



# THORNTON THUNDER

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

[www.thornton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.thornton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)  
*Principal: Mr John Millburn*

**"Developing Learners for Life"**

**Term 1, Week 6**  
**No 5**

**6 March 2015**

## **A What? A FOEI!**

It is **The Family Occupation and Education Index** and it is the measure of a school community's socio economic status.

A school's FOEI is determined by information which is included in the enrolment update form that is being sent home today.

Information on education level and employment type is put together with all families in the Thornton area to create a single FOEI score. The higher the score, the greater the disadvantage. Thornton school's FOEI is currently 103 which is a little higher than average of 100.

The FOEI score makes a big difference to the funding that comes into the school. For example, the higher the score, the greater the disadvantage, the greater the money that is provided to the school.

SO, by getting accurate information from our school community through the enrolment form update, we can potentially increase the funds coming into our school.

All families are encouraged to return the enrolment form update as soon as possible so our information is accurate and up to date.

A special prize will be offered to every class that has a return rate of 100%.

## **Photo of the Week** *Our rock band*



## **Dates for your Diary**

### **Wednesday March 18**

School Athletics

No St 2 Assembly

### **Monday March 23**

Bully No Way Assembly

### **March 23-27**

Parent Teacher Interviews

Wednesday March 25

Camp Quality Puppet Show

### **Friday March 27**

Zone Cross Country

Westpac Helicopter Mufti Day

Wear Red and Yellow

### **Monday March 30**

Young Leaders Day, Sydney

### **Wednesday April 1**

Bronze Lizzy Day

ANZAC Working Party Meeting

### **Thursday April 2**

Last Day Term 1

Easter Parade.

### **Tuesday April 21**

School Development Day

### **Wednesday April 22**

Students Return

## **PLEASE**

**The rear entrance to the school is not a drop off and pick up area.**

**Avoid the embarrassment of being asked not to use it for this purpose by not using it.**

## **Hunter Sports High**

For any Year 6 parent who may like their child to attend Hunter Sports High school in 2016, information as available at

[www.huntersports.com.au](http://www.huntersports.com.au)

Information flyers are also available from the office.

## **Congratulations to our Zone Swimmers**

Well done to our students who swam at the regional carnival on Thursday. By all accounts, every swimmer did their best and represented Thornton very well.

Congratulations on a fine effort.

## **Clothing Pool**

The Clothing Pool will now be open on Friday Afternoon from 2pm till 3pm in the SPR.

## **Years 6 are Off to Canberra**

Notice is given that Year 6 will be going on the Canberra excursion from the June 22- June 25. Cost will be approximately \$420. Full details will be supplied as the excursion date approaches.

## **Easter Is a Long Way Off!**

While Easter may be a long way off, parents may want to be aware that we are holding an Easter Parade again this year. It will be held on the last day of term 1, April 2.

For students in Kindergarten to Year 2, Easter hats are to be made at home. For students in Years 3-6, Easter masks, hats or posters will be made in class.

**How eggsiting!**

## **Voluntary Contributions and School Levy**

Thank you to the parents who have paid the Voluntary Contributions and School Levy. Every dollar helps us provide the best resources for our students.

## **School Banking Success**

Did you know that Thornton has gone from banking just \$30:00 per week to over \$230:00 per week. That is a lot of \$2:00 deposits.

What great habits our students are developing.

## **ANZAC Working Party**

The next meeting of the ANZAC working party is scheduled for Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:15pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

## **Be Aware not Alarmed**

Reports of a suspicious male have been made to the school. Parents are asked talk to your children about how to deal with strangers and what to do if they find themselves in an uncomfortable situation.

## **Phones and Mobile Devices**

Students are reminded that phones and other electronic games are discouraged from coming to school. If they are essential for before or after school, they must be turned off and left in the child's bag. In Bags and Turned Off is the rule.

### **Medications at School**

At times your child may require medication while at school. Only medication prescribed by a doctor can be administered at school. All medication must be delivered to the school office by an adult and please ensure you allow time to complete the prescribed medication forms. All medication must be in the original packaging with a label stating the child's name and the required dose.

To ensure your child's safety it is imperative that all medication is delivered to the office by an adult.

### **Enrolment Form Return**

Enrolment forms have been sent home today with all students. These enrolment forms are prefilled with the information which we currently have on file. In some instances enrolment forms have not been updated for 5 or 6 years and we are missing quite a bit of information. Enrolment forms have been recently updated by the Department of Education and we need to ensure we have accurate information for all students.

It is imperative that all parents take some time to check their student's enrolment form and make all changes required by writing over the incorrect information.

- Ensure you answer all sections on the enrolment form (especially any areas that are blank)
- Ensure you answer the questions regarding access to online services, permission to publish and parental signatures

Please don't hesitate to contact the office if you require any assistance at all in updating these forms. Please return completed enrolment forms by Friday 13 March.

### **Attendance**

The school has a legal obligation to monitor and record student attendance. If your child is absent from school it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for the absence. Parents must provide an explanation for all absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence.

To explain an absence you may:

- Send a note, fax or email to the school
- Telephone the school
- Call in to the office

Students who have been away for three or more days with no explanation will be contacted by the school.

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained in the same way as other forms of absence.

On occasion your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- Being sick, or having an infectious disease
- Having an unavoidable medical appointment
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Exceptional or urgent family circumstances (eg attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that you provide a verbal or written explanation within 7 days.

While students taking holiday during school terms is discouraged, if travel at this time is necessary an application for extended leave must be completed prior to leaving. You may need to provide copies of supporting travel documents. These absences will appear on students reports.

### **Cricket News**

Congratulations to our wonderful cricket team. Setting Rutherford a target of 105, Thornton bowled Rutherford out for 75.

What a great team effort!

### **Camp Quality Puppet Show**

The Camp Quality Primary School Education Program will be presenting a puppet show for all Thornton Public School students. The program consists of a live, educational performance focusing on cancer education, optimism and tolerance.

There is no cost to students.

### **Congratulations**

A huge congratulations to Noah Green who has been promoted to Prefect for 2015.

Congratulations Noah.

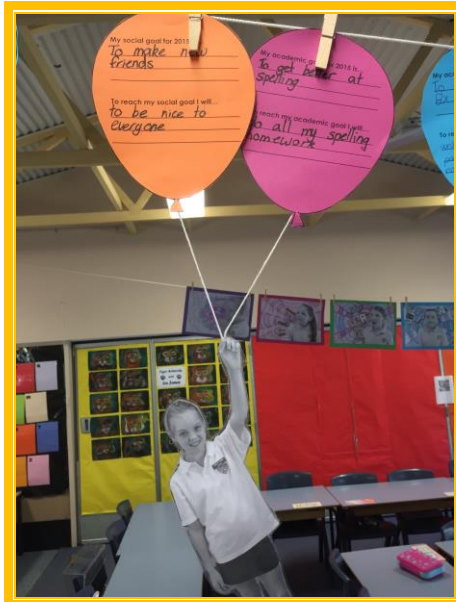
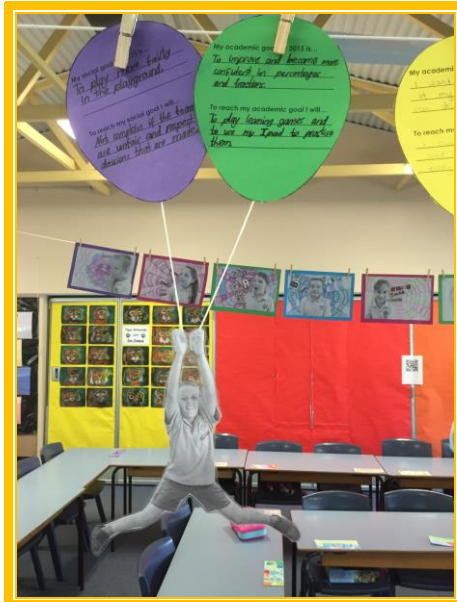
Noah will be inducted on Monday!

### **Thornton Public School Supports West Pac Rescue Helicopter**

On Friday March 23, for a gold coin donation, students may wear Red and Yellow to school.

Come along, get dressed up and support an excellent charity.

### **Pictures from around the School**



*5/6 S students floating around the classroom*



*Some more of Lex's Art Works*

**Public speaking**



Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child's next speech a success.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/public-speaking-in-primary-school>

### Science starters

Did humans live with dinosaurs? Does the moon disappear in the day? Kids love to know the answers to life's mysteries but there are a few facts they often get wrong in the name of science.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/10-scientific-facts-your-child-needs-to-know>

### Library News

Scholastic Book Club Catalogues are packed full of great books for all ages from as little at \$1 so everyone can get reading. Book Club catalogues have gone home this week and they are due back by Friday 13 March. No late orders accepted. All orders are to be placed in the Red Box in the library. Credit card orders are done online at Scholastic.com It is essential if you pay by credit card that your reference number is recorded on your order form and returned to the Red Box as well. Without this number your order cannot be processed. Take a look at the new Book Clubs linked online ordering and payment platforms for parents (LOOP). This is also a new way to order with scholastic.

Introducing

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**Book Clubs LOOP**

for Parents

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### Munch N Eat News

We have a new look canteen menu this year.

The [NSW Fresh Tastes @ School Guidelines](#) use a system that categorises foods into a colour spectrum ranging from **GREEN** to **AMBER** to **RED**.

**GREEN** foods are encouraged and should 'Fill the Menu'.

**AMBER** foods should not dominate the menu and should be 'Selected Carefully'.

While **RED** Occasional' foods are only allowed in school on two occasions per term. **RED** sugar sweetened drinks are banned from NSW school canteens.

What is a **GREEN** food?

Generally, foods in the **GREEN** segment:

- Are a good source of nutrients

- Contain less saturated fat and/or added sugar and/or salt
  - Help to avoid an intake of excess kilojoules
- Examples of green foods are fruit, vegetables, salad, lean meat and poultry, breads, low fat milks and cheeses, water

What is an **AMBER** food?

**AMBER** foods should be selected carefully as they have moderate levels of saturated fat and/or added sugar and/or salt and can, in large serve sizes, contribute excess kilojoules.

**OUR CANTEEN DOES NOT HAVE ANY RED FOODS ON THE MENU.**

*Primary Athletics Carnival*

An order form has gone out to Primary students for the Athletics carnival. All orders and payment need to be back to the canteen by Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March. The canteen has spare order forms if you need extras.

The roster for next week is as follows:

Monday	9.3 – Leanne
Tuesday	10.3 – Penny, Christine
Wednesday	11.3 – Mel
Thursday	12.3 – Viva, Sarah
Friday	13.3 – Kylie <b>HELP NEEDED</b>

Thanks to all our helpers for Pizza days and our volunteers for this week.  
Cheryl and Paula

### **P & C News**

Our next meeting will be held in the SPR room at 7pm this will also be our AGM so all positions do become vacant and new elections do have to happen.

You do have to be a paid member to do this and you will also have to have a Working With Children's Check and number. This will then be followed by our normal P & C Meeting where a light supper and child minding will be available at both events.

Our 1st Spring Fair Meeting will be on the 18th March, 2015 at 6.30pm in the SPR room. If you are interested in helping with Spring Fair on the 13th September, 2015 please come along and put your name down so we can keep you up to date with information.

Our Easter Raffle tickets will be distributed next Friday and donations for this raffle are required please. There will be a container in the office for your donations, your help with this will be very much appreciated.

*Canteen Shutters*

As some people are aware the Canteen shutters are need of replacing. I am currently in the process of organising quotes. If there are any parents or local businesses that you know can help in this matter please contact Korine Coleman on 0409 076 291 by Wednesday 12/03

*Relay For Life 2015*

This year we are hoping to get enough interest for Thornton Public to have their own Relay for Life team. This event is to raise funds for Cancer Council. This is a great event where survivors, carers and loved ones of passed family members can come together. The idea is to have one member of your team to walk on the track throughout the event, each can take turns or even set up camp and sleepover. There is entertainment, food stalls, people selling raffles and lots more and even the kids get involved and have a blast.

We have 2 choices of venues and dates. The first is at the James Street Maitland Relay on the weekend of the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> of September or the Newcastle/ Lake Macquarie which is being held on the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> November at Glendale Sports Ground. The event starts at 2pm Saturday and concludes at approx. 8.30am Sunday. We are looking for people to walk for an hour or stay and party all night, whatever time you can spare can make a difference

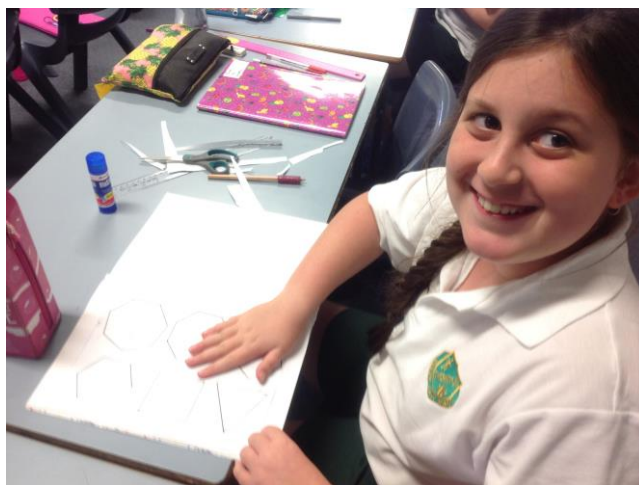
If you would like to get involved and would like more information please contact Korine on 0409 076 291. Also please let me know which date is best (majority wins) I am hoping to create our team in the next couple of weeks please let us know ASAP.

We hope that you all have a great week.

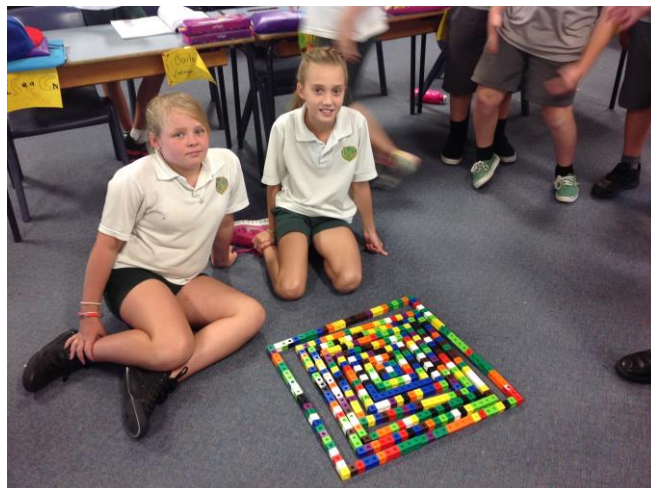
Cheers,

Gill, Sarah, Korine, Alissa, Penny and Kristie

### Class Report – 5C







## Community News



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Studios now open in Braxton and Rutherford