

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 25.09.26



Fire Drill



On Tuesday, we had a fire drill to ensure the children knew what to do and where to go in the event of a fire. I am pleased to say that this was done brilliantly with the children moving silently to their muster point on the basketball court. The whole school was in position and accounted for in just over 4 minutes which was very efficient.

School Council

The application window to become a class School Councillor is now open and voting will take place throughout this week, with each class choosing their two candidates by a blind voting process before this coming Friday. There will be another chance to be a School Councillor after the Spring Break if your child is not successful this time.



National Teaching Assistant Day



On Friday, it was National Teaching Assistants Day. We are extremely grateful to all our wonderful Teaching Assistants across the school who do a wonderful job supporting our teachers and children every day.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Closing Date: 31st September

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a parent governor at TJS. If you're interested, please do let us know.



What do the governors do?

We're often described as the "critical friends" of the school - think of us as the friends you go to when you need an honest opinion, rather than someone who will just tell you what they think you want to hear. We provide support and challenge at the strategic level - monitoring progress, checking policies are fit for purpose and asking the tough questions if things are not quite going as they should.

The benefits

You'll learn new skills, which is great for your CV, and you'll help shape the future of local children. You can feel proud knowing you're supporting your community in a meaningful way. It's a very rewarding role, which is why some of us have continued volunteering as governors long after our children have moved on from TJS!

The detail

You don't need any governance experience, but you need a willingness to learn and an interest in education. We meet on Mondays, a couple of times per half-term and you'll be required to have a DBS check.

Questions?

Feel free to contact existing governors via our clerk, Karen, on:

clerk@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk

Learning is the key to success.

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3F	Alex
3T	Jace
4C	Danny
4T	Mia
5B	Ava
5G	Rosa
6I	Veronika
6P	Jorgie



Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Correct Answers
1	Jesaiah	6P	16806
2	Divino	6I	7500
3	Kaci-Jai	6P	3691
4	Bella-Grace	6P	2730
5	Chloe	4C	2127
6	Connor	6P	1505
7	Bogdan	6I	1227
8	Ayla	5G	1203
9	Eliza	5G	1040
10	Bright	4C	926

Weekly Class Battle	
CREATED BY: Mr Humphries	
6P 890	4C 395
6I 347	4T 126
5G 118	3F 88



Boom Reader

Class	Most Reads
3F	Delilah
3T	X
4C	Chloe
4T	X
5B	Jaxon
5G	Bow
6I	X
6P	Ayda & Jaxon
Class	5G



Learning is the key to success

Current Learning



	WB	Subject	What the children will be learning	Ideas to support with the learning at home
Y3	28/9	English	Diary Writing	Read a story at home, talk about how you think the characters are feeling throughout the story. What do you think they'd be thinking?
		Maths	Maths	Show off your amazing counting – show someone how to count past 100!
		Art	Self-portraits	Practise drawing some of the facial features we have learnt to draw so far
Y4	28/9	English	Narrative writing	Read a chapter of a book this weekend – make sure you log it on Boom Reader!
		Maths	Rounding	Explain the 'rounding rule' to someone at home
		Art	Perspective	If you go out on the weekend, try and notice different types of perspectives
Y5	28/9	English	Diary writing	Practise some of our trickier skills. Can you show someone how to use colons or semi colons in a list? What about a sentence using the passive voice?
		Maths	Addition and subtraction	Can you show the different methods we have been using to find the missing number in an addition calculation.
		Reading	The story of Beowulf	Read at least 4 times at home and log it on Boom Reader.
Y6	28/9	English	Diary writing	Write your own diary from an event this weekend
		Maths	Four operations	Learn your multiples to help you with your division facts using TT Rocks.
		Reading	Oliver Twist	Read at least 4 times at home and log it on Boom Reader.

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 should also be learning their spelling lists.

Maths: Times Tables Rockstars

Reading: Boom Reader



School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	95.2%
Whole School Attendance this year to date	95.9%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	165
Number of children with over 97% attendance this year	133



Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3F	3T	4C	4T	5B	5G	6I	6P
Attendance Percentage	91.7%	95%	99.4%	92.6%	97%	92.6%	97.3%	95.2%
Progress	-2.7%	+3.1%	+2.7%	-6.2%	-1.5%	-0.7%	-0.3%	+0.4%

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...

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

or They Would Have Missed Approximately...

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

DISCORD

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Launched in 2015, and with over 90 million daily active users, Discord has become one of the main ways gamers communicate – with text, voice, and video chat helping people connect around shared interests. For many young people, Discord can be a useful way to talk with friends, join communities, and explore hobbies. However, like any online platform built around communication, it also carries risks around strangers, inappropriate content, spending money, and time spent online. This guide looks at what parents and educators need to know.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(with a 17+ app rating on app stores)

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord 'Nitro', a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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Southampton City Council



2d · ⚙️

 Secondary School applications deadline closes in October! 

If you are applying for a Year 7 school place for September 2027, the application deadline is almost here!

📌 If you need help completing the application form, please contact your child's current school or pop into your nearest Best Start Family Hub.

👉 Applications close on Saturday 31 October at 23:59 👉



School admissions

Make sure your kids aren't left behind this September

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STUDENT.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

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YR R - YR 7



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ALL WELCOME



SUNDAY
20TH SEPTEMBER
2026



9:00 - 10:15AM



THE HUB,
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CONTACT

eastleighpirates.acb@gmail.com



KK★ DANCE

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APRIL 2027
 BLACKPOOL

TRAINING STARTS
NOVEMBER 2026

Our Annual Show
SOUTHAMPTON

NOVEMBER 2027
 SOUTHAMPTON

TRAINING STARTS
JANUARY 2027

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Get in Touch! ♥

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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.

Dates for the Year



AUTUMN TERM 2026

Friday, 2 nd October	:	Y3 Hilliers Garden Trip
5 th – 8 th October	:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
Monday, 5 th October	:	Harvest Festival
Tuesday, 6 th October	:	Y6 Stubbington Parents Meeting (5:30pm)
(New) Friday, 9 th October	:	Shakespeare's Globe Theatre visiting Y6
12 th – 16 th October	:	Y5 Bike Week
Monday, 19 th October	:	Y3 Stone Age Day
Thursday, 22 nd October	:	'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
Friday, 23 rd October	:	INSET Day
26 th – 30 th October	:	Half Term
2 nd – 6 th November	:	Y6 Stubbington Residential Trip
Wednesday, 11 th November	:	Y4 Mayflower Trip to Welsh National Opera
16 th – 20 th November	:	Assessment Week
Friday, 20 th November	:	Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
Tuesday, 1 st December	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 6:30pm)
Friday, 4 th December	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:30pm)
Tuesday, 15 th December	:	Carols by Candlelight (5pm)
Wednesday, 16 th December	:	Christmas Lunch
Friday, 18 th December	:	End of Term (3.15pm)

SPRING TERM 2027

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

NB: All dates are subject to change, but you will be notified in advance if this happens.

INSET Days for 2026/27

Friday 23rd October 2026

Monday 22nd February 2026

Friday 18th June 2027

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend,

Mr H

Headteacher

