



# THORNTON THUNDER

*The Newsletter for Thornton Public school and its local community.*

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*Principal: Mr John Millburn*

**"Developing Learners for Life"**

**Term 4, Week 10**  
**No 37**

**11 December 2012**

## **The Last Newsletter**

As this will be the last newsletter for 2012, a huge thank you is extended to all Thornton Public School families. Highlights of the year have included the swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals, the many excursions the students have enjoyed, the wonderful breakfasts for our Mums and Dads, the Trivia Night, the Star Struck experience and of course the school musical. We are very lucky at Thornton school to have a fabulous school community and thanks go to the wonderful P&C led by Sharonne Moore, the School Council led by Lynne Howard, the Communications Team and of course our amazing Environmental Warriors.

We are also very lucky to have the best students around. To our kids who excel in sport, academics, music, art, drama and technology, well done. To our many students who turn up every day, try their best in the classroom, enjoy their friends at recess and lunch and have a go at all activities, thank you. You are the reason we have such a great school.

To all Thornton families,

**Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and have a wonderful holiday break.**

## **Congratulations to our 2013 Leaders**

### **Our Wonderful Gold Award Winners**

Scarlett Bender x 2  
Jarryd Morrissey x 2  
Katelyn Baker  
Caitlin Field  
Josie Morley  
Madeline Morley



### **2013 Prefects**

**Thomas Meldrum**  
**Austin Howard**  
**Cooper Daly**  
**Seth Moore**  
**Peri McBride**  
**Mackenzie Grant**  
**Jordan West**  
**Jenny Slater**

### **2013 Vice Captains**

**Clare Barry**  
**Isaac Falcioni**

### **2013 Captains**

**Jesse Budden**  
**Meg Cromarty**

## **Dates from the Planner**

### **December 12**

Whole school Retirement Assembly  
Cricket Cup Grand Final

### **December 13**

Choirs to Greenhills Shopping Centre  
Carols

### **December 17**

Year 6 Farewell  
P & C Meeting

### **December 19**

Last day of school for students  
Year 6 Clap Out 2:45pm.

### *Forward dates*

### **January 30 2013**

Students return to school

### **February 11 2013**

Swimming Carnival

### **March 1 2013**

Athletics Carnival

## **Surveys are Done**

Please see the last page for the results.

## **Look Out for those Jack Hammers**

A reminder that this week, a section of concrete near the Kindergarten rooms will be replaced. This means trucks, jack hammers and machines will be busy working in that area.

The small gate near the Kindergarten rooms will be locked and the area in question barricaded off.

## **Reverse Christmas Tree**

Thornton school is again supporting the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. Donations of packaged or tinned food and small children's gifts would be appreciated. Donations can be left in the school foyer. Our collection will be handed over at our Carols Night.

## **Email Trial**

The school is planning to email the newsletter to families in 2013. To help this run smoothly we will be emailing the newsletter to a different grade each week for the rest of the term. This week is Year 1 and Year 2. Please contact the office to update your email details.

Parent requests for 2013 student class placement may also be sent to the office this week.

## **Sport and Science Day**

Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) will be participating in a range of sport and science activities on Monday 17 December. Students are asked to give a gold coin donation to their teacher by Friday 7 December.

We are also looking for donations of empty and clean small 300/600ml bottles and plastic 'Chinese' take away or margarine containers with lids. Please leave these items with your class teacher.

## **Gold Awards**

Next year, the school wide reward system will change.

If students have 5 white awards, they may still bring them in and be awarded with a gold Award.

## **Into the Grand Final!!!**

Best of luck tomorrow to the Cricket team.  
Go Thornton!!!

## **Some Dates and Times to Keep in Mind**

### **Carols**

*Thursday December 13*

*6:00pm – 7:30 pm*

### **Claim the Date**

I know it seems a long way off but,

***SPRING FAIR***

***Saturday September 14 2013***

### **Library News**

With the end of Term not too far off I remind students to respond to the call of the annual big return of books. Please check at home and in the classrooms for those missing items.

Reminder notices have been sent out and this week letters requesting payment for the replacement of non-returned books will be sent home to parents/carers. This is sent only after a thorough check in the library and classroom for the non-returned items. If you have any problems please come and see me in the library.

Don't forget to utilise Thornton Public Library over the holidays. I would love to see you continue reading over the break and participate in the various activities they offer.

## School Banking

The last day for school banking for the year will be Thursday 13 December.

Bank some money and you could bank yourself an IPAD Mini.

By simply making a deposit with school banking before Friday 14 December you will go in the draw to win 1 of 12 IPAD Mini's valued at \$369 each for Christmas.

## Road Safety, Take Action

The local council has been approached to come to the boundaries of Thornton School to make sure that both motorists and pedestrians are behaving in a safe and legal manner.

**Park in the correct zone, make sure you and your children cross at the crossing, and as a driver, be extremely careful when driving around the school.**

## Term One 2013 Organisation

**Parents are advised that the allocation of classes on day one 2013 will not occur until a confirmed count of students occurs.**

**This means the allocation may not happen until recess, lunch or perhaps the next day.**

**In the interim, students will be allocated to their previous teacher or another teacher who is available.**

**This will ensure that classes once formed will remain stable for the year.**

**Thank you for your understanding.**

## P&C News

### *Presentation Assembly Speech*

I would like to say what an absolute pleasure it has been to be P&C President for 2012. It has been an awesome year. As a TPS parent, I am not only proud of the achievements of my own children, but also of all of the kids here at Thornton Public School.

Thornton traditionally has an excellent and very well deserved reputation in sport but 2012 has also seen our kids recognised in the areas of academia, public speaking, environmental efforts, arts, performing arts and choir & music.

This recognition is not just in the local and regional arena but also state wide. While it is quite obvious that we have a school chock full of talent – this talent may have very well gone

unnoticed and un-nurtured if it weren't for the dedicated staff that work so hard to offer our kids the opportunities to express themselves in such a diverse range of activities.

Not to be outdone by our kids, the P&C has attempted to diversify by adding many new, and we think fun and exciting fundraising ideas to our repertoire.

Not only have we had the Mother's & Father's Day stalls, Easter and Christmas raffles, Entertainment Books and our awesome shopping trip, but we have also done a pie drive and Masters Hardware BBQ and had our inaugural Trivia Night and Twilight Market and Family Movie Night. And at times we wondered why we were a wee bit knackered? But it has all been worth it as to date this year, we have raised over \$16,900.

That would not have been possible without the support, generosity and, here's that word again, talents of the amazing families and volunteers within the Thornton Public School community and the broader Thornton business community who have supported us wherever possible with their donations. So thank you to all of you for your time and efforts.

There's not much point having all that money and nothing to spend it on, so over the course of our year, the P&C have contributed to our school and students by donating money back to various causes such as our State and National swimmers and athletes; our That's Academic team; Our amazing Landcare programme, a little farewell present for our outgoing Year 6, and our first ever Teacher's Breakfast when we got up early to show our teachers and support staff members just how much we appreciate all that they do.

Over the course of **his** year, Mr Millburn (and his fabulous staff) have been wistfully making their wish list and it is now that we can proudly announce that the P&C would like to donate \$11,600 to TPS to not only upgrade our Technology to give full wireless connectivity to the school, but also funds to renew, update and increase our library's stock – with specific interest in literature approved for the Premier's Reading Challenge. We are thrilled to be able to support both good "old fashioned" learning as we remember it and

to also help bring the school well and truly into the 21st Century!

Speaking, cheekily, of things “good and old fashioned” I would like to ask Mrs Maslen, Mr I’Anson and Mr Arjonilla up onto stage to accept a retirement gift from the P&C on behalf of all of the parents and students of Thornton Public School. Your knowledge, dedication, commitment and genuine care for our children will always be appreciated and remembered, especially by those whose lives you have touched, as only a teacher can.

We also have to say goodbye to Vanessa who has been working in our school canteen as a supervisor and has now moved on to full-time work. We wish Vanessa the best of luck with her new position and thank her for all that she has done over her years here at TPS. On a positive note – we can now announce our new member of the canteen staff will be Paula Anderson, so welcome aboard Paula!

Before I finish, I would like to congratulate our new School Leaders for 2013 – well done guys – you will all be wonderful representatives for our school.

I would also like to wish the outgoing Year 6’s all the best for their big move to High School. You’ve got a steep learning curve ahead of you but you have been so fortunate to have your foundation years here at Thornton Public School and, hopefully, the lessons you have learnt and friendships you have made here will serve you well for your future.

Thank you also to the P&C Executive for your efforts this year – you girls are great!

#### *Christmas Raffle Tickets*

Remember that your Christmas Raffle Tickets were due in today – please get them to us ASAP (with the front page so you can be marked off) so that we can draw the prizes on Thursday night at our Christmas Carols!!! Don’t forget your picnic dinner and come along and enjoy the talents of our kids. Hope to see you there!

Enjoy the holiday season, Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year to you all.

## **‘Munch n Eat’ News**

### *Canteen Supervisor Position*

I would like to congratulate Paula Anderson on her appointment as our new Wednesday Canteen Supervisor. Paula has been a volunteer in the canteen for quite a few years now and has been on our Canteen Committee this year. Again, congratulations Paula and welcome to our canteen team.

Our Xmas meal deals are continuing however we are starting to run down our stock for the end of year break. So if the silver tin isn’t being placed out the front of the canteen for orders this means we may have limited stock of an item and orders will need to be placed over the counter to make sure that what you have ordered is in stock.

We will be having a limited menu on the last day of term. Pies, sausage rolls, roundas, mac cheese, lasagne, spag bol and cheese and bacon rolls only. Please remember that we will be changing our recess and lunch breaks next year. All orders for lunch will be given in the first break. For the first week or two please bear with us as we reshuffle our daily routine and see what works best with the new times.

### *New Volunteers*

Our roster for next year is looking pretty sparse. We are in desperate need of helpers for the 9 till 1 shift (ONLY TWO HOURS) in order to get our lunches out on time. PLEASE call into the canteen and put your name down to go on our monthly roster. We would also love to see some more names for full days as well.

The roster for this week is as follows:

Wednesday	12.12 – Joanne L, Janene L
Canteen Committee Meeting	
Thursday	13.12 – Toni S, Kellie W
Friday	14.12 – Ann D, Deanne S, Kim K
Monday	17.12 – HELP NEEDED PLEASE
Tuesday	18.12 – Tanya H, Nic M, Melissa I
Wednesday	19.12 – Elaine D, Limited Menu

I hope you all have a great Christmas and a wonderful holiday break. Good luck to those moving onto high school.

A big thank you to those volunteers that are leaving us for high school, you know you are always welcome back in our canteen anytime. You will be missed!

# Thornton Public School ASR Evaluation 2012

## Parent Survey Results

93 families surveyed.

*Tick the box for the answer you agree with most*

<b>Literacy</b>	Yes		No		Unsure	
I am happy with my child's progress in reading.	89		7		4	
I am happy with my child's progress in creative writing.	82		5		13	
I understand how my child's progress is monitored in reading and writing.	68		10		22	
The school's public speaking programs for have improved my child's learning.	68		10		22	
My child accesses the library.	98		2			
<b>Quality of School Life</b>	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely	Unsure	
Thornton Public School is a place where my child likes to go.	74	19	6	1		
I feel welcome at the school.	95	1	4			
My child feels they are treated fairly at school.	75	16	9			
Thornton Public School staff are approachable.	87	10	3			
I am listened to by staff.	82	10	8			
Thornton Public School strives to meet my child's learning needs.	82	16	2			
There is ample opportunity to be involved in school based activities.	95	3	2			
Thornton's uniform needs changing.	Yes	53	No	47		
<b>Engagement</b>			Highly engaged	Somewhat engaged	Not engaged	Unsure
<i>Please indicate the level of interest or engagement your child feels in relation to these activities.</i>						
Use of technology	Interactive Whiteboards		100			
	Netbooks		96			
	Computer Lab		100			
Gifted and Talented Initiatives			52	6	41	1
Creative and Practical Arts Groups			65	13	15	7
Choral groups across the school			68	18	14	
The School Musical			67	10	23	
Sporting opportunities such as weekly sport, teams, PE.			88	7	5	
Aboriginal education activities			58	16	26	
Community events, Breakfasts, open days etc			93	2	5	
Please comment on how Thornton can be the best school it can be.						



## THORNTON PUBLIC PRESENTS....

### CAROLS – THURSDAY 13TH DECEMBER STARTING AT 6:00PM

1. Year 5 and Year 6 - Run Rudolf Run
2. Year 3 - Christmas Don't Be Late
3. Year 4 - Polar Express
4. Stage 2 Choir - War is Over
5. Stage 3 Dance Ensemble – Mash Up
6. Kinder - Santa Claus is Coming to Town
7. Gats Choir – Hallelujah, Amen
8. Music Ensemble - Shake Up Christmas, Are you Gonna be My Girl
9. Staff Band - Winter Wonderland, Rock Around the Christmas Tree, Baby It's Cold Outside
10. Staff Item - We Need a Little Christmas
11. Raffle Draw and Reverse Christmas tree
12. Year 1 - Jingle Bells
13. Year 2 - No Worries Mate
14. Stage 1 Choir - This Little Light of Mine
15. Stage 2 Dance Ensemble - Dynamite
16. Whole School - Rudolf



