

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 12th December



Year 5 Butser Farm trip

☀️ Year 5 Shine at Butser Ancient Farm! ☀️

Our Year 5 children enjoyed their day visiting Butser Ancient Farm this week. They've truly impressed us with their enthusiasm and curiosity while stepping back in time. 🏠 ✨

- ✔️ Writing their names with quill and ink like true historians.
- ✔️ Discovering bones, axe heads, pots, and metals during exciting archaeological activities.
- ✔️ Learning hands-on about life in the past and bringing history to life.

We are so proud of their fantastic behaviour, teamwork, and eagerness to learn. Well done, Year 5 – you've made history unforgettable! 🍌



Staff Retiring



At the end of term, we will be seeing two long serving members of staff retiring from TJS and I am sure you will join me in wishing them a well deserved and enjoyable retirement. After supporting our SEN children and their families so wonderfully, Ms Parker will be retiring as SENCO and this role will be taken on by Mrs Salmon, our Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Rogers will also be retiring and will be well known to all our children and families having taught across the school in every class for many years. As our minibus driver, she has also supported a huge number of trips bringing learning to life for everyone. However, we will still see her around TJS as she is still volunteering to drive the swimmers every Wednesday!

Year 4 Library Visit & Adult Reading

On Wednesday, our Year 4 classes got to visit Bitterne Library. As well as using their new library cards to choose a book to take home they also got to hear stories being read to them and the staff at the library explained about all the events and opportunities for our families. In the afternoon, the children got to read their books to a grown up in our new library with a hot chocolate.



Winter Reading Challenge

Take part in our #WinterMiniChallenge to enter a special prize draw to win a bundle of children's books!

To enter, simply sign up for the Challenge at wintermini.org.uk, read 3 books and review them on the website between 1 December 2025 and 20 February 2026.



The Challenge is a wonderful way to keep children motivated and excited about reading over the winter holidays.

Get involved: wintermini.org.uk

Carols by Candlelight

Carols by Candlelight will take place on **Tuesday 16th December at 5pm**. This is a Christmas celebration where the children will sing to you – feel free to join in! We ask them to return to school at 5pm and stay with you until they are all called to perform at approximately 5.30pm. The entrance will be through the Cutbush Lane gate. The children can wear their Christmas jumpers and accessories, just make sure they will be warm as this is an outdoor event.

In order to raise money for school funds, there is a 50p admission charge for adults. There is also the opportunity to purchase food, drink and raffle tickets.

Please bring sealed cakes in on Tuesday morning to be sold at the event.

In the event of heavy rain, we will move the event to the hall.

Raffle Prizes

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the grand raffle via Arbor. There will also be an opportunity to buy them on the night. The prizes include:

- 🎄 £10 Sprinkles voucher
- 🎄 Family ticket for Sea City Museum
- 🎄 Playshack voucher
- 🎄 Two tickets for Ready One Player Arcade Eastleigh
- 🎄 Team Sport Go-Karting voucher
- 🎄 Red Funnel return journey for one car up to 7 people
- 🎄 Family Ticket for High Score Arcade Southampton



Hampers;

- ❄️ Xmas Food
- ❄️ Xmas Eve Box
- ❄️ Movie Night
- ❄️ Pamper Night

Other prizes including;

- 👤 Craft sets
- 👤 Baking kits
- 👤 Teddies
- 👤 Name the Bear



**KINDNESS
CANDY
CANE**

Run By TJS Drama Club

BREAK TIME 15TH-19TH DECEMBER

Buy for a friend
to spread
kindness or for
your self



**50p
EACH**

All candy canes are to go home and not be eaten
at school.

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3F	Maggie
3G	Sienna
4OR	Seb
4T	Eliza
5T	Bogdan
5C	Elizabeth
6I	Martin
6OH	Elayna
PE	Charlie G (3F)

Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Speed Improvement
1	Oliver	4T	-1.53
2	Penny	4OR	-0.66
3	Louis	4T	-0.43
4	Eliza	4T	-0.42
5	Joshua	4T	-0.14
6	Janelle	4T	-0.12
7	Kacper	4OR	-0.07
8	Heritage	4OR	-0.02
9			
10			

Boom Reader Leaderboard

Class	Most Reads
3F	X
3G	Cici
4OR	Penny
4T	Aoife
5C	Herkus
5T	Cohen
6I	Kara
6OH	Matilda & Maisie
Class	4OR



30th November - 4 December 2025 07:00 - 21:00

6I 276
 132
 126
 99



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	15/12	English	Newspaper writing	Practice writing and punctuating speech correctly.
		Maths	Length	Measure items around your home with a ruler or tape measure using cm and m.
		Science	Magnets	Tell an adult everything you have learned about magnets this half term in preparation for our assessment.
Y4	15/12	English	Publishing a newspaper	Practice typing a short story on a laptop, tablet or phone.
		Maths	Further multiplication and division	TT Rockstars
		Geography	Land use	Look around your home, how much of the floor space is free? How much is filled with furniture? How much is filled with toys?
Y5	15/12	English	Newspaper writing	Tell an adult at home why a newspaper needs to be written using formal language
		Maths	Graphs	Make a tally of people in your family who prefer sweets over chocolate
		Science	Double page spreads	Tell an adult at home about the different life cycles of mammals, insects and birds
Y6	15/12	English	Persuasive letter	Talk to your parent about persuasive writing techniques
		Maths	Decimals	Maths.co.uk
		History	World War 2	Find some information about how Southampton was involved in the war effort

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	94.7%	Whole School Attendance this year to date	94.5%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	170	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year	109



Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3F	3G	4OR	4T	5C	5T	6I	6OH
Attendance Percentage	94.9%	96.9%	97.4%	97.3%	96.8%	92.6%	95.6%	93.4%
Progress	+5.4%	+6.2%	+2.6%	+0.4%	-0.8%	4.1%	-2.4%	0

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

TOY SCALPING, FAKES & SCAMS

Online scalping is when individuals or groups use automated software (bots) to bulk-buy high-demand items – such as gaming consoles, concert tickets, limited-edition trainers, or exclusive merchandise – with the intention of reselling them at vastly inflated prices. It's a fast-moving online trend that can frustrate young consumers and expose them to misleading practices or financial harm. As this unethical tactic grows, it's important to help children and young people understand how scalping works and how to navigate it responsibly.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FINANCIAL PRESSURE AND MANIPULATION

Scalpers create artificial scarcity by buying up large quantities of stock before the public has a fair chance to purchase. This drives up demand and pushes prices to extreme levels. Young people may feel intense pressure to spend more than they can afford for fear of missing out entirely.

EXPLOITATION OF FANDOMS

Scalping often targets popular releases with strong fan bases, knowing that loyal followers are emotionally invested. Children and young people may place huge value on owning certain items linked to their favourite artists, sports teams or games, making them more likely to accept unfair prices or questionable sellers.

ACCESSING UNSAFE WEBSITES

In the rush to secure rare items, young people might click through to unverified sellers, online marketplaces with little consumer protection, or even sites designed specifically to harvest personal and financial data. This can expose them to fraud, malware, and identity theft.

NORMALISING UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR

Some influencers and online communities present scalping as a clever money-making scheme rather than an exploitative one. This can normalise dishonest behaviour and blur the line between legitimate business and opportunistic profiteering for younger audiences.

RISK OF SCAMS OR COUNTERFEIT GOODS

Not every high-priced resale is legitimate. Fraudulent sellers may take payment for goods they never send, or ship counterfeit versions of branded items. In some cases, the product may look authentic in photos but turn out to be of poor quality or completely different from what was advertised.

REINFORCING INEQUALITY

Scalping makes already expensive items even less accessible, particularly for lower-income families. Children may feel excluded from trends or shared experiences with friends if their family cannot meet the inflated prices, which can lead to feelings of isolation and disappointment.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FAIRNESS

Use scalping as an opportunity to discuss fairness, consumer ethics, and how some people exploit markets for profit. Encouraging children to think critically about whether they truly need an item – and at what cost – can help them make more considered decisions.

SUPPORT INFORMED PURCHASING

Show children how to check seller credentials, read independent reviews, and verify whether a site is secure before making any payment. Knowing how to spot red flags, such as unrealistic promises or missing contact details, can prevent costly mistakes.

ENCOURAGE PATIENCE OVER IMPULSE

Teach young people to wait for official restocks or future releases instead of paying over the odds. Many products come back into circulation, and patience can save significant amounts of money while reducing the likelihood of falling victim to scams.

SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Establish clear rules for online spending, including limits on prepaid cards, gaming gift cards, and online wallets. Discuss the real-world value of money spent on digital or collector's items so children understand the long-term impact of their purchases.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforce and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.



Source: See full reference list on guide page 01

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SCHOOL COUNCIL TUCK SHOP[🍊]



Price: 50p per item

AFTER SCHOOL @

3.15PM



DATES: FRIDAY 12TH AND FRIDAY 19TH
OF DECEMBER



LOCATION:

LOWER PLAYGROUND, OUTSIDE Y5



raising funds for lunch time equipment



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Dates for the Year



AUTUMN TERM 2025

Tuesday, 16th December	:	Church of Ascension visit to TJS (1:15pm) Carols by Candlelight (5pm)
Wednesday, 17th December	:	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18th December	:	Staff Panto & Christmas Jumper Day 1
Friday, 19th December	:	Christmas Jumper Day 2 End of Term (3.15pm)

SPRING TERM 2026

Monday, 5th January	:	Spring Term begins
19th – 23rd January	:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
Friday, 13th February	:	'Break the Rules' Non-Uniform Day Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
16th – 20th February	:	Half Term
Monday, 23rd February	:	INSET Day
Thursday, 5th March	:	World Book Day & Dress Up Day
9th – 13th March	:	Assessment Week
Tuesday, 24th March	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 7:00pm not 5T)
Wednesday, 25th March	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm)
Friday, 27th March	:	'Break the Rules' Non-Uniform Day End of Term: (3.15pm)

SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday, 13th April	:	Summer Term begins
Wednesday, 22nd April	:	Y6 SATS Parents Evening Event (6:00pm)
Thursday, 23rd April	:	Spanish Language Day
Friday, 24th April	:	Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
Thursday, 30th April	:	Y3 Hilliers Trip
Monday, 4th May	:	Bank Holiday
11th – 14th May	:	SATs Week (Y6)
Friday, 22nd May	:	Y6 Careers Fair (pm) 'Break the Rules' Non-Uniform Day
25th – 29th May	:	Half Term
Friday, 5th June	:	Disco (5:30pm – 7pm)
Friday, 19th June	:	INSET Day
22nd – 26th June	:	Assessment Week (Y3 –5)
Monday, 29th June	:	Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm)
Wednesday, 1st July	:	Transfer Day
Thursday, 2nd July	:	Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
Friday, 3rd July	:	Y5 & Y6 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day: Mon 6 th July)
Friday, 10th July	:	Y4 Itchen Valley Teambuilding Day
Friday, 17th July	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
Monday, 20th July	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event (6:00pm)
Tuesday, 22nd July	:	End of Term: (3.15pm)

