

THORN GROVE GAZETTE

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2025



Dear Thorn Grove Families,

Welcome to this week's edition of Thorn Grove Gazette. This week has been jam packed! From a carol concert, to singing in the community, to a trip to Peak Wildlife Park.... our children have definitely been busy. Once again I would like to thank you for the incredibly kind donations sent in for the fair today. I hope to see you all at the fair later today.

Have a lovely weekend,
Miss Vose

Key Dates

Wed 10th Dec - EYFS Christmas Performances

Tue 16th Dec - KS1 Christmas Performance

Wed 17th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day

Wed 17th Dec - Christmas Lunch

Thu 18th Dec - Class Christmas Parties

Fri 19th Dec - School Closes

Mon 5th Jan - School Reopens

Mon 12th Jan - Y6 Parents SATS Meeting

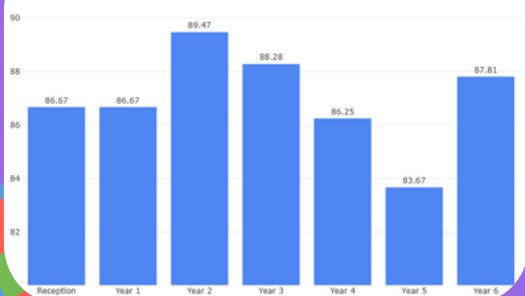
Star of the week



Assembly of the Week - Reading for Pleasure

Miss Beale and Ms Ridgway introduced the Spark Book Awards to the children in assembly (please read the information on the next page). The children were very excited to become judges and be the book versions of Simon Cowell!

Then, Ms Ridgway read a lovely Christmas story called 'The Christmas Eve Tree'. It tells the story of an ugly little fir tree that is taken to the city, but no one wants to buy him; they prefer the big tall trees. However, a homeless boy asks the shopkeeper if he can take the tree. He takes it down by the river, in a cardboard box, and decorates it with a few candles. The tree finds itself at the centre of a magical Christmas Eve it will never forget. A lovely message for this time of year.



Weekly Attendance

Together we nurture curious, respectful, aspirational individuals.

Spark Book Awards 2026

You may have noticed something a little different on Google Classroom this week... we are delighted to announce that Thorn Grove is a judging school for the 2026 Spark Book Awards! The 12 Books of Christmas is just the beginning; we are judging two categories (Picture Fiction and Non-Fiction) and every child in school will have the opportunity to explore all entries on the short lists. As well as this, we will be able to join a variety of online author events, take part in competitions to win prizes for individuals and our school, and all vote for our favourite book, with the national winner to be announced during an online award ceremony in June 2026. More details to follow in the New Year!



St George's Christmas Concert

This week, our talented Year 5/6 choir filled St George's church with music and festive cheer. Singing as a beautifully blended ensemble, they showcased impressive musicality - confident melodies, clear diction, and a lovely sense of togetherness in their sound. Our readers also shone, delivering their passages with confidence. It was clear they had taken great care to rehearse their phrasing and expression, adding depth and meaning to the service.

The entire event was a wonderful collaboration between staff, pupils, and the church community. What a joyful way to begin the festive season - with music, teamwork, and a shared celebration of the hard work our pupils have put into their performances.



Reception at Smithy Green Sheltered Housing

On Wednesday, Team Jeffers walked down to Smithy Green sheltered housing to perform some Christmas songs for some of the elderly residents. They sang beautifully with big smiles on their faces. They sang some Christmas classics as well as a few songs from our Christmas performance. We are so proud of how sensible and polite the children were. Well done Team Jeffers!



Careful and Considerate Parking

This week I have been contacted by a local resident who is concerned about the number of vehicles not parking considerately at pick up and drop off times. I am aware that for differing reasons, some of our families must drive to school and cannot walk. However, I please ask you to park considerately and carefully so not to upset and inconvenience our local community.

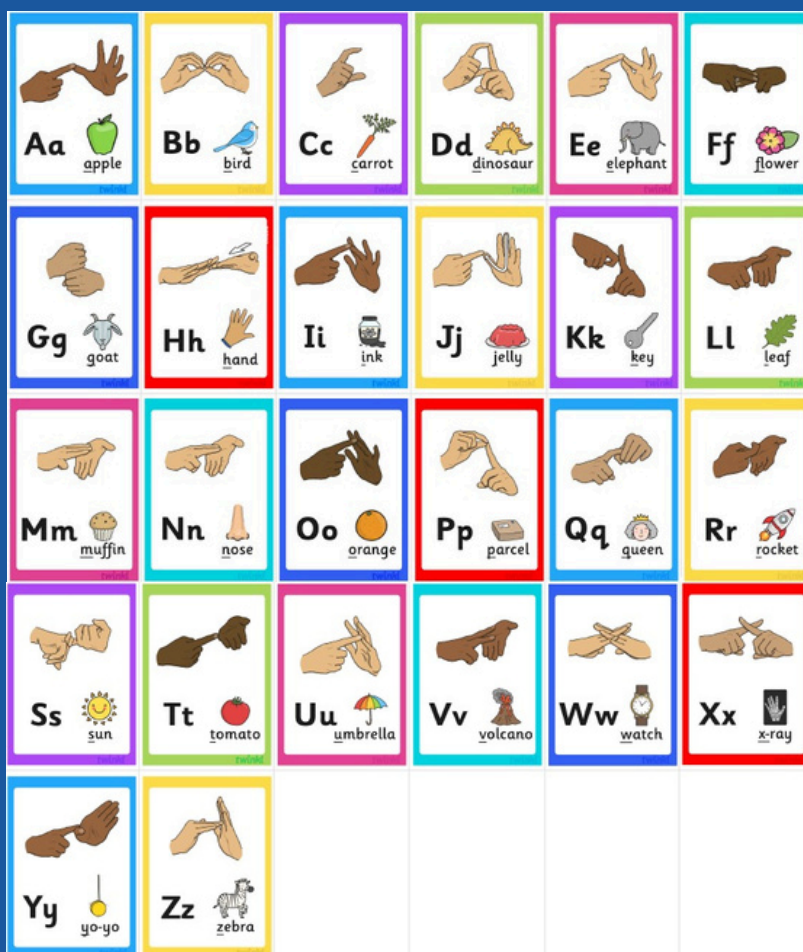
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British Sign Language Challenge



Can you learn to sign the letters of the alphabet?

OR Sign your own name?



BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE - GREETINGS



We often sign 'Good morning' and 'Good afternoon' at school. Could you teach your family?

Miles, Freddie and Madeeha show us how to sign 'My name is...', 'Happy Christmas' and 'Happy New Year'!

Thankyou children!



BSL Challenge

