

THE THORNTREE TIMES

ROOTED FOR SUCCESS





31st of July, 2023



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Interview with ma'am Jenica

by Joseph Mabusela

THORNTREE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Question 1: At what age did you start teaching and why?

I started teaching when I was 41. This followed the tutoring I did before, which followed the training I offered our clients when I was working in IT. I have always loved teaching others what I know. And I have always loved children. So I thought I'd make it official and put the two together!

Question 2: What are some pets you've had or would like to own?

I've always only had dogs (and once a cat). I have a soft spot for puppies.

Question 3: If you won the lottery that is R35 million and decided to give up teaching, what would you do instead?

I would invest in a huge library in which I would offer reading workshops and other activities to help children (and adults) to learn how to read and develop a love for reading, because reading opens the world.

I would also start my own publishing company, encouraging children to write books and publish them.

Question 4: What sports do you enjoy watching and why?

I enjoy watching rugby simply because it is an exciting sport.

Question 5 : If you didn't become a teacher what job would you take?

I won't easily change my occupation. I've been in business, I've been a computer/printer technician. I've had my fill. I love what I'm doing now.

Question 8: Which YouTube channel do you like and give a reason?

Story Time at Awnie's House, because I love the way she reads stories, and Crash Course/Crash Course Kids, because I like their humorous way of explaining things.

Thank you



Grade 7's thoughts and opinions on going to High school.

By Cambria Blignaut and Amelia Nkomo.

We interviewed two grade 7 boys, Troy Maré and Khomotjo Rachidi, who are going to high school next year.

These are some of the questions we asked them:



Troy Maré

Merinsky.

Has Lots of good sports.

I feel nervous.

No

Yes



Komotjo Rachidi

Piet Potgieter

Has great Sports

I feel stressed but excited

Yes

No

1. What high school are you going to?

2. Why are you going there?

3. How do you feel about going to high school?

4. Do you know any people that go there?

5. Is it a boarding school?

Overall they have mixed feelings about going to high school but are going to do great!

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The Debate Match by Salome Matlawwa

Learners VS Teachers

The topic was:

SHOULD LEARNERS BRING THEIR DEVICES TO SCHOOL?

The teams were:

1. Proposition team

- Kailah - First Speaker
- Nooraan - Second Speaker
- Ntokoto - Third Speaker
- Kholofelo - fourth Speaker

1. Opposition team

- Ma'am Stephane - first Speaker
- Ma'am Lizanie - Second Speaker
- Ma'am Nabeela B - third Speaker
- Ma'am Nabeela M - Fourth Speaker

The judges were

- Ma'am Helena
- Sir Maynard
- Troy
- Saira



The Debate took place on the 23rd of June 2023 at Thorntree Preparatory School. The Debate was about **SHOULD LEARNERS BRING THEIR DEVICES TO SCHOOL?** The Opposition team was against that and The Proposition team was agreeing.

THE Proposition team stated a lot of facts to why we should bring devices to school. They were giving valid reasons where by the judges agreed with them for example "It's not like we are in the 90s anymore it's 2023" everyone laughed even the Opposition team laughed.

THE Opposition team interrogate a lot of complicated questions that the Proposition team couldn't respond to. They stated very demanding reasons why we shouldn't bring devices to school. For example they said "being on your device for too long can hurt your back, eyes, sleeping schedule and you get distracted straight forward". Even the audience agreed as well as the judges.

When the judges put the marks together the.....Opposition team won because they asked a lot of valid questions, they could also answer back questions the other team asked.

Article By Ntoki Kopano Mosidi,

Who did I interview?

Ma'am Helyn

Why did I interview her?

To learn about the life of our beloved principal.

When was this interview?

2023/07/21

Interview Questions:

1.If you could turn into an animal, which animal would it be?

An Elephant, it is the most majestic animal with a great memory and the matriarchy within a herd is so beautiful to understand. An elephant's personality is about exuding confidence and calm in all aspects of her life. They may not be the king of their domain but certainly belong to the royal family. They have an imposing physical presence and spiritual demeanour and move easily through life with very few barriers that can hold them back. The elephant resonates with me.

2.What kind of hobbies do you have?

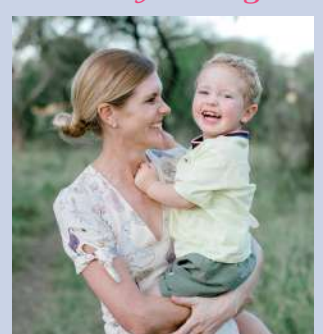
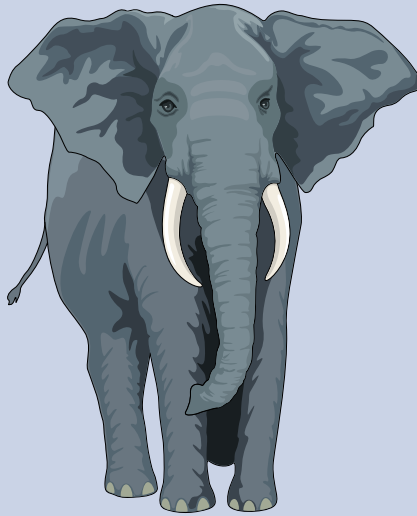
I love going to the gym, hiking and adventuring (anywhere!!!), Reading, and spending time with my family.

3.What is your dream 3 course meal?

I once had a job where I travelled internationally. Here I had a beautiful meal, gold gazpacho soup with ice cream, the main meal was calamari and dessert tiramisu. It was the most delicious meal I have eaten. I love trying different and interesting food.

4.What is your favourite tv show to watch with your family?

I love 'Master chef' which we watch as a family (funny as I am not big on cooking) and then Ruby also enjoys watching 'The good doctor' . If it were up to Oliver we would watch 'Paw Patrol' all day and night.



5. What does your typical day look like?

I wake up at 5 am, and we get ready for school. I am usually at school between 6:20 - 6:30. As I open my door my day starts either with teachers in my office or children. I love that, I love the fact that our school family can walk into my office at any time. Open school at 7:19 if a parent is not in my office and then usually I work on some admin but mostly I have people in and out of my office all day. My most productive time is always from 2pm to get my work done, but everyday is different with a different challenge and that is what really excites me.

6. Do you have a nickname and if you do please name it?

Heli, my mom and family call him Heli, I love it.



7. What do you think people misunderstand about you?

I think they misunderstand that I am always strict, at home and within my personal space I am not very strict. I have routine and boundaries but I am actually very relaxed. Keegan is more disciplined than I am at home. My heart is massive, I have a genuinely empathic heart for all people. I am passionate about people and children, right now my role is to instil discipline and boundaries within children and staff and I take my job very seriously but actually I am a very soft hearted person.



8. Finish the phrase "the way to my heart..."

Is through always doing your best, whatever your best may be. I want to see that you have given your all.

9. What are you most thankful for?

For my beautiful little family and of course I am thankful everyday for Thorntree.



10. What is the most exciting part of your job?

I love new projects, I love introducing new learning spaces, sport or cultural activities. I love being busy and a new project gives me energy to keep all the other 'admin' up to date.

11. Are you a planner or do you "go with the flow,"

I am a planner, but I am also a 'yes' girl. If you have an idea and want to see it through I will always have your back even though it is not part of my plans.

Thank you Ma'am Helyn for answering these questions, I'm so happy we have learnt more about you! Maybe we can learn more in the future.



BAKE SALE



By Thlabana Magwai, Mabitsela Motimele, Joseph Mabusela

On the 22 of June the ECD section held their own bake sale. The theme they had was a superhero theme!



The bake sale was amazing. There were a lot of fun things that happened like "Spin the wheel" which was played with R5 And the prizes were lollipops



and mostly suckers and sour worms. The ECD teachers were

selling pizzas, cooldrink, potato spirals, samosas, mystery packets, ice cream, hot chocolate and more. This was a wonderful day that we all enjoyed. We hope we can have another fun day like that one soon.



Idiom Dress Up!

by Sarina Bhyat

On the 23rd of June aka the last day of term 2, the grade 1-7s had to dress up as an idiom. This was the fun part of the idioms project, that the grade 4-7s were assigned (the dress up did not count for marks). It was so amazing to see the students dress up as idioms and use so much creativity, when they dressed up!

We did the idiom dress up because it's a fun way to learn new idioms, as well as for students to understand the difference between literal and figurative meanings.

I asked 4 students these questions about the idiom Dress Up:

1. How you felt on the day?
2. Was it fun?
3. If they learned a new idiom and if they did, which one did they learn?

Arariah's response:

1. "I felt really happy and joyful."
2. "Yes It was fun."
3. "I learnt the idiom time flies when you're having fun."



Time flies when you are having fun!



Rilee's response:

1. "I felt like I looked decent."
2. "Yes it was very fun."
3. "I learned the idiom as poor as a church mouse."



Head in the clouds.



Modikela's response

1. "I felt great, kind of because I had to wear a suit."
2. "It was fun."
3. "No."



Monkey business.



Saira's response:

1. "I felt like someone copied me (Sarina)."
2. "Yes".
3. "Yes I learned the idiom on cloud 9"



Two peas in a pod.





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Netball match: Intermediate teachers vs Foundation phase teachers

by Pieter Theron

On the 23rd of June the Intermediate phase teachers went up against the Foundation phase teachers in netball.

Our intermediate teachers are quite good so we wished good luck to them, the intermediate phase teachers got ma'am Marlune who can shoot hoops like no other! So I think the Intermediate phase teachers got this. The Foundation phase teachers have a chance to win but the chance of that is like 0-10%.

The Intermediate phase teachers won 11-8 against the Foundation phase teachers.

Ma'am Marlune and Ma'am Helena were the MVPS of the match.



Checkmate

By André Weideman



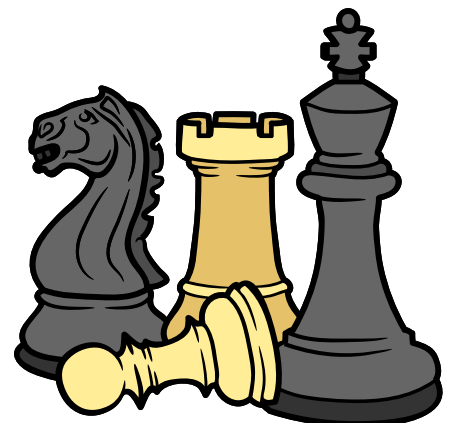
On the 15th of June, Thorntree and PEPs competed in chess at Orloff's.

The competitors for G.R. 4 was Lindo Mabena, Pabi Mamabolo, Oratilwe Mamashela, Lesedi Kgosana and in G.R. 5 was Kailah Pillay, Tokollo Noubatla, Anele Lamula, Kulane Nyalungu while Kholofelo Machete, Phomotso Seletela, Ranti Ramokgopa and Sello Makgotla competed for G.R.6 and the G.R.7 competitors were Khomotjo Rachidi, André Weideman, Thlabana Magwai and Joseph Mabusela.

Out of these 16 learners only 5 made it to the quarter finals.

These extraordinary learners were Lindo, Kulane, Sello, Phomotso and Thlabana. Unfortunately nobody got further than the quarter-finals, but we enjoyed the learning experience.

Thank you to sir Maynard for being our coach.



Good Sportsmanship

Be kind if you win and if you lose tell the other team that it was a good game.

Sports

Term 3

By Kgosi Seletela

As you've all already heard, we're switching To new sports this term. The boys will be playing cricket and the girls will be playing hockey.

We will have different sports seasons. Last term was soccer and netball season, this term it's cricket and hockey season.

In cricket, batting, catching, throwing and hand-eye coordination skills will be developed.

In hockey, passing, dribbling, shooting and stickhandling skills will be developed.



Interviewing foundation students to find out who their role models are. By Naaelah Baksa

Here at Thorntree we all have role models and usually never really get to talk about them . I decided to give a very good opportunity to 2 students in the foundation phase to tell me who their role models are. For each grade I made the interviews harder and easier than others because of the grade differences and this is how the interviews went:

Grade 2:

Hi, what's your name?

CW

Do you mind if I ask you a question?

Yes

Who is your role model? A role model is someone who you look up to .

Ben Ten

Why did you choose Ben Ten?

Because he can turn into aliens.

Ok thank you for your time and enjoy your day!



Grade 3

Hi, what's your name?

Zandraè

Who is your role model?

A role model is someone who you look up to

Messi

Why did you choose Messi?

He is gets very lucky at the goal and he scores

Why is Messi so important to you?

I don't know

Ok, thank you! You can now go back to class



THE END!!



THORNTREE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Planner for the rest of 2023



THORNTREE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

August:

- 2- Gr7 IEB MATCH test
- 3- Gr6 IEB CORE test
- 3- Round 2 Astro Quiz
- 9 - Public holiday
- 11- ECD & FP Open Day
- 14-18- Bosveld Kunsfees
- 18- ECD Grandparents day
- 22- Tritech Science Expo
- 23- Spelling Bee @Mitchell House
- 30- Chess vs MECS

September:

- 1- Entrepreneurs Day
- 2-8- Cape Town Trip
- 6-8 IP Camp
- 9- Book Club Literacy celebration
- 12- Literacy Day Dress up
- 14- Photo Day
- 14- MECS Debate Competition
- 15- MDA Inter school Poetry Competition
- 19- ECD Outing (Not confirmed)
- 20- FP Outing (Not confirmed)
- 22- School closes for Term 3

October:

- 7- Book Club Dyslexia Awareness
- 10- School opens for Term 4
- 25-27 & 30- IEB Tests
- 27- ECD & FP Open Day

November:

- 10- Senior Farewell
- 11- Book Club year end fair
- 13-20- IP Exams
- 24- ECD Concert
- 29- FP Bake Sale (Not Confirmed)
- 30- FP Prize giving

December:

- 1- IP Prize Giving
- 1- School closes for Term 4