, Aidan 16 & Yusuf 15)
Result: T/Hill Invitation won by 6 wickets

vs Forest View

T/Hill Invitation: 113 for 6 (Aidan 32)
Forest View: 62 for 5 (Yusuf 1 for 7 and Roelof 1 for 11)
Result: T/Hill Invitation won by 51 runs

vs Northdene

T/Hill Invitation: 122 for 7 wickets (Patrick 30)
Northdene: 46 all out (Yusuf 2 for 5, Roelof 2 for 8, Bilaal 2 for 2)
Result: T/Hill Invitation won by 76 runs

vs Thomas More

T/More: 77 for 8 (Yusuf 2 for 5, Roelof 2 for 22 & Aidan 1 for 4)
T/Hill Invitation: 81 for 2 (Patrick 48*)
Result: T/Hill Invitation won by 8 wicket

Social Media

On Wednesday, 27 October, Dr Lizzie Harrison spoke to the pupils from Standards 4 to 7 during the course of the morning and then to parents and staff in the evening.

Dr Harrison is a qualified medical doctor with a BA in Neuroscience. She is based in Johannesburg with 'The Digital Law Company' and is currently involved in educating children and adults alike on the legal considerations of using social media, including online safety, protection of personal reputations and legal rights with regard to social media.

Her message was very informative and we learned that basically absolutely nothing we post on any social media platform, can ever be totally private or totally deleted.

Dr. Harrison provided the audiences with many examples of cases tried successfully in law.

Alarming, any post, if seen by even only one other person, is classed as published content, as if you had printed it on the front page of a newspaper. In the eyes of the law you are liable for all that content. If offensive under any law, it can lead to prosecution. Irresponsible posting can also have serious implications, if and when you apply for a job, or a position in a university.

Nowadays, it is becoming common for corporations and institutions to employ media profilers, who research your online history before deciding whether to offer you a position in their organization or not.

Although social media is an excellent communication and information tool, it is also the source of unwanted attention, cyber bullying, invasion of privacy and inappropriate behaviour.

So, if you wouldn't want your parents/children to see what you have posted, or you wouldn't want it put on a billboard (with your name attached) on the highway for all to see, then do not post it!

Softball

vs TDS

U13 Girls won 21 - 1

U13 Boys won 22 - 2

U11 Girls won 19 - 2

U11 Boys won 22 - 2

vs Broadhurst

U13 Boys drew 8 all

U13 Girls won 19 - 1

U11 Girls lost 13 - 7

U11 Boys won 22 - 5



Basketball

vs Westwood

U13 - Lost 14 - 22



Chess

vs Rasarura

Thornhill won 20 - 2



Tennis

During the school holidays, ten eager Thornhill tennis players competed in the Botswana Junior Tennis Open. All the children played their best and Thornhill was well represented in the Junior and Senior draw. Nitya (2E) won Gold in the Girls U10 Red Ball Singles. Luca (2J) fought off some tough competition to take Gold in the Boys U10 Orange Ball Singles. Uyapo (3V) won Bronze in the Boys U10 Green Ball Singles.

In the Senior section, Shane (7W) won Bronze in the Boys U16 Singles and Abigail Tuffek (6N) won Gold in Girls U14 Singles and Girls U16 Doubles. Over 150 children entered the competition and it was encouraging to see so many young players on the tennis courts.



October 13 2017
Thornhill ICT Department



CELEBRATING



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