



# THORNTON THUNDER

*Thornton Public School and its local community.  
Government Road Thornton 2322 Ph 49641369*

*www.thornton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au  
Principal: Mr John Millburn*

**"Developing Learners for Life"**

**Term 4, Week 10**  
*No 34*

**13 December, 2013**

## **The Last Newsletter**

As this will be the last newsletter for 2013, 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 Camp Over, and our fantastic award ceremonies.

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 Canteen 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 lunch and afternoon tea, 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.

## **Photo of the Week**

*How great was the Carols Evening*



## **Dates For Your Planner**

**Monday 16 December**

Yr 6 Farewell

**Tuesday December 17**

Aboriginal PLP Afternoon Tea

**Wednesday 18 December**

Last day of Term 4

**Tuesday 28 January 2014**

Staff return to school

**Wednesday 29 January**

Students return to school

**Friday 31 January**

Kindy 2014 start

## Day One Organisation 2014

On Wednesday January 29 2014, all students in Years 1-6 will start back to school.

They will return to their previous teacher, except Kindergarten (2013) who will be taught by our current Year 6 teachers, until numbers are confirmed.

Once the numbers are confirmed, the students will be assembled in stage groups and classes for 2014 organised. The exact timing of the class formation is unknown. However it is expected that students will know their teacher by the end of the first day.

### A Few Dates for your calendar

- **January 31 House Captain Elections**
- **February 7 House Captain Inductions**
- **February 6/7 School Photos**
- **February 10 Swimming Carnival**
- **February 12 / 13 Parent Teacher Nights**
- **March 18 Athletics carnival**
- **April 8 Cross Country**
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### ICAS Results

Throughout the year many students have been participating in Nation Wide Testing call the ICAS tests.

The tests have been in the areas of Writing, Spelling, English, Maths, Science and Computer Skills.

Below is a table with some of the outstanding results achieved by our students throughout the year:

Student	Test/Achievement		
Yolande Atkinson	Distinction – Science and Computer Skills	Jackson Harvey	Credit- Computer Skills
	Credit – Science and Maths	Gemma Liddell	High Distinction – Computer Skills
Chloe Bashford	Credit – Science and computer skills		Distinction – Science, writing
Emily Bashford	Distinction - Writing		Credit – English, Maths
Patrick Curry	Distinction - MATHs	Dylan Bartlett	Credit - Maths
	Credit - Spelling	Charlotte Hughes	Credit – Computer Skills
Hollie-Anne Field	Credit-Computer Skills	Jarryd Morrisey	Credit - Maths
Lachlan Scott	Credit – Spelling	Matthew Burton	Credit – Maths
Hunter Cole	Credit – Maths	Ayman Palasara	Credit – Maths
Sophie Sorensen	Distinction – Writing, Maths, Computer Skills	Lochlan Vardy	Credit - English
	Credit - English	Monique Annan	Credit - Writing
Georgja Conicella	Credit - Writing	Cooper Daly	Distinction - Writing
Thomas Meldrum	Distinction- Computers	Clare Patterson	Credit - Spelling
	Credit - Science	Jenny Slater	Credit - Writing
Angie Sly	Credit – Maths	Jye Taylor	Distinction - Writing
Emily Watters	High Distinction - Writing		

### Our Resident Photographer

A huge thank you to Daniel Gilliam who has been taking photos for the school all year. If parents would like to view recent photos and download them onto a thumb drive, please contact the office.

A day when Daniel can be in the school will be arranged.

## Landcare

What a busy and successful year 2013 has been Thank you to staff of the Environment Committee, students for giving your time and P & C for your tireless support.

We were again fortunate to have conservation Volunteers Australia send a team to help with rehabilitation work of our school grounds.

We finally had our work shed painted by students depicting local plants and animals.

Thank you to the Milkovich family. The area that was covered in rubble and concrete next to the hall now has a Frog Pond: a lush shady spot which will be used as an outdoor learning space supporting environmental education.

Our school was also awarded a \$544.50 Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grant to help with the creation of a Citrus Garden. The funding has allowed for an area to have raised garden beds constructed – we are now growing oranges, lemons and mandarins – and Bush Tukka plants.



## A Wonderful visit to St Josephs on Friday by the choirs



## A lovely Presentation Day



## Our Outgoing Prefects



And our incoming Prefects.

Congratulations to our captains, Levi Clarke, and Sophie Sorensen.

Congratulations to our Vice Captains, Trinity Hopton and Ben Burgoyne.

## **P & C News**

My last newsletter for 2013!

I can hear your collective sighs of relief lol!

If you missed my speech at Presentation Day – I basically said that our teachers are awesome, our kids are amazing, our P & C Exec are fabulous and all of our parents and carers are sensational!!! Thanks so much for all of your support over this year – we appreciate everything you all do!

Carols Night – A Massive Success!

Last night's carols night was a blast – it was so great to see the oval covered with families overflowing with the Christmas Spirit!

Wee done to all our lucky winners – we hope you enjoy your prizes.

Thanks, as always, to our wonderful helpers – we luuuurve you!!!

Congrats to our Diamond Lizzy recipients!

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Safe and Prosperous New Year to you all.

Sharonne & all the P & C Exec

## **Munch n Eat News**

*Thank You*

A big 'thank you' to all our wonderful volunteers that have helped out in the canteen this year, without your help we would not be able to open the canteen daily and provide the service to the students that we do.

We have a few volunteers whose children are moving on this year and most of these volunteers have been with us since their child/children were in Kindergarten. Thank you so much for all the time you have given us throughout your time here. You know you are always welcome back if you're looking for something to do. You will be missed!

Thank you to:

Carol Budden, Leanne Papas, Leanne Noble, Linda Gabriel and Emma Harris.

Best wishes to you and your families for the future.

*Limited Menu on Wednesday (last day of school)*

On Wednesday we will only be selling pies, sausage rolls, cheese and bacon rolls, lasagna, mac cheese, spag bol and roundas. The silver tin may not be out front of the canteen of a morning if we start to run out of items.

The roster for next week is as follows:

Monday 16.12 – Leanne F

Tuesday 17.12 – Lynne H

Wednesday 18.12 – Mel I, LIMITED MENU

The roster for next year has been completed and we have a few vacancies. One on a Monday, one on a Tuesday, two on a Thursday and one on a Friday. If anyone would like to go onto our roster either for a full day or just from 9am until 11.30 please call in and see us or give us a call on 4964 1369 in the next few days. I will try and get a roster out to everyone before school finishes.

Hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a lovely holiday

See you next year

Cheryl and Paula

## Community News

Maitland Neighbourhood Centre says a huge thank you to the students who have so generously to their Christmas Hamper Appeal.

Please know that you have brightened Christmas day for families who live in your local area. What a wonderful school this is!

You are terrific!!



### Sponsors of Thornton Public School's rock ensemble

With our Manager Cassandra Lantry on parental leave, I have the chance to say hello and pass on my congratulations to everyone involved with the different programs at Thornton Public School. I was fortunate enough to represent Barclay Property at the school's presentation day this week and it was a genuine pleasure. I found the entire event terrific and there were many highlights for me including the performances of the Rock Ensemble and the Tuition Group, as well as both the junior and senior Dance Ensembles. Equally impressive was the school choir led by the Principal Mr Millburn. I had the privilege of firstly receiving the Certificate of Appreciation presented to Barclay Property for becoming a partner of the school and supporting the Rock Ensemble and then in turn presenting the Music Award to Tegan Douglas, one of the young members of the group. After also hearing of the various academic and sporting achievements as well as reading about all the events and activities in which the school is involved, I can understand why there is so much enthusiasm here about being a partner of the school. Again congratulations to the students, Mr Millburn and staff and parents, you must all be very proud of your school.

As we are near the end of the year I thought I would pass on some information on property sales in Thornton during 2013. You might be interested in knowing that there have been around 120 properties sold so far this year and that the median price has been \$346,785. For the month of November there were 19 sold and the selling price of a four bedroom home ranged from \$479,000 to \$495,000 (figures taken from EAC and realestate.com.au). This year the market in general has been fairly unpredictable. Since the First Home Buyers Grant was removed for pre-existing homes the first home buyers in this region have tended to look to the new developments, while the great majority of other buyers have been existing home owners either down-sizing or up-sizing. Just recently we have seen more activity from investors who had pretty much been out of the market for the past 12 months. I would say there is guarded optimism about how things will be in the first part of 2014. On that note I pass on from all of us at Barclay Property, best wishes to you and your family for Christmas and the New Year.

Michael Galvin  
Sales Consultant



**HELEN O'GRADY**  
**DRAMA ACADEMY**  
**2014**  
**MAITLAND**

“Increase your child's  
communication skills, self-confidence  
and creative talents.”  
*(Improvisation, Movement, Scriptwork and Productions.)*

**DRAMA CLASSES:**

**Maitland Polish Hall**  
(Established for 23 years in Maitland)

**PRIMARY : 7 – 11 YEARS**  
**YOUTH : 12 – 16 YEARS**

**ALSO: STUDIOS ACROSS THE NEWCASTLE REGION:**

Enrolments now being taken  
for 2014

( CLASSES CONDUCTED IN THE HUNTER FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS.)

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