

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 2, Week 7
No 18

13 June 2014

You Can Search the World and Find the Answer at Home!

For those who use the Thornton App, you will know that I have been on a study tour in America and Canada. During this trip, I visited schools and looked at how teacher performance was evaluated. Obviously, many other school organisational matters were also discussed.

A number of things were of particular interest. For example, in one school, a section of the playing field was flooded in the winter and then used as an ice skating rink. At the same school, the local council would plough a cross country ski track for the students to use during sport time. At another school, we discussed how the school organised itself in the extreme cold. At this school, students were expected to go outside even in the snow. Of course once the temperature dropped below minus 20, they were allowed to stay inside!!!

Every school had a large gymnasium and there was very little carpet. Schools had internal corridors and they found the idea of our classrooms having external access very interesting.

Schools are organised into districts of schools. Each district was administered by an elected school board who made decisions about facilities, budgets and priorities. In one school district, every property holder was levied a school facility levy. This money was then used to build drama theatres, new classrooms, science rooms and technology spaces.

Clearly, there were many differences between our systems but also many similarities.

We all teach kids, we all service our local community and we all prepare citizens for the 21st century.

The trip reaffirmed the fact that Thornton school runs great programs of instruction, has excellent facilities, terrific teachers and genuinely cares for our students.

There really is nowhere better than right here.

Photo of the Week

Our Minion Starstuckers



Dates from the Planner

Monday 16 June

Girls Soccer Game

Tuesday 17 June

Boys Touch football

Wednesday 18 June

Aboriginal Cultural Day

Environmental Education Committee Meeting

Monday 23 June

Reports Home

Silver Lizzy Day

Tuesday 24 June – Friday 27 June

Year 6 to Canberra

Friday 27 June

Last Day Term 2

Monday 14 July

School Development day

Tuesday 15 July

Students return term 3

Reporting Great Progress

Student reports will be sent home with students on Monday June 23.

For students in year K-3, parents reports based on a software program called PLAN (previously Best Start) will form the basis of the English and Maths report.

General comments and social achievements will be reported as normal.

If any parent would like to meet with their child's teacher about the report, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Aboriginal Cultural Day

Next Wednesday, all students will be enjoying an Aboriginal Cultural Day.

During the day, activities such as beading, plaiting, art, indigenous games and dream time stories will be enjoyed in class groups. After an afternoon tea of crocodile, emu and kangaroo sausage, a mini concert will be held in the hall. Our very own Aboriginal dance group will perform as will a visiting dance groups as well.

Looking forward to a fantastic day.

Starstruck Stars

A huge thank you to Mr Ziliotto, Mrs Colefax and Miss Hughes for their work in giving our students the Starstruck experience.

With both dance and choir groups participating, Thornton is well represented in what promises to be an excellent show.

Perform well kids and enjoy the experience.

Kids in Space

Week 9, term 3 sees our 2014 Musical, Kids in Space being performed for the pleasure of Thornton Community in the School Hall.

The show will run as it did in 2012. The school will be split into Green and Gold Cast.

Performance days will be Wednesday September 10 and Thursday September 11.

Each cast will perform three times. There will be three shows per day.

- Wednesday Matinee Show 12:00pm, Green cast
- Wednesday Afternoon Show 5:00pm Gold cast
- Wednesday Evening Show 7:00pm Green cast

- Thursday Matinee Show 12:00pm Gold cast
- Thursday Afternoon Show 5:00pm Green cast
- Thursday Evening Show 7:00pm Gold cast

On Friday September 12, the show will be run by each cast for the pleasure of the other cast.

Tickets will be on sale next term at the cost of \$10:00 per adult per ticket for the first ticket and \$5:00 per person per ticket for subsequent tickets. Childrens tickets will be \$5:00 per ticket.

Tickets will be on sale from the office mid-term 3.

All profits from the musical will go towards a new electronic sign for the school.

Further information will be sent home next term.

ZOOmazing!

There were some very excited little people at school this morning as over 90 children and 60 adults headed off for the great Kindergarten Zoo Excursion.

We look forward to seeing some great photos and hearing about those wonderful animals.

Trivia Night Fun

Book up the baby sitter, get your glad rags out and hone up on your trivia. Thornton's 2014 Trivia Night is planned for Friday August 1 from 7:00pm. Keep an eye out for further information from our wonderful P&C!

School Council AGM

Our Annual General Meeting for School Council will be held on **Wednesday 6th August** 2014 in the Staff Room at 3.15pm.

All positions will become vacant.

School council consists of a President, Secretary, the Principal, two staff representatives, two community representatives, P & C President and two parent representatives.

The Council meets six times a year and discussions are held with regard to all school policies, school finances. The meetings are held in conjunction with the P & C and Communications Team. We meet to also review the Annual School Report.

The School Council has been involved in seeking partnership from Beresfield Bowling Club, Hexham Bowling Club and Barclay Property who have all made a big difference to our school by supporting us with Sporting Programs, Tadpoles and the Barclay Rock Ensemble.

It is also a chance to have your say on any problems around the school for example, getting proper lighting over our pedestrian crossings as well as footpaths repaired by Maitland City Council. Should there be any interest in these positions please contact the school for more details.

Thornton Shopping Stars

A selected range of student work will be displayed in the Thornton Shopping Centre between the 18th June and the 23rd June.

It is planned that all classes will have some exposure over the coming terms. Come on over and have a look.

Mental Maths Strategies

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we're helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of "number" which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here : www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

Does speaking another language at home confuse children?

Are your children fortunate enough to be growing up in a home where two or more languages are spoken? Many parents worry that bilingualism can cause confusion and even delays in learning for their children, but according the Raising Children Network, that's not the case at all. A good knowledge of your native language can actually help your child with learning English. Bilingual children who are

read books and spoken to in their native language find it easier to learn to read and write in English when they get to school.

More information is at www.bit.ly/1m0agnk

P & C News

Hi everyone just a reminder that if you still haven't returned your Entertainment Book please do so and if you would like to purchase any more they are \$60 and are available at the canteen.

We are having a Trivia night on Friday 1 August. Tickets are \$10 each for tables of 8. You can either purchase a table for \$80 or individual tickets from the office. Please place money in an envelope with contact details including student name and class.

Clothing Pool has now changed to Monday mornings from 8.45 till 9.30am in the SPR.

Thornton Primary School P & C

Trivia Night

Raffle **1st August 2014** Games

6.45pm for 7pm start

\$10 per person

**Tables of 8 (Arrange your own or be
allocated a table)**

BYO Drinks and Snacks

**Tickets on sale from NOW until
end of term!**

Please take your money to the front office and complete
the form and place both in the envelope provided

Munch n Eat News

The roster for next week is as follows:

Monday	16.6 – Sandra, Dianne
Tuesday	17.6 – Penny
Wednesday	18.6 – Mel I
Thursday	19.6 – Maree W, Sarah R
Friday	20.6 – Amanda, Kellie, Jill

Thank you to all our helpers over the past week.
Cheryl and Paula

Community News



NICU Helping Hands Angel Gown Program NSW is having an open day for everyone to come along and see what the program is all about. We take donated wedding/formal gowns and lovingly transform them into outfits for babies who do not make it home from hospital. Our open day is for people to drop off donated gowns, look at what we do and perhaps volunteer some time or become part of the team. The day details are as follows:

The Hill Youth Centre
98 Mitchell Drive
Kariong

Sunday 22nd June from 10am to 3pm

Minmi Community Centre
Woodford Road
Minmi

Saturday 5th July from 10am to 3pm

For further information please email the organiser: Angelgownsaustralia.nsw@gmail.com and mark the message for the attention of Catherine.

Maitland Tennis Centre

July 2014 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS COACHING CLINIC

Pro-Shop: 49345016 Mobile: 0421882055

Post: PO Box 2411 Greenhills, 2323.

Web Site: www.maitlandtenniscentre.com.au

When: 30th June, 1st, 2nd July

(Mon, Tues, Wed)

Where: Maitland Tennis Centre

Cnr Page & Lawes St East Maitland

Time: 9.00am to 10.30am per day

Price: \$50.00 for 3 days per child (Family Discounts Available)

Age: 4 years to 16 years

Standard: Beginner to intermediate

Name (1)..... D.O.B.....

Name (2)..... D.O.B.....

Name (3)..... D.O.B.....

Address.....

Phone (Home)..... (Mobile).....

Email.....

BOOK NOW: PH 49345016, 0421882055 or

Online @ www.maitlandtenniscentre.com.au

DON'T MISS OUT

PTO

RHEE TAEKWONDO

THORNTON PUBLIC SCHOOL'S
SPORT ELECTIVE



THORNTON

6pm — 7.15pm

TUESDAY & THURSDAY *

Across the road from Thornton Public School

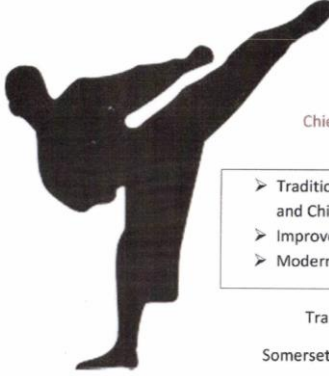
Pat Hughes Community Centre Hall

Taylor Ave, Thornton

*** Thornton Public School students enquire today
about our special offer to help you get started.**

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Fully insured, qualified professional and safe

Chief Instructor Nigel Richardson - 6th Dan Black Belt
with over 25 years Tae Kwon Do Experience

- Traditional Korean art of Self Defence for Men, Women and Children
- Improve Fitness, Flexibility and Concentration
- Modern Olympic Sport

Training Monday and / or Wednesday 6pm to 7.30pm

Somerset Park Sporting Complex, Somerset Drive, Thornton

Free Uniform valued at \$65 on presentation of this flyer

Contact now to try this exciting and rewarding sport

Ph: 0429 021 558 email: njr205@bigpond.com

THORNTON TADPOLES PLAYGROUP

Term 3 Enrolment

As part of our Kinder Orientation Program we have established a playgroup within our school. Playgroup will begin week 2 of term 3 and conclude in week 9. Playgroup will be Wednesday mornings from 9.00am to 11.00am.

The goal is to provide an opportunity for both parents and children to become orientated into the school community. Play based, developmentally appropriate activities will be provided in a safe and stimulating environment supported by a parent/friend. Experiences will be planned to develop a range of skills.

Tadpoles will operate during Terms 2 and 3. Playgroup places are limited. If numbers exceed the places available sessions will be reduced to a minimum five week program per family.

Criteria for Tadpoles Playgroup

- * The child is intending to enrol in 2015 Kindergarten at Thornton Public School.
- * The child will be accompanied at Tadpoles by a parent or nominated person. Please note that the nominated person must have a letter signed by the parent.
- * The parent/carer is involved in the activities on the day with their child.
- * The parent/carer assists in the setting up and packing up on the day.

Parents of children who fit these criteria and who would like their child to participate in Tadpoles may call and place their child's name on the Tadpoles list with the staff at the school office.

Thornton Public School
4964 1369

Thank you.



