

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update 2: 11.09.26



First Full Week

It was a busy and successful first full week at TJS. The children have been busy learning and working hard as they get used to their timetables and experiencing the different lessons within the curriculum. Each week in the newsletter we will provide an overview of the work they have got coming up for the week ahead which includes suggested activities to work on at home which we hope you will enjoy.

Morning Routine

Thank you for your support in keeping the playground adult free in the mornings. This helps safeguard the children and ensures only familiar adults are on the school site at that time. There are always staff on both gates who are happy to pass on any messages for class teachers or the office.

Morning Routine

Individual & Sibling Photos

On **Monday** we have the school photographer in for individual and sibling photographs.



Food Update

With the new Benedict's Law now in place and an increasing number of children with food allergies, we have updated some of our policies around food in school and reminding the children of other guidance we already have in place.

Firstly, our lunchtime catering providers, Dolce, have a computer system which flags all the allergies a child has and they served accordingly. Please check that our records are accurate for your child as their system picks up directly from Arbor.

Additionally, we would like to remind you that we are a nut free school and have been for some time so please check these in your child's lunchbox.

Next, we would respectfully ask that sweets / cakes are not brought into school to celebrate birthdays. This is something that could have unintended issues for the children with allergies and we would not expect parents and carers to provide different types of food to cater for all these needs. Therefore we

would ask you to move away from this idea, even though we understand the reasons behind celebrating in this way.

In line with this guidance and as part of our Healthy Hi 5 Gold Status, the snacks on offer from the Tuck Shop fit in with these guidelines. The cost is still 50p per item. We also do not allow crisps and chocolate to be eaten at breaktime, but they can be part of a healthy lunchbox option.

We have also moved away from any food based rewards in school and our processes for Food Technology have also been tightened in line with the new allergen guidance.



Breakfast Club

Should you require a place at our free Breakfast Club, please let the office know. This runs from the back door of The Snug, which can be found a short way down the path leading into school from the Cutbush Lane gate. It opens at 8:15am and the children are walked up to class through the inside of the building when the bell goes for the start of the day.



Safer Parking Campaign

Let's keep our children safe on the way to and from school

As we start the new school year, please help us create a safer environment around our school by parking considerately and legally.

- ☒ Park away from the school gate where possible
- ☒ Walk the last few minutes of your journey
- ☒ Keep crossings, junctions and dropped kerbs clear
- ☒ Never park on School Keep Clear zig-zags or yellow lines

Together we can make journeys to school safer for everyone.

WHY ARE YOU PARKING DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO OUR SCHOOL?

- ☐ I don't care about children's safety
- ☐ I don't care about a £70 fine
- ☐ I don't care about blocking key routes for people using mobility aids or pushing prams
- ☐ I'm selfish
- ☒ All of the above

HOW CAN YOU HELP KEEP US SAFE?

- ☒ Park considerately
- ☒ Never park on Keep Clear zig-zags or yellow lines
- ☒ Park further away from the school
- ☒ Avoid parking near junctions, driveways or crossing points

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3F	Elena
3T	Alisa
4C	Olivier
4T	Darcy
5B	Janelle
5G	Alana
6I	Bogdan
6P	Kaci-Jai

Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Correct Answers
1	Oakley	5B	1431
2	Connor	6P	1325
3	Herkus	6P	875
4	Eliza	5G	823
5	Chloe	4C	813
6	Penny	5G	806
7	Maggie	4C	624
8	Isabel	4C	524
9	Sophia	5G	465
10	Theo	4C	462



Current Learning



	WB	Subject	What the children will be learning	Ideas to support with the learning at home
Y3	14/9	English	Diary Writing	Show an adult how to write a sentence with a full stop and a capital letter
		Maths	Adding	Practise adding 1 digit numbers, you could use some objects to help you
		RE	Messages	Tell an adult one of the stories you heard in RE this week, what is the message of the story?
Y4	14/9	English	Diary writing	Have a go at retelling the Perseus myth to an adult at home
		Maths	Place value	Explain to an adult at home why 3289 is greater than 2389
		History	Greeks	Explain to an adult at home how artefacts can help prove the Greeks existed
Y5	14/9	English	Diary writing	Teach someone the difference between a simple, compound and complex sentence.
		Maths	Place Value	Read and write 6 digit numbers in words and numerals.
		History	Anglo Saxons & Vikings	Explain to someone why you wouldn't have wanted to be alive at the end of the 4 th century
Y6	14/9	English	Diary Writing in role as Oliver Twist	Ask someone at home how they think Oliver would be feeling at the end of the day when he asked for more food.
		Maths	Four Operations	TT Rockstars practice and attend early morning revision sessions.
		Science	Adaptation	Research different animals and how they have adapted to survive in their environment.

Home Learning

A reminder that all of our home learning is online through two main platforms and the expectation is that every child should be logging their reading, and completing challenges on TT Rocks every week. The children will also be learning their spelling lists.

Maths: Times Tables Rockstars
Reading: Boom Read



School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	Whole School Attendance this year to date
96.8%	96.6%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year
174	168



Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3F	3T	4C	4T	5B	5G	6I	6P
Attendance Percentage	96.1%	99.5%	94.4%	98.8%	97.8%	94.3%	98.8%	95.2%
Progress	+1.1%	0%	+4.4%	+2.3%	+2.7%	+2.2%	+4.9%	-5.7%

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, if Your Child is Late Every Day By... Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately... or They Would Have Missed Approximately...

5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CHARACTER.AI

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

AI replies are generated in real time rather than chosen from a fully checked script. Even with safety filters on, conversations can still move into sexual, violent, discriminatory, or self-harm material. These AI characters are often made by users, so a familiar name or child-friendly description does not guarantee that every response from the character will be suitable for a young person.

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

Characters on Character.AI can use the language of friendship, love, and empathy without ever feeling anything. Vulnerable young people may struggle to separate this simulation from genuine understanding. Romantic role-play or a character that demands attention, loyalty, or secrecy could also risk distorting young people's expectations around consent, disagreement, and the give-and-take involved in healthy human relationships.

UNRELIABLE ADVICE

Characters, like other chatbot platforms, are at risk of inventing facts or giving inappropriate advice while sounding completely confident. Characters may also echo a young person's assumptions instead of questioning them. This can become particularly risky when users rely on a character for guidance about health, mental wellbeing, relationships, money, or personal safety instead of checking with a credible source or trusted adult.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Character.AI chatbots can appear endlessly attentive, supportive, and affectionate, which is one of the hallmarks of the generative AI models that such companions are built on. A young person may start turning to a character chatbot whenever they feel lonely or upset and believe that it understands them better than the humans in their life. This can become more concerning when chatting starts to replace sleep, schoolwork, hobbies and friendships.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Character.AI chats may feel private, especially when a bot sounds personal and caring, but they take place on a company's online systems. Users could intentionally or unintentionally reveal their name, school, location, routines, images, or intimate concerns. Character.AI says some data may be retained to improve its services and AI models, so young people should never treat a chatbot like a confidential diary.

UNHEALTHY ENGAGEMENT

Be aware of warning signs such as secret accounts, bypassing age restrictions, hiding phone use from adults, chatting late at night, distress when access to the platform or character stops, withdrawal from other people, falling interest in school, or believing the character is conscious. Increased use may also signal that the young person is already lonely, anxious, or seeking help.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Ask what the young person enjoys about Character.AI and invite them to show you how the platform and their favourite characters work. Useful questions include, "Has it ever said something that felt wrong?" and "How can you tell it doesn't have feelings?" Avoid shaming them for using platforms like Character.AI or making them feel there is something wrong with them for doing so.

PAUSE, CHECK AND ASK

Teach young people to pause before accepting an answer from characters on Character.AI. Encourage them to check important claims against a trustworthy source and ask a safe adult when the issue matters. Never use a character as the sole source of medical, mental health, legal, financial, or safeguarding advice. Remind them not to share passwords, contact details, school information, live locations, or private images.

CHECK AGE, SETTINGS & LIMITS

Character.AI's minimum age is 16 in the UK, but open-ended companion chat is restricted to adults aged 18 or over. Users aged 16 to 17 receive a different experience built around guided 'Stories' and other creative or social features. Check their current settings, never help or encourage a young person to give a false age, and apply the same safety rules to other chatbot apps.

NOTICE AND RESPOND

Take action if chats involve sexual content, threats, coercion, abuse, self-harm or danger. Save relevant evidence, report the character and follow the setting's safeguarding process; educators should involve the designated safeguarding lead. If anyone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services. Childline is available on 0800 1111 and the NSPCC Helpline on 0800 800 5000.

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is an educator with almost 30 years' experience across teaching, school leadership, and governance. He works internationally, supporting schools and colleges with AI leadership and governance, as well as teaching the key fundamentals of AI use and safety to educators at The National College.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

X @wake_up_weds

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 09.09.2026



Townhill Junior School

Open Evening & Tours

We would like to invite Year 2 families to visit our school on the following dates:

Open Evening: Wednesday 11th November 2026 @ 5PM

Parents, carers & children are all welcome.

**Tours: Wednesday 21st October & Tuesday 10th November
@ 9.15am (no school children)**

You will have the opportunity to tour the school and learn about our school day and the exciting opportunities we offer.

To book onto our open evening or tour, please email sbudden@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk with date required and number attending.

We look forward to seeing you.





An 11-19 School where "Teachers have high expectations of their pupils and are ambitious for their success."

parents

staff

students

Quick Links
bpb
SIXTH FORM

OUR SCHOOL

THE ARB

TEACHING &
LEARNING

PARENT AREA

STUDENT AREA

NEWS

TRAIN TO TEACH

Open Evening

We are really excited to invite prospective parents to our Open Evening event on Thursday 17th September 2026, between 16:30 and 19:00. There is no need to book, please arrive via the main reception on Dimond Road.

This event is designed to help inform parents and carers when selecting a secondary school for their child who may be starting in September 2027.

Please be mindful that we are located in a residential area. We are unable to offer any onsite parking. If you live in our local community, please walk on the evening. If you do choose to drive, please be considerate of our residents and use local car parks (Riverside Park) and park responsibly.

The timing of the evening is 16:30 - 19:00 which should take around 1 hour. The Senior Leadership Team will be available in the Atrium and outside the main entrance to answer any questions from parents and carers at the end of their tour, before they leave the school site.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us at school info@bitterneparkschool.org.uk



Learning is the key to success



Open Evening

Wednesday 23rd September 6pm-8pm
Headteacher's presentations at 6:15pm & 7:00pm



We welcome Year 5 & 6 pupils and families to explore our fantastic facilities; meet staff and students; and find out more about our innovative transition programme for students joining us in Year 7.

Open Mornings
9:15-10:15am

Tuesday 29th September
Wednesday 30th September
Thursday 1st October

To book a space at an Open Morning, please contact us:
Nicola.Purse@woodlands.southampton.sch.uk 02380 463303

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OCTOBER HALF TERM

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BANISTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

LONG & SHORT DAYS
OFSTED REGISTERED

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

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Parenting Children with ADHD

Do you have a 3-11 years old child
with ADHD or ADHD traits?

Join our free course on Zoom for
parents and carers in Hampshire

From 30th September to 25th November 2026
7:00 - 9:00 pm, on Wednesdays



Book by emailing:

info@sftrust.org.uk

Understand more about ADHD and learn about:

- Understanding your child and building connection
- ADHD brain chemistry, rejection sensitivity, self-esteem and emotional regulation
- Sensory needs, anxiety, demand avoidance and the body-behaviour link
- Meltdowns, shutdowns, aggression and keeping everyone safe
- School, masking, burnout and supporting your child beyond the classroom
- Masking, burnout, family life and sustainable parenting



Parenting Children with Autism

Do you have a 3-11 years old child
with autism or autism traits?

Join our free course on Zoom for
parents and carers in Hampshire

From 30th September to 25th November 2026
9.30 - 11.30 am, on Wednesdays



Book by emailing:

info@sftrust.org.uk

Understand more about autism and learn about:

- Understanding your child and their behaviour
- Sleep, eating, toileting and ARFID
- Anxiety, sensory needs and demand avoidance
- Meltdowns, shutdowns and aggression
- Positive parenting and stronger relationships
- School, masking, burnout and family life

Dates for the Year



AUTUMN TERM 2026

Monday, 14th September	:	Children's Photos (Individual & Sibling)
Thursday, 17th September	:	Y5 Anglo Saxon & Viking History Day
Friday, 18th September	:	Y4 Art Gallery Trip
Friday, 2nd October	:	Y3 Hilliers Garden Trip
5th – 8th October	:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
Monday, 5th October	:	Harvest Festival
Tuesday, 6th October	:	Y6 Stubbington Parents Meeting (5:30pm)
12th – 16th October	:	Y5 Bike Week
Monday, 19th October	:	Y3 Stone Age Day
Thursday, 22nd October	:	'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
Friday, 23rd October	:	INSET Day
26th – 30th October	:	Half Term
2nd – 6th November	:	Y6 Stubbington Residential Trip
Wednesday, 11th November	:	Y4 Mayflower Trip to Welsh National Opera
16th – 20th November	:	Assessment Week
Friday, 20th November	:	Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
Tuesday, 1st December	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 6:30pm)
Friday, 4th December	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:30pm)
Tuesday, 15th December	:	Carols by Candlelight (5pm)
Wednesday, 16th December	:	Christmas Lunch
Friday, 18th December	:	End of Term (3.15pm)

SPRING TERM 2027

Monday, 4th January	:	Spring Term begins
18th – 21st January	:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
Friday, 12th February	:	'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
15th – 19th February	:	Half Term
Tuesday, 23rd February	:	Language and Culture Day
Friday, 26th February	:	Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
Monday, 22nd February	:	INSET Day
1st – 5th March	:	Assessment Week
Thursday, 4th March	:	World Book Day & Dress Up Day
Tuesday, 16th March	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 6:30pm)
Friday, 19th March	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:30pm)
Thursday, 25th March	:	'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
	:	End of Term: (3.15pm)



SUMMER TERM 2027

Monday, 12th April	:	Summer Term begins
Wednesday, 21st April	:	Y6 SATS Parents Evening Event (6:00pm)
Monday, 3rd May	:	Bank Holiday
10th – 13th May	:	SATs Week (Y6)
Monday, 24th May	:	Class Photos
Friday, 28th May	:	Y6 Careers Fair (pm)
		'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
		Disco (5:30pm – 7pm)
31st May – 4th June	:	Half Term
TBC: Friday, 11th June	:	Y6 Paultons Trip
Friday, 18th June	:	INSET Day
14th – 18th June	:	Assessment Week (Y3 –5)
Monday, 5th July	:	Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm)
Wednesday, 7th July	:	Transfer Day
Thursday, 8th July	:	Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
Friday, 9th July	:	Y5 & Y6 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
		(Reserve Sports Day: Mon 12 th July)
Friday, 16th July	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
Tuesday, 20th July	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event (6:00pm)
Wednesday, 21st July	:	End of Term: (3.15pm)

Inset Days: 2026-27

Friday 23rd October 2026

Monday 22nd February 2027

Friday 18th June 2027

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend,

Mr Humphries

Headteacher

