

**Thorney Tribune**  
**Thorney Island CP School**  
**Newsletter No 9**  
**July 2020**

Dear Parents, Governors and Friends,

I would now normally be commenting on all the events that have happened this term such as Sports Day, Skate School, It's a Knockout, Beach Day, Thorney's Got Talent, Educational Visits etc but due to the situation we all find ourselves in, sadly these events have not taken place. We have tried to make school as enjoyable as possible for those children that are able to attend and we look forward to welcoming all children back in September. As soon as I have worked out all the details and consequences of the recently published government guidance I will let you know how we intend to operate; this will most likely include staggered start/finish times etc similar to the system we have in place at present, that I'm sure you will agree has been working very well. Your patience and understanding at this time is much appreciated by everyone in school including governors.

**Mrs Moody - Retiring after 34 Years at Thorney!**

I know that many parents know this but it is now time to make it official; Mrs Moody will retire from teaching at Thorney Island Primary School in October after serving the school and its community for over 34 years.

Mrs Moody has been an amazingly dedicated, hardworking teacher who has always put the children first. She has never once shied away from a challenge and has always sought to improve her teaching, keeping up with new technologies and concepts whilst holding on to her core values which has meant she is so well respected by all staff. Since being at Thorney Mrs Moody has helped to support or mentor over sixteen Newly Qualified Teachers and countless students. She was appointed Assistant Headteacher in 2008 remaining in the classroom teaching for the vast majority of time as this is where her passion lies.

It has been a very strange end to her career with the Covid-19 pandemic and not being able to do all that she would have wanted to with her final class such as the residential visit. All we can say is that she will be missed by everyone at the school and we wish her well in her retirement. Mrs Moody will be with us in September, non-class based, to support staff in what could be quite a challenging year.

I would also like to inform you that governors have appointed Mr Vokes and Mrs Jones as Acting Assistant Headteachers for next year.

**School will Close For the End of Term on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 1.00pm**

Governors have agreed to the school closing at 1.00pm on Friday 17 July (last day of term) to enable both the Teachers and Teaching assistants time to get back into the classrooms which they will be using in September and set them up in line with government advice. Unfortunately, this is not a 'just job' and will involve a lot of furniture being moving and resources being prepared. Staff at present are working in different rooms with different T.A's, so having the opportunity to have an afternoon together to plan and work everything out before we break up will be invaluable to ensuring a smooth start in September. Doing it this way stops any cross contamination between bubbles before we break up for a much needed summer holiday.

## Mr Harms - New Class Teacher

This is to inform parents that Mr Harms has been appointed to work in Year 4 alongside Miss Noyce in September. Mr Harms will be teaching in Raven Class whilst Miss Noyce has Merlin Class. Mr Harms is a very keen sportsman and comes with outstanding references. Governors were extremely pleased that we were able to appoint such a high calibre candidate despite all the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions that were in place at the time. We are all looking forward to working with Mr Harms in September and I know he is keen to get to know the children. All the parents of children who are in his class will have hopefully received a letter from him to share with their child.

## Year 6

It is a real shame that the current Year 6 were not able to attend their residential visit to Cobnor or help with Sports Day this year. This year we were expecting these children to attain highly in their End of Key Stage Tests and although I'm not sure what they thought of not being able to do the tests, I know I will certainly miss showing their results to others! They have been a very hardworking group and one of the most stable cohorts we have had in many years. The vast majority of them being with us for 7 years and in this time I have got to know them as individuals very well. They have been an extremely independent group who have looked after one another throughout their time at Thorney whilst also being very welcoming to newcomers! We will miss them and hope to organise some sort of leaving assembly outdoors for them so that we can present them with their leaving books and wish them farewell.

## Uniform

As we fast approach the end of what has been a very different Summer Term, we are conscious that many parents are looking to buy items of school uniform in preparation for the new school year in September. Therefore, from week beginning Monday 6 July we will be selling school uniform afterschool and in order to comply with current social distancing guidance, we:

- will be selling the uniform from the playground only - please **DO NOT** come to the school office
- request that you adhere to the timetable set out below:

Monday 6 July	Tawny and Barn Owl Classes
Tuesday 7 July	Osprey and Falcon Classes
Wednesday 8 July	Kestrel and Harrier Classes
Thursday 9 July	Merlin and Hawk Classes
Monday 13 July - Wednesday 15 July	New Starters - Reception Class 2020

Uniform will be on sale between 2.45pm and 3.15pm on each of these days.

### Prices

Sweatshirts	£10.00
Cardigans	£12.00
Book Bags	£4.00

**Please ensure you bring the correct money, unfortunately we have limited change available.**

**We are happy to accept cheques, which should be made payable to Thorney Island CP School.**

**Please be aware that for hygiene reasons, children will NOT be able to 'try-on' any clothing.**

## Return of Reading Books + Collection of Children's Work

As we approach the end of term we need to audit all class reading books and library books; this will allow us to order any books that are needed for the new school year. To enable us to complete the audit, we require **ALL BOOKS** to be returned to school.

Due to the current social distancing measures in place, we have organised a day for each class to come to the school playground and drop off their books. There will be a table set up on the playground with a box to put the returned books in. At the same time, you can collect your child's school work, exercise books and any other belongings from their tray/peg (that would usually be sent home at the end of term); we will have these ready for you.

Please be advised, if you cannot collect your child's books etc. we will not be able to store them. If they haven't been collected, any non-valuables i.e. books & school work, will unfortunately have to be disposed of. The dates for drop off & collections are as follows:

Monday 6 July, 2.45 - 3.15pm	Tawny and Barn Owl Classes
Tuesday 7 July, 2.45 - 3.15pm	Osprey and Falcon Classes
Wednesday 8 July, 2.45 - 3.15pm	Kestrel and Harrier Classes
Thursday 9 July, 2.45 - 3.15pm	Merlin and Hawk Classes

## New School Hall

The school has been awarded a significant amount of funding to extend the School Hall and build a link corridor between both ends of the school. I was hoping that the work would start at the beginning of the Summer Holiday and take a term to complete, however, due to reasons beyond my control, I have been informed that the work will now start in September. My main concern is the disruption that this will cause as we may be without a Hall for a certain period of time. The logistics of where the Hall is located also means that running the school and keeping the children and staff safe with builders on site will also create many new challenges. However, the benefits in the long term will be very worthwhile as the current Hall is undersized as it was built for four classes not nine and having it used as a corridor in the middle of PE lessons has never been ideal! Your understanding and support during this time will be much appreciated as events like Harvest Celebrations may not be able to take place.

## Emotional Support & Well Being

The emotional wellbeing of all our children and families, whether in school or at home is extremely important to us. It is likely that you are experiencing a wide range of emotions, feelings and thoughts about being at school or returning to school. If you would like advice about supporting your child with this then please get in touch with Mrs Jones, SENCo directly on [jjones@ticps.co.uk](mailto:jjones@ticps.co.uk) or phone the school on a Tuesday or Wednesday. You can also contact Mrs Jones about any other additional needs you feel your child may have, whether they are currently at home or at school.

## Dates for your Diary

Details will be passed to you as soon as we have received firm guidance about how the new term will look.

Yours sincerely  
Dean Clegg  
Headteacher

## DIARY DATES

### Term Dates 2020/2021

03 September 2020:	Start of Autumn Term - 1 <sup>st</sup> Day in school
23 October 2020:	INSET Day (children do not attend school)
26-30 October 2020:	Half Term
18 December 2020:	End of Autumn Term/Break-up for Christmas Holiday
04 January 2021:	Start of Spring Term
12 February 2021:	INSET Day (children do not attend school)
15-19 February 2021:	Half Term
01 April 2021:	End of Spring Term/Break-up for Easter Holiday
19 April 2021:	Start of Summer Term
03 May 2021:	Bank Holiday (children do not attend school)
28 May 2021:	INSET Day (children do not attend school)
31 May - 4 June 2021:	Half Term
23 July 2021:	End of Summer Term/Break-up for Summer Holiday

NB - There are still 2 INSET days to set but with all the uncertainty at present I am holding back on setting these now.