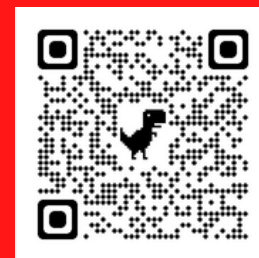




THORNS COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL

Blackthorn Road, Kenilworth
CV8 2DS

Find us online...





VISION & VALUES

Children come to our school to be happy and successful.

We strive to develop courageous, enthusiastic, honest young people who love to learn, to contribute and to achieve.

We ENRICH lives through our core school values which are recognised and rewarded through weekly celebration assemblies and, at the every half term, through the awarding of a special badge.

Enthusiasm
Nurturing
Responsibility
Integrity
Compassion
Heroism

ADMISSIONS

Thorns admits 60 children into two Reception classes from a range of pre-school settings.

An information evening for new parents is held in the summer term and children are invited to make preliminary visits.

This programme helps to alleviate any worries or fears and gives a positive start to school for both parents and children.

At the start of the autumn term, children are invited with their families for an individual visit session. Following this children attend in small groups on a part time basis, which enables the children to build relationships with staff members, adjust to new routines and have space to find their feet.

All children are full time by the second full week in September.

We aim to create two carefully balanced classes taking into account gender, friendship groups, term of birth, attitudes to learning and special educational needs.





CURRICULUM

EARLY YEARS

In the Early Years Foundation stage, the curriculum is based on the recognition that children learn best through play and active learning.

The 7 areas of the curriculum are taught through the whole class teaching of Phonics, Maths, Literacy, Music and PE as well as group guided reading.

Alongside learning in the classroom, your child will be exploring, learning and engaging in the different opportunities as part of our continuous provision. It is here that children practise and rehearse learning through play.

Perhaps your child will be discovering light and dark in the exploration centre, role-playing a real-life superhero in the doctor's surgery, digging for dinosaur bones or cooking a delicious recipe in the muddy kitchen. The carefully tailored provision allows children to develop all the characteristics required to become an effective learner.

CURRICULUM

YEAR 1 AND 2 (KEY STAGE 1)

Children receive daily teaching in English and Maths. This is supplemented by short, daily Phonics and Maths Fluency sessions.

Children also participate in two guided reading sessions per week focusing on building fluency and comprehension.

The curriculum is structured in half termly topics which are driven by key subjects. Topics are supported by a range of trips and visitors.

All subjects are well planned and sequenced to ensure that learning is secured and built upon in subsequent years.

You can find more information about each year group's topics on our website.

Outside of the traditional curriculum children participate in weekly learning forums to reflect on their successes alongside lessons teaching learning skills. These skills are fundamental to learning and performance in education, work and life. They are universal.





EXTRA CURRICULAR

We aim for all children at Thorns to have the opportunity to attend one of our lunchtime or after school clubs during their time at school.

All clubs are run by outside agencies and specialists. These extra-curricular activities enrich the children's learning and enable the majority to access new opportunities.

This year we have been able to run:

Multi Sports Clubs (Onside Coaching)
Lego Club (Creation Station)
Cookery Club (Bayleaf Cookery)
Musical Theatre (Fun Star Education)
Football (Danny Fagan)
French (Bilingua Sing)

Children also have the opportunity to participate in music tuition in school delivered by a specialist teacher.

FACILITIES

Our school grounds provide a variety of stimulating areas that are utilised across all seasons to provide outstanding learning opportunities.

Hidden from the road, our forested area provides the perfect location for the specialist teaching of Forest School and the tunnel, trees and hills of the Willow Garden provide a quiet haven for children to explore and play.

Thorns is in the enviable position of having its own onsite Swimming Pool, which is used by children throughout the year including those in Reception.

This 'training pool' has a depth of 0.92m meaning it is a perfect introduction for swimming at such a young age.

We employ a swimming teacher to deliver the sessions, who is ably supported by our dedicated parent volunteers.





NURTURING

Promoting wellbeing is an integral part of our wider curriculum. Alongside regular teaching of PSHE, time is ringfenced for a range of nurturing activities.

Children have opportunity to take part in regular gardening and tending to the school grounds.

Year 2 children also take responsibility to care for our chickens. They head out in all weather to clean the coop, provide food and water and collect any eggs.

All children learn at a different pace and in different ways. We endeavour to address all issues of special needs; learning difficulties, speech and language needs or physical difficulties. Intervention will include the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator working with the class teacher to provide detailed assessment and support.

We work in partnership with a range of specialist teachers and agencies to support the development of children requiring additional help.

CATERING

All children are able to choose a piece of fruit to have as a mid-morning snack at playtimes. Children are given their Thorns water bottle to bring into school each day.

The children are encouraged to drink water regularly throughout the day and are able to refill their bottles from filtered taps in each classroom.

At lunchtimes children are entitled to a free hot school dinner, cooked on site, or they may bring a packed lunch. Most children at Thorns have hot school dinners.

Children can also choose to order milk to have in the morning.

WRAPAROUND

We are able to offer bespoke before and after school child care through our partnership with Brambles. This can also include child care during the school holidays.

www.brambles-kenilworth.com
tel: 01926 854486





PTA

Thorns is supported by a fantastic PTA run by a committed team of parents. The PTA have worked tirelessly to raise much needed funds to support the school.

Over the last four years this has resulted in over £37,000 of purchases.

Some notable donations include:
Forest School Improvements
Reception Outdoor Shed
Book Bags and Water Bottles

New members are always welcome and you can find more information and the dates for future meetings via their Facebook page.

One of the highlights from last year was the Summer Extravaganza! The parents of Thorns won a competition which meant Olympic Athletes and Paralympian's joined the school for the Sports Day which ended with music and picnics for families.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

We aim to continue the positive attitudes you will have been encouraging at home through our three school rules:

- Be Kind
- Be Safe
- Be Responsible

We will continue to seek your support in helping us to maintain the high standards of work and behaviour we expect.

Weekly information newsletters detail classroom activities and learning focus for the week ahead. They also provide suggested learning activities which you can do with your children at home to support the learning in school. The school also has several online subscriptions to support children's learning at home.

Each term we arrange meetings between parents and teachers to discuss children's learning, attitudes and behaviour. The school operates an open door policy and you are encouraged to discuss any issues with one of the staff team.





LINKS WITH SAFE AND ACTIVE

We work closely with Warwickshire Safe & Active Schools to teach our children about road safety.

Our Year 5 children take part in Bikeability where children learn how to ride their bikes on the main road, bike checks and how to wear their helmet.

The school has two bike shelters to encourage children to cycle and scoot to school and we are hosting a week of active travel to school in May.

You can follow Warwickshire Safe & Active Schools on Facebook
@WCCSafeActiveTravel or X
@WCCSafe_Active

ENTHUSIASM

NURTURING

RESPONSIBILITY

INTEGRITY

COMPASSIONATE

HEROISM





**SUCCESSFUL,
CONFIDENT
LEARNERS.**

**RESPONSIBLE
COMPASSIONATE
INDIVIDUALS.**

Please contact us if you have any
further queries or visit our website.

email - admin2307@welearn365.com

tel - 01926 853875

www.thornsinfantschool.com