



English & Mathematics at Thorndown Primary School

English

Dahlicious Day!

We had a fabulous day on Friday! All the children looked fantastic in their costumes. Each year group looked at a particular story written by Roald Dahl and produced some excellent pieces of writing. We also raised £229 for the Roald Dahl Marvellous Children's Charity.

A big thank you to all parents and carers who helped make costumes and donated. We are very grateful and I am sure the charity will be too!



Booktrust and Save the Children have teamed up to launch a new campaign called 'Read On, Get On'. The campaign's mission is to ensure that, by 2025, every child is a confident reader by the age of 11. Take a look at the website to get tips, quizzes and join the book club. There's something fun for children of all ages - and for adults too!

<http://readongeton.org.uk>

Handwriting Workshop

At the beginning of this academic year, we introduced a new handwriting style at Thorndown. The children's handwriting and presentation is improving and we are extremely pleased. On 10th November 2015 at 8.45am, parents and carers are welcome to pop into school with their child to see them completing a handwriting activity. There will also be an opportunity for parents to attend a short 15 minute handwriting workshop afterwards with Mrs Browne. Please feel free to come along!

Mathematics

Skoolbo

A couple of weeks ago, we launched 'Skoolbo' across the school (except for Reception, who will be introduced to it after half term). This online resource is proving to be very popular with our children, who say that it's really fun and is helping them to become more confident. Parents have also said how impressed they are with Skoolbo. This week, we ran a successful workshop for parents who wanted to support their children with Skoolbo at home. We looked at how to set up a parent account and link this to the children's school accounts. Parents also learnt how to set challenges for their children, in both literacy and maths, using the Parent Dashboard. If you weren't able to attend the workshop and would like to know more, please go to Skoolbo.co.uk to download their parent guide. Alternatively, Mrs Gerrard will be around on Parents' Evening and will be able to answer any questions.

Support for Parents

The Family Maths Toolkit website has been re-launched. It's full of fun and engaging ideas to help families enjoy maths together. By following the 'Activities for children' tab, you can find information about key areas of maths learning at different age groups, links to useful websites and tips for how you can help your child at home and when out and about. The 'current teaching methods' link will take you to a selection of books that you might find helpful, including 'Maths for Mums and Dads' by Rob Eastaway and Mike Askew, which is very popular with parents.



<http://www.familymathstoolkit.org.uk>

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Magazines!

We would really appreciate your help please! We are in need of magazines to promote reading for pleasure and for the classroom book corners. If you buy magazines and your child has finished with them, we would be very grateful to receive any copies in good condition. Please send them in to school for Mrs Browne. Many thanks.

A maths dictionary for children

There are lots of maths terms we use in school today, which are new for many parents. There's a great online maths dictionary which contains hundreds of definitions, as well as animations and activities to help bring maths words to life. Go to:

www.amthsdictionaryforkids.com

to check it out for yourself!