



# Thornhill Lees Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter – October 2023

[www.thornhilllees.com](http://www.thornhilllees.com)

Tel: (01924) 430548

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that it is already October! We are so pleased with how well the children have settled into their new classes and how enthusiastically they are approaching their learning. It's been a very busy first few weeks of the school year!

### Ofsted

As you will be aware, we had an Ofsted Inspection on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of September. The children welcomed the inspector and enjoyed sharing some of their learning with him. Thank you to parents for all of your positive messages throughout the inspection. The report will be published within the next few weeks and will be shared with parents as soon as it is available.

### Parents Evening

We will be holding Parents Evenings on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October. We will send out information on how to book a slot next week.

### Coats

Now that the weather is changing, please make sure your child brings a coat to school with them every day. The children play outside in drizzly weather, so it is important that it is waterproof and has a hood.



### Pantomime



Parents of children in Year 1 and Year 2: you will receive a letter this week with details of the pantomime trip which has been organised for December. This is a very popular trip with the children. Please note that whilst the contribution that we ask for is voluntary, we heavily subsidise the trip with fundraising events throughout the year. Unfortunately, we are only able to run the trip if sufficient contributions are made.

Parents of children in Early Years (2 year olds, Nursery and Reception), we are hoping for the children to have a theatre performance in school, and will in touch with further information in the coming weeks.

### Traffic around School

As you are aware, there are ongoing challenges with parking and traffic around the school. We are working with the local councillor, Jackie Ramsay, to look for ways that we can keep the school site safe and accessible.

Please do walk to school if at all possible, to reduce the number of cars around the school site. Do not park on the zig zag markings, or block driveways. We will keep you updated with any further plans to improve the situation.

### Nursery Places

If you or any friends or family have a child who would like a place in our 2 year old or 3 year old nurseries from January or April, please pop in to collect a form from the office.

### Free School Meals

Your child may be eligible for Free School meals and the holiday food vouchers that have been provided each holiday so far, if you are in receipt of any of the following;

- Income Support

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### School Term Dates and Holidays for the Academic Year 2023-24

#### October Half Term

School closes on  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October**

School reopens on  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

#### Christmas Holiday

School closes on  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

#### Spring 2024

School reopens on  
**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

#### February Half Term

School closes on  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

School reopens on  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

#### Easter Holidays

School closes on  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

School reopens on  
**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

#### Spring Bank Holidays

School closes on  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

School reopens on  
**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

School closes for the summer holiday  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

#### Inset Days

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (Election Day)**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

#### Bank Holiday

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

You need to apply online with the DFE 'applying for free school meals'.

Each child who is in receipt of this funding means that school receives £1,385. This means we can buy more resources, provide additional support in classes and have outside providers come into school to support your child's learning.

As always, please come and see myself, Mrs Douglas or your child's class teacher if you have any concerns, questions or comments.

Thank you for your continued support,

**Mrs Booth**  
**Deputy Headteacher**