

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 17th October



Southampton Reading Charter



On Friday, Mrs Gregory and some of our Reading Champions were invited to St Mary's Stadium to receive our Bronze Award as part of the Southampton Reading Charter. They got to meet and hear from the fabulous author Onjali Q. Rauf who presented them with our plaque at the award ceremony. We are extremely proud of the award and recognition which reflects the huge amount of work Mrs Gregory has put in to reading in school and the amount of reading each child at TJS undertakes.

Y6 Stubbington Residential

This week our Year 6 went on a residential to Stubbington Study Centre. They had a fantastic week and received warm praise from the staff at the centre who were impressed with their fantastic attitude and willingness to get involved in every activity. They even slept well in their dorms which was good news for Mrs Salmon, Mrs Ilyat and Mrs Williams who looked after them wonderfully all week and posted a huge number of photos on Seesaw to keep families up to date on what the children were doing. If you have a child in Year 5 the information for next year is now available.



Y5 Cycling Week



This week, our Year 5 children had the opportunity to bring their bikes to school and take part in the Bikeability scheme where they learnt to ride their bikes and some groups ventured out onto the local roads. They made huge progress through the week and will receive their badges in assembly on Monday. The instructors were impressed with their positive attitude and willingness to learn, especially those children who had not cycled before. A number of parents were asking about bike repairs and the bikes the company used were supported by local bike company Monty's Bike Hub who also have bikes for sale.

Athletics Success

On Monday, Miss Fogerty took our Lower School Athletics team to Woodlands for the indoor City Championships. With each athlete completing two relays, one jumping event and one throwing event they represented TJS brilliantly and showed impressive talent. After all the results were collated, they were crowned City Champions and will receive their gold medals in assembly on Monday.



Parents Evenings



We are looking forward to seeing you all for our Parents Evenings this week on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. There are still a handful of appointments left if you have not made your booking yet.

Year 2 Open Evening and Tours

We will be hosting an Opening Evening and Parent / Carer Tours for prospective children currently in Year 2 on the following dates:

Tour: Thursday 23rd October at 9:15am

Open Evening: Thursday 6th November at 5pm

Tour: Tuesday 11th November at 9:15am

Please let the office know if you are planning to attend.

School admissions



Is your child moving onto Secondary School in September 2026?

Applications need to be submitted by **31st October 2025 at 23.59pm**. Applications should be submitted by using 'Your Citizen Portal' on Southampton City Council website.

For further information please visit:

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/schools-learning/find-school/apply-school/year-7/>

Star of the Week

| Class | Name |
|-------|-------------------|
| 3F | Charlie |
| 3G | Cici |
| 4OR | Billy |
| 4T | Raena |
| 5T | Veronika |
| 5C | Connor P |
| 6I | Kejsan |
| 6OH | Reggie |
| PE | Kyra & Max B (5C) |

Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

| Rank | First Name | Class | Correct Answers |
|------|------------|-------|-----------------|
| 1 | Divino | 5T | 5059 |
| 2 | Jaxon | 4OR | 2268 |
| 3 | Valencia | 5T | 2181 |
| 4 | Connor | 5C | 1152 |
| 5 | Kingdavid | 3F | 1122 |
| 6 | Eliza | 4T | 871 |
| 7 | Aoife | 4T | 613 |
| 8 | Fleur | 5T | 561 |
| 9 | Penny | 4OR | 450 |
| 10 | Theo | 3F | 402 |

Boom Reader Leaderboard

| Class | Most Reads |
|-------|----------------|
| 3F | Tiago |
| 3G | Michelle |
| 4OR | Penny |
| 4T | Aoife |
| 5C | Herkus |
| 5T | Cohen & Charis |
| 6I | X |
| 6OH | Vlad |



12th October - 16 October 2025 07:00 - 21:00

🏆 Year 5 175

Year 4 120

Year 3 94



Learning is the key to success

School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

| | |
|--|--|
| Whole School Attendance this week | Whole School Attendance this year to date |
| 97.1% | 94.9% |
| Number of children with over 97% attendance this week | Number of children with over 97% attendance this year |
| 189 | 122 |



Class Attendance for this week:

| Weekly Attendance | 3F | 3G | 4OR | 4T | 5C | 5T | 6I | 6OH |
|-----------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Attendance Percentage | 97.1% | 97.8% | 97.9% | 97.0% | 96.4% | 97.8% | 95.5% | 97.5% |
| Progress | +5.2% | +3.91% | +2.0% | -0.5% | +1.8% | +4.0% | +0.2% | +3.5% |

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 MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

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The National College®

Next week at Re:Minds...

20th - 24th October 2025



Thursday 23rd October 10am

Book a 10 minute, private, virtual Zoom appointment to speak with a clinician about any issues CAMHS deal with

The clinic is led by the Southampton Specialist CAMHS Service and is open to ALL members of Re:Minds for general advice



Email info@reminds.org.uk to book



Re:Minds



Hampshire and Isle of Wight

NHS



Re:Minds

Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book your space at the clinic
No need to book to attend the support group - just drop in!

NHS
Solent
with thanks to NHS Trust

Ascension

LIGHT PARTY

FANTASY OF THE EAST

EXPECT GAMES, CRAFTS, FOOD AND
LOTS OF SWEETS AND PRIZES!

DRESS UP AS POKEMON, KUNG FU
PANDA, MULAN AND OTHER
EASTERN THEMES!

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER

4-6PM

Scan me!



BOOK YOUR TICKETS
WWW.ASCENSIONSOOUTHAMPTON.CO.UK
ASCENSION CHURCH, 1 THOROLD ROAD, SO18 1HZ

CAN YOU HELP?
**WE ARE COLLECTING
SELECTION BOXES AND
ADVENT CALENDARS FOR
THE CHOCOLATE ELF**

THE CHOCOLATE ELF SUPPORTS CHILDREN'S HOMES, CHILDREN IN CARE, WOMEN'S REFUGES AND CHILDREN'S RESPITE CENTRES ACROSS HAMPSHIRE.

OUR MISSION IS TO ENSURE NO CHILD MISSES OUT ON CHRISTMAS MAGIC. YOUR GIFT WILL TRULY IMPROVE A CHILD'S DAY.



facebook.com/groups/TheChocolateElf

Dates for the Year



AUTUMN TERM 2025

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Tuesday, 21 st October | : | Parents Evening (3:30pm – 7:00pm – not 5T) |
| Wednesday, 22 nd October | : | Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm) |
| Friday, 24 th October | : | 'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day |
| 27 th – 31 st October | : | Half Term |
| Friday, 14 th November | : | Disco (5:30pm - 7pm) |
| 24 th – 28 th November | : | Assessment Week |
| Tuesday, 16 th December | : | Whole School Church visit (9am) Carols by Candlelight (5pm) |
| Wednesday, 17 th December | : | Christmas Lunch |
| Friday, 19 th December | : | End of Term (3.15pm) |

SPRING TERM 2026

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

SUMMER TERM 2026

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Monday, 13 th April | : | Summer Term begins |
| Wednesday, 22 nd April | : | Y6 SATS Parents Evening Event (6:00pm) |
| Thursday, 23 rd April | : | Spanish Language Day |
| Friday, 24 th April | : | Disco (5:30pm - 7pm) |
| Thursday, 30 th April | : | Y3 Hilliers Trip |
| Monday, 4 th May | : | Bank Holiday |
| 11 th – 14 th May | : | SATs Week (Y6) |
| Friday, 22 nd May | : | Y6 Careers Fair (pm) 'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day |
| 25 th – 29 th May | : | Half Term |
| Friday, 5 th June | : | Disco (5:30pm – 7pm) |
| Friday, 19 th June | : | INSET Day |
| 22 nd – 26 th June | : | Assessment Week (Y3 –5) |
| Monday, 29 th June | : | Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm) |
| Wednesday, 1 st July | : | Transfer Day |
| Thursday, 2 nd July | : | Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day |
| Friday, 3 rd 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)

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

INSET Days for 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Friday 19th June 2026

