Issue 31 March 31 2015

Dear Parents and Pupils

It feels like just the other day that we all arrived back after the December holiday! The term is certainly passing by quickly and the children have all enjoyed an exciting and busy time.

As you are well aware, Thornhill celebrates its 50th birthday this year and we kicked off our celebrations by giving each child a stationery pack. We will have memorabilia for sale for parents and this will be available on an order basis shortly.

We will also be hosting a more formal evening in the second term, as well as our annual golf day and will forward information once it is available. We are looking for any old photographs or other memorabilia that our alumni might have and are willing to share with us. If you are able to assist in any way, then please contact me directly.

Lunch Box Survey

We recently conducted a 'lunch box' survey throughout the school and we will post the results up on the website shortly. As always, many children's lunch boxes tick the correct boxes, but sadly there are many who are 'not quite' there yet! As a parent with both my boys at Thornhill, I remember those 'lunch box making days' all too well and I realise it can be difficult at times to come up with creative and healthy options.

Mrs Schubert has kindly shared a list for healthier lunch box ideas as follows:

- Carrot sticks
- Cucumber slices
- Broccoli florets
- Cauliflower florets
- Sugar beans
- Baby corn
- Pickled cucumber
- Pickled onions
- Pepper strips
- Celery sticks
- Salad leaves rolled up with cheese or deli stick inside
- Brown bread sandwich filled with the following:
 - Tuna Deli meats Cheese Cucumber Avocado Peanut butter

- Marmite
- Fish spread
- Biltong
- Egg
- Cottage cheese
- Cheese sticks
- Natural nuts
- Raisins
- Dried fruit
- Cut up Apple or Pear
- Banana
- Pineapple pieces
- Mango pieces
- Litchis
- Plums
- Grapes

Remember, lots of water! Try and avoid - Cereal bars, crisps, chips, muffins, cupcakes, cakes, chocolate and chocolate bars, juice, white bread and any kind of sweets

Thank you for helping your child develop a healthy lunch box lifestyle!

Children Absent from School

I have noticed that a number of children miss school to go on holiday from time to time. While I understand this might happen occasionally, school dates are given to all families well in advance and I would request that, where possible, children are not taken out of school.

If your child is to miss school for any reason, then please send a letter to me requesting permission to miss school.

Afternoon Activities End

Please note, afternoon activities ended on Friday, 27 March and NOT on Wednesday, O2 April, as per the Parent Calendar. Please note, lunch and supervision payments were calculated on the afternoon activity programme finishing on Friday, 27 March.

Choir Festival

This is always a very special event and will take place on Wednesday, 8 April at Maitisong, starting at 18:00. Tickets for this event went on sale on Friday, 27 March, from the Thornhill Reception.

Early Closing – Easter Weekend

Please note, school will close at 12:00 on Thursday, 2 April for the Easter weekend. The administration office will close at 13:00. Please collect your child timeously to avoid any stressed children left behind.

Pupil Achievement:

Richard Southern recently took part in the FEI World Championships held in Gaborone. Richard was in a class with both children and adults and he was placed first overall. He also performed excellently in the Rita Brink Show, where he received one first and two, second place finishes for dressage and show jumping. Well done on your excellent achievements, Richard!

Tuli, Savuti & Liam participated in the Francistown Marathon recently and completed the 5.7Km. Well done and congratulations on your achievement.

Std 6 Cake Sales:

The Std 6 Cakes Sales this year were a great success. The ice-creams were especially sought after because of the heat. Of course the samoosas and other delicious cakes, fudge, popcorn and ice-pops flew off the tables. The Std 6 children worked well, coping with the crowds and enjoying their sales.

The money they raised will go towards the children of St Peter's Day Care Centre, it will buy teatime treats, winter clothing, as well as going towards the end of year Christmas party.

The Standard 6 children and teachers would like to thank all of you who helped make this fund raising venture the success it was.

In closing, I trust that you will all enjoy what is left of the term and I leave you with these words:

"Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go, they simply determine where you start." Unknown

I Greaves Headteacher

Std 3 Music Workshop



From 9 to 11 February, the Std 3 children, along with some of their parents, took part in a recorder workshop to give them a good grounding in recorder playing. The children learned many techniques, lots of music notation and also worked on rhythms using drums. We were fortunate to have some of our top Std 7 recorder players leading some of the sessions and the Std **3** children really enjoyed being taught by them. The workshop ended with a 'concert' to showcase all they had learned and the Std 7 children also played for them to show how well they will be able to play in the future, if they work hard.

Many thanks to all the parents who attended parts of the workshop, it meant a lot to your children to have you there and I hope you will continue to learn to play the recorder along with them. The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and learned a lot from it.

Std 4 Mokolodi Camp



As part of the outdoor education curriculum, Std 4 went camping at Mokolodi recently. We learnt a lot about animals and habitats and also about each other. This is what some of the children had to say about the different activities:

When we got to Mokolodi, we were all buzzing with excitement. Our guides were KT and OB. KT had told us that we had to follow the eight rules. Sahana

We did a water study. Our aim was to see how clean a stream was. My group fished out two insects, a flat worm and a thing that looked a bit like a gherkin. Andrew

In the morning, we went for a nature walk. Uncle OB told us all about the trees, animal footprints and skulls. It was really interesting. Usually I don't climb hills, but I did and the whole class could see Mokolodi. It was beautiful. Tashata

Std 2 Pie City

In the middle of February the Std 2 classes made their usual trip to Pie City. The children were just as excited about going in the school buses and driving past familiar landmarks, as they were about the actual visit. Putting on head coverings and aprons and using the hand sanitizer, was a highlight because they got to look and feel like real pie makers. They were given a small lump of dough to play with soon after entering the main factory and this both entertained them and kept 'little fingers' out of dangerous machines. They watched wide eyed as the giant mixer stirred the ingredients round and round and they gasped as the machine rolled the strip of dough longer and longer. After making their own pies with expert help, a visit to the cold room cooled us down on a very hot February day and we climbed back into the buses.



This year the Std 5 trip to Camp Nelu, situated at Hekpoort in the Magaliesburg, was, once again, thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils.

Although warm during the day, the evenings were cooler. Our free time was spent relaxing on the lush, green lawns or cooling off in the sparkling swimming pool.

Our favourite activities included zip-line which tested our "head for heights", giant swing when our peers had to pull us to the required height so we could enjoy the exhilaration to the full, drumming and outdoor cooking. To present our food we had to use our artistic talents, using decorations we collected from the environment.

Low ropes tested our skill in balance and we learnt to trust our peers to support us in this challenging task.

The food was delicious and they catered to all our needs. The facilitators were great fun and we learnt a great deal from them.





Std 5 Camp Nelu

Donation to CANSA

On Thursday, 12 March, I cut my hair to donate it to the Cancer Association to make a wig for Cancer patients.

Mrs. Maria Pezarro donated her hair last year and I was inspired by her generous action. Cancer patients loose their hair during chemotherapy and I thought I could make a difference. I donated my hair so a cancer patient who doesn't have hair can wear a wig and walk with pride and confidence. Hopefully I have inspired someone and made a difference in someone's life - Ria Desai

Well done to Ria, we are very proud of you and hope that your donation of your hair and money goes a long way to helping and assisting those in need.

Std 6 Parliament





Each year, in line with teaching History, the Std 6 children have their parliamentary elections and the results were as follows:

Std 6B:

President – Ahmed Ali Vice President - Chandrasekhar Minister of Finance - Bokang Minister of Foreign Affairs - Natasha Minister of Arts & Culture - Thabeng Minister of Environment & Health – Anne

Std 6C:

President - Hamzah Vice President - Umphilo Minister of Finance - Monei Minister of Foreign Affairs - Calvin Minister of Arts & Culture - Samuel Minister of Environment & Health – Ria

Std 6W:

President - One Vice President - Amantle Minister of Finance - Adrian Minister of Foreign Affairs - Sharan Minister of Arts & Culture - Abel Minister of Environment & Health – Kiara

Cricket

vs Westwood U9A

Thornhill 65-1 after 5 overs & Westwood 62-3 after 15 overs. Thornhill won by 10 wickets

U13A

Westwood 96 all out – Andile bowling a hat-trick. Thornhill 100 for 5 (Nikhil 42). Thornhill won by 5 wickets

vs Broadhurst U13A Thornhill 115 for 2 – Nikhil 40 & Saif 34* Broadhurst 97 all out. Thornhill won by 19 runs

vs Northside U9A Thornhill 116-7 after 15 overs. Northside 87-3 after 15 overs. Thornhill won by 25 runs

U13A

Northside 79 all out. Thornhill 83 for 5. Thornhill won by 5 wickets

vs Crescent U13A Crescent 16 all out. Thornhill won by 10 wickets

vs Northside Northside 54 for 3. Thornhill 55 for O – Nikhil 22* & Gareth 17* Thornhill won by 10 wickets

vs ISSA U13A

ISSA 113 all out. Thornhill 114 for 5 – Nikhil 18, Ronan 28 & Jack 12*. Thornhill won by 5 wickets.





Tennis



vs Acacia U11 Boys won 4-0 U11 Girls won 5-0 U13 Boys won 6-0 U13 Girls lost 2-3

vs Dayspring U13 Boys won 9-0 U13 Girls lost 3-5 U11 Boys won 6-0 U11 Girls won 4-2

vs Crescent U13 Boys & Girls won 6-1 U11 Boys & Girls won 5-0

vs Northside U13 Team won 22-17 U11 Team won 24-9

SCSA Tennis: Congratulations to the following children who were selected to represent SCSA in the annual North South tournament:

Farai Rugoyi Jack Tuffek Letlotlo Kebonang

Well done and congratulations to Farai who was selected as the SCSA captain for 2015.

The Thornhill Chess Team has participated in two matches so far this term. We played Bothale at Bothale and won the match with a score of 23 to Thornhill and 5 to Botlhale. Our next match was a home fixture against Crescent and once again the players played amazingly well and scored 19 points to Crescent's 4 points. Our year has started off really well and all the players must be commended for their enthusiasm and commitment to the sport.

Chess





CHOIR FESTIVAL 08.04.2015 | 1800 HRS | MAITISONG Thornhill, Baobab, Botlhale Northside & the PPC Youth Choir.