

'Together we will make the difference'



June Palmer lives in Thornhill with Tia 10, and Branden, nine.

Children with special needs receive a **warm welcome** at Thornhill Junior and Infants School

Wise choices

June has two children with very different special needs and says Thornhill J&I proved to be a perfect mainstream school for them.

"Branden has additional needs including; speech, language and communication" says June. "Tia had some behaviour problems, although she is much better now. It was important that I found the best school for them both."

Happy atmosphere

For June, the happy atmosphere at Thornhill J&I makes it very special.

"The atmosphere is absolutely lovely," she says. "For me this is more important than things like SATs results. If I get a good feeling about a school and enjoy talking to the staff then I know my children will be happy too."



Part of the community

The school is very much a part of the local community.

"Thornhill J&I does so much in the community," she says. "They do after school and lunch time clubs and put on events, sometimes performing at different places or inviting people from old people's homes to come and watch, which is great."

Musical inspiration

June's children both enjoy music and there are many opportunities at Thornhill J&I for them to get involved.

"The music teacher is absolutely fantastic," she says. "His enthusiasm is fab, and when the kids are up performing, this enthusiasm shines through everyone. The community choir is an inspiration and makes us feel brilliant."

"Tia loves the after school clubs and plays trumpet, keyboard, guitar and is in the community choir. Branden enjoys drumming lessons, which helps to relieve some of his anger and frustration."

Professional staff

The standard of teaching at Thornhill J&I is excellent.

"Mr. Rowland, the head teacher, is brilliant," says June. "He has a young family himself and is very child-oriented, but he is also very down to earth and professional."

"All of the staff are very approachable. Because my kids have behaviour problems it's really good to know that we can all work together. We have strategies in place and great communication is key."

"Doing much better"

The facilities at Thornhill J&I includes a special resource for children with speech, language and communication needs.

Branden has full time support from different Educational Teaching Assistants in all of his lessons and at break times and lunch, and he is coming on in leaps and bounds."

"Tia is also doing much better and has access to a counsellor at the school so that she can talk to her about things. She is coming out of her shell now and is less reserved. She seems much more mature and grown up since being at Thornhill J&I and I think that this is down to the staff and how they handle her. They make so much effort to communicate with her."

Taking care

June is currently a volunteer at the school's Breakfast Club and is very happy to recommend Thornhill J&I to other parents.

"I really recommend the school. It is so comforting to me when I go in to know that my children are taken care of. I see how good the staff are when I go to Breakfast Club and they really are a pleasure to be around, so you would have no qualms about leaving your kids there."



Branden says: "I like the teachers because they help me with my work and help me play with my friends."

Tia says: "I like going to all the after school clubs and because the school is near home I can walk there myself."



Thornhill Junior & Infant School
Edge Lane
Thornhill
DEWSBURY
WF12 0QT

Tel: 01924 325335
Fax: 01924 325336
E-mail: office@thornhilljschool.co.uk

