



Thorner Church of England Primary School  
Kirkhills  
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## Newsletter – December 2020



Christingle



Follow the Star

We have had a wonderful Autumn Term at Thorner and as the term comes to an end, we feel that the children (and staff) definitely deserve a break this Christmas holidays and to make the most of the magic that Christmas brings. Covid has certainly brought with it challenges for us all and we really do hope that you are able to enjoy some special family time together this Christmas, making precious memories (possibly different ones to normal). I think even Father Christmas has had to learn to use Zoom this year!

Thank you for all your support over the term and for working with us as we navigate school life through a pandemic. As I have said throughout the term, the children have made us so proud and really are a credit to you all. We hope you enjoy seeing just some of the amazing learning that the children have done this half term in the 'We are Problem Solvers' PowerPoint. (Please click on the link below).

['We are Problem Solvers' PowerPoint](#)

We look forward to continuing our learning journey with the children through our next whole school theme, 'We are Curators', which we will launch in January. Before then, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and we hope that 2021 brings you all health and happiness.

### Latest News

**Assembly and Worship-** thank you to Elm Class and Maple Class for sharing their learning with us in their Class Assemblies this half term. It was wonderful to see all of the amazing learning they have fitted in to the term. Thank you to the staff in Elm and Maple Class for co-ordinating the video assemblies to share with everyone. Cedar Class did a fantastic job with the Nativity this year. We missed the live audience, but





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I am sure there were plenty of proud parents enjoying their performance at home, with front row seats to the show! We would also like to thank our Worship Leaders and Ash Class for leading our Christmas Service this year. Watching Cedar Class in the Nativity and seeing Ash Class in their costumes in church certainly filled us with the Christmas spirit!

**Follow the Star**-well done to all of the children for the wonderful stars they made to decorate St. Peter's church. If you are passing church, please do feel free to pop in and see the children's stars. It has been lovely to play our part in keeping the Thorner community spirit going with our stars this Advent.

**Christingle**- we were so pleased to still be able to have our Christingle Service this year. Seeing the candles lit is always a magical moment. Thank you to Andy Nicholson for the video service and to Miss Trowell for making sure that we had 201 oranges at the ready! Thank you for your kind donations to the Children's Society. We raised £131.72.

**Reverse Advent Calendar**-a huge thank you to all of the families who sent in their Reverse Advent Calendars last week. Supporting St. George's Crypt is always a good way for us all to reflect on opportunities to be kind, caring and giving-not just at Christmas but all year round. Thank you to Chris Clark for once again leading on this initiative and delivering your kind donations to St. George's Crypt. It was all very greatly received, particularly as they have received less donations this year due to Covid.

**Classroom Christmas Fair**-a fun afternoon was had by all during our Classroom Christmas Fair. Some of the children were slightly puzzled by the different format this year, however, they threw themselves into the crafts and the games and enjoyed their treats. Thank you to the PTA for organising the event and to you all for supporting it. Also, well done and thank you to our Play Leaders who gave up their playtimes and lunchtimes to make the games for each class bubble to play. Thank you to Mrs Daniel for supporting them with this. The PTA have done a fantastic job this term with their fundraising efforts and we really appreciate the hard work of the committee and the support from the school community in raising money for the school. The money raised enables us to buy additional resources for the children and enhance the delivery of the curriculum, with opportunities that we are able to provide for the children. The PTA will be sharing with you in January what the money raised has been used for so far this school year and future projects that the money will be going towards.

**Christmas Celebration Day**-we look forward to seeing the children in school tomorrow dressed in non-uniform, with their Christmas jumpers and or Christmas hats and accessories. We will be enjoying a Christmas Dinner and a Christmas movie afternoon, with treats kindly provided by the PTA. It will be a wonderful way to end the term and a well-earned treat for the children.

**School reports**-as detailed in the previous newsletter, we will be sending our Autumn Term reports for the children on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January**. In this report we will share details of the progress that your child has made this term, any highlights and also targets for your child to focus on.





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**New roof-** following a successful bid for funding from the Government we are having works carried out to the school roof next term. Everlast is the company completing the works and they will be on site on Monday 4th, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th January to place scaffolding for the works around the school building. They will be setting up their own compound on the school field with their own facilities, near to the school car park. The workmen will not need to come into the school building to carry out the work or to use the school facilities and will ensure that the work is carried out with as little disruption to the school as possible. There will be some slight noise whilst they are working on the roof, but I am sure we will soon get used to it for the 8 weeks that it will take to carry out the works and it will be well worth it.

**Last day of term-**the term will finish on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** at the current 'normal' collection times of 3.10pm and 3.20pm.

## Key Diary Dates – Spring Term

### December

- 17 Last Day of Term- Christmas Celebration Day (Christmas jumpers/hats, Christmas Dinner & Christmas Movie afternoon (with treats from the PTA)

### January

- 4 Staff Training Day
- 5 School Opens
- 7 Start of Term Service (via video)
- 25 Parent Consultation Meetings begin (to be carried out over two weeks via telephone/zoom)

### February

- 5 Y6 Class Assembly (via video)
- 12 Values Awards Assembly (in class)
- 12 School closes for Half Term
- 22 School Opens

With our very best wishes,

Gemma Whawell (Acting Headteacher), Sharon Robertson (Executive Headteacher) and Sam Capstick (Senior Leader)