



**Thornford CE Primary School
NEWSLETTER – December 2021**

Comfort and Joy

At this time of year, we think about what Christmas means to us at Thornford. Our Golden Thread encapsulates the warm and welcoming nature of our school – to treat everyone with respect. This is something I notice, every day, as I walk around our school. Children are keen to help each other, whether it be with their learning or if they fall over in the playground. The kindness amongst pupils staff, parents and governors is tangible. It is wonderful to be part of such a caring school. We all look forward to our traditional celebrations to bring us all some much-needed good cheer.

Merry Christmas!

Beech Class – Learning Walk

Beech Class have been on a learning walk around Thornford for their history and geography topics; in geography they are focussing on looking at physical features and manmade features, in history they are looking at the language of time particularly how dates are used to order both personal and world events.



KS1 Nativity

Unfortunately, due to the prevalence of Covid in our local community we have made the very difficult decision not to have a live performance of the Nativity this year. We will instead film the production and upload on Tapestry and Google Classroom for families to enjoy watching at home. We hope that you understand the need to keep both pupils and staff safe and reduce the risk of Covid transmission within our school community.

Filming will take place on Monday 13th December in the morning, please can children come to school wearing their costume. (Please bring school uniform to change into afterwards).

The Big PTA Raffle

The Friends of Thornford School have joined the Big PTA Raffle, the top prize is £5,000 cash! One £3 ticket (50% goes to the FTS) gives you 12 opportunities to win a prize. If we sell at least 120 tickets in total the FTS will be entered into a separate draw to win money for school. This is the only raffle this Christmas so please dig deep and support it! [Friends of Thornford School - Support - The Big PTA Christmas Raffle \(bigptaraffle.co.uk\)](https://bigptaraffle.co.uk)

Father Christmas is coming in to school on Wednesday 15th December!

If your child would like to see him and receive a present, please would you make a £2 donation directly to the FTS account or click on the link below. Please quote your child's name as a reference. If you would like a polaroid picture of the moment, please add £1 to the donation. Unfortunately, due to covid restrictions in school, you won't be able to accompany your child but staff (and elves!) will be supervising.

<https://bopp.app/link/5bs1m>

Friends of Thornford School
Account Number: 23823040
Sort Code: 20 99 40

FTS Christmas Crafts

The children are busy making their Christmas crafts. These will be on sale before the end of term – more information to follow.

Children in Need

The Rights Respecting School Council raised a fabulous £147 for Children in Need by organising a non-uniform day on Friday 19th November. Thank you to everyone who donated.



Odd Socks Day

As part of Anti-Bullying Week we held an 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday 15th November; everyone wore odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique! Below are Elm and Acorn Class and their odd socks, can you spot socks you know?



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended the bookfair before half term. We earned an incredible £400 in commission to buy books for school.

Gardening Club

Gardening club would like to thank all of the parents that donated their Morrisons 'Good to Grow Tokens', we have used the vouchers for the following items; secateurs, compost, child's wheelbarrow, onion sets, netting and lots of seeds.

Thank you also two companies that have donated to gardening club in the last month:

- Avon Bulbs who have donated over 1,000 bulbs including, tulips, alliums, narcissus and hyacinth. www.avonbulbs.co.uk
- Sarah Raven who donated seeds to school for cut flowers.

We had a fabulous bulb planting session and are now looking forward to a very colourful spring!



School Clubs

There will be no school led clubs during the last week of term.

Breakfast Club and Premier Education will continue through to the last day of term.

Covid

As there has been an increase in numbers of people testing positive in the local area, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you that lateral flow tests are for people who are asymptomatic. If you or your child has any of the three classic symptoms of covid, (high temperature, continuous cough or loss or change in taste and smell) you are advised to get a PCR test: [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus)

Vacancy - Cleaner

Churchill Group have a vacancy for a cleaner at our school, 3.45 hours per day, 18.45 hours per week Monday – Friday (term time only) £9.50 per hour. Hours are flexible from 4pm onwards. Daily tasks to include classroom and toilet cleaning, mopping, polishing, dusting, vacuuming and waste disposal. Full on the job training will be provided. For more information, please contact Kirsty Short on 07590 351214.

Wraparound Care

Premier Education

Premier Education will be running after school childcare sessions on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 7th September. The session will run in the New Hall from 3.20pm – 5.00pm. The children will be taking part in the following activities: sports, arts & craft, team building exercises, wellbeing activities, problem solving challenges.

Please book your space for these sessions directly with Premier Education: <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/19827/?location=thornford>

Lower Covey

Lower Covey offer daily after school childcare at their site in Yetminster. Please contact them directly to book a space.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club starts at 8am every school day and is booked via ParentPay. Please book by 12 noon on the Friday the week before a space is required. Thank you.

School Nurse

Help and advice is still available from the School Nursing Team, they can be contacted by email: dhc.snadmin.hub@nhs.net

Thornford Kitchen – Recipe of the Month!



Gingerbread

(for eating or hanging on the tree!)

350g Plain flour
1tsp bicarbonate
2tsp ground ginger
1tsp ground cinnamon
125g butter
175g light brown sugar
1 egg
4tbsp golden syrup.

Method

- Add flour, bicarbonate, ginger and cinnamon to a bowl then rub in the butter.
- Mix egg and golden syrup together, add to the bowl and form a dough.
- Chill for 30 minutes then roll out shapes bake for 10-12 minutes at 170.
- Then decorate with icing and glitter etc....

Support the FTS whilst shopping

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support the Friends of Thornford School you shop, at no cost to you! Please visit: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

The Giving Machine is linked to hundreds of retailers and you can support the school by shopping through their website, at no cost to you. <https://thegivingmachine.co.uk>

Dates for your diary

Friday 3 rd December	Open Morning for prospective parents. (Outside only no visitors in main school building)
Friday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
Monday 13 th December	KS1Nativity filming – please come to school in costume Thornford's Got Talent
Wednesday 15 th December	Class Christmas Parties - party clothes/non-uniform
Thursday 16 th December	Carol Service will be held in school - no parents Christmas Lunch
Friday 17 th December	INSET – School closed
Monday 20 th December – Monday 3 rd January	Christmas break
Tuesday 4 th January	First day of Spring Term
Monday 21 st February – Friday 25 th February	Half Term
Monday 28 th February	INSET – School closed
Monday 11 th April – Friday 22 nd April	Easter break

As always, if you have any issue to discuss, please contact myself or my staff at the school.

Neela Brooking

Head Teacher Office@thornford.dorset.sch.uk 01935 872706