

# Townhill Junior School

## Weekly Update: 26<sup>th</sup> September



### Year 6 Writing Group visit to Buckingham Palace

On Monday, a group of our Year 6 writers were invited to Buckingham Palace to give them some inspiration for their writing and to gain a further insight into life inside the palace. They caught the train to London and explored the capital city, on their way to Buckingham Palace. The children had a fantastic day and will be using the experience to extend their writing opportunities over the coming weeks.



### Star of the Week

Class	Name
3F	Danny
3G	Mia
4OR	Penny
4T	Oakley
5T	Finley
5C	Alfie
6I	Fikriya
6OH	Thea
PE	Connor W & Jalen (5C)

### Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Correct Answers
1	Divino	5T	3987
2	Connor	5C	2594
3	Jesaiah	5C	1157
4	Fleur	5T	948
5	Raena	4T	894
6	Iliana	5C	811
7	Desandu	6I	800
8	Oscar	4OR	754
9	Kingdavid	3F	744
10	Sofia	6OH	713

### Boom Reader Leaderboard

Class	Most Reads
3F	Theo O'D
3G	Maggie G
4OR	Penny B
4T	Oliver P
5C	Ayda B
5T	Fleur P
6I	Isa L
6OH	Matilda



16th September - 21 September 2025 07:00 - 21:00



5T

205



4T

196



5C

163



6OH

105



## Clubs

All of our clubs are now up and running, creating a very positive feel around the school. There are now only a limited number of spaces left to book on Arbor. Gymnastics and Football provided by Superstar Sports are also still available.



**BOOK NOW!**


# AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

**GYMNASTICS**  
MONDAY 3.20-4.30PM All ages £4.50 per session  
15<sup>th</sup> September - 15<sup>th</sup> December (excluding Half-Term)


**FOOTBALL**  
FRIDAY 3.20-4.30PM All ages £4.50 per session  
19<sup>th</sup> September - 19<sup>th</sup> December (excluding Half-Term)




 023 8212 7331  
[www.superstarsportsuk.com](http://www.superstarsportsuk.com)



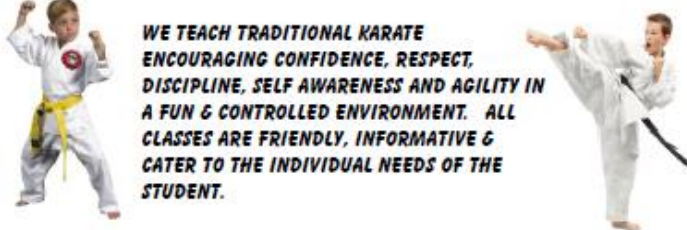
## NON CONTACT KARATE TAUGHT BY FULLY QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS



**EVERYONE WELCOME  
FROM 4 YEARS OLD**



**WE TEACH TRADITIONAL KARATE  
ENCOURAGING CONFIDENCE, RESPECT,  
DISCIPLINE, SELF AWARENESS AND AGILITY IN  
A FUN & CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT. ALL  
CLASSES ARE FRIENDLY, INFORMATIVE &  
CATER TO THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF THE  
STUDENT.**







**TOWNHILL JUNIORS SCHOOL**  
**TUESDAYS 5.00PM - 6.00PM**  
£6.00 PER CLASS - PAY AS YOU GO  
MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED AFTER FIRST CLASS £27 PER YEAR

MANY MORE CLASSES TO CHOOSE FROM, FIND THEM ALL AT: [WWW.SOUTHERNKARATE.ORG](http://WWW.SOUTHERNKARATE.ORG)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE**  
**EMAIL: [info@southernkarate.org](mailto:info@southernkarate.org)**

Tel: 07764 478507



## Parent Governor Vacancy

**Closing Date: 31<sup>st</sup> September**

### Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a parent governor at TJS. If you're interested, please do let us know at the start of term in September.



### 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](mailto:clerk@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk)

Learning is the key to success

## School Attendance News



### Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	Whole School Attendance this year to date
92.4%	94.7%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year
165	127



### Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3F	3G	4OR	4T	5C	5T	6I	6OH
Attendance Percentage	100%	90.3%	92.6%	93.0%	88.6%	93.300%	90.5%	93.8%
Progress	+0.6%	-8.5%	-6.7%	-4.4%	-3.9%	-4.7%	-3.2%	+1.8%

## 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

# APPLE IPADS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

## COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

## DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

## BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

## SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

## REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

### FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

### USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

### PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



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# Next week at Re:Minds...

29th September - 3rd October 2025

## Eating Disorders Advice Clinic

**Tuesday 30th September 10.30am**

Book a 15 minute, private, virtual appointment by Zoom to speak with a specialist clinician from the CAMHS Eating Disorder team for advice about:

eating disorders / disordered eating  
eating patterns / increased activity  
ARFID / relationship with food

or any other aspects of concern around eating

**Email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk)  
to book**



## SEND Legal Advice Clinic

**Wednesday 1st October  
12.30pm**

We are linking with Shentons Solicitors to offer free SEND legal advice clinics to our Re:Minds families who require advice around education, tribunals, appeals etc.

**Please email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk)  
to book a slot,  
or follow the link on the event**



## Shirley Support Group Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 10am

Join us for a friendly cuppa with others who truly 'get it'

Meet fellow parents/carers, chat about the ups & downs of neurodiversity and mental health in our children, share experiences, pick up top tips and get support & advice from the Re:Minds team

**No need to book, just drop in! There's no cost to attend and you'll be warmly welcomed!**

You can also access the book & sensory library while you're here

This is an adults only group unless otherwise stated

Find us at:  
St James Road Methodist Church, SO15 5HE  
Upstairs in Room 7



Access is from the rear of the church via the car park  
Please let us know if you need to use the lift



## Advice & Support on all aspects of transitions

- leaving school
- starting college or higher education
- leaving care
- housing
- benefits
- social care
- living independently
- finding a job
- EHCPs
- health
- financial
- mental capacity
- advocacy
- adult mental health
- sexuality and gender



Kerstin from Re:Minds is offering

- Peer Support
- Information
- Advice
- Advocacy
- links to other services

**Kerstin from our 16-25 Mental Health Collective will also be on hand at the Shirley Support Group for anyone who is caring for a young person in this age bracket**



Please email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk) to book your space at the clinics  
No need to book to attend the support group - just drop in!



## Dates for the Year



### AUTUMN TERM 2025

<b>Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>	:	Y6 Mayflower Trip (non Stubbington children)
<b>6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>	:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
<b>Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	:	Harvest Festival
	:	Y4 Art Gallery Trip
<b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>	:	5T Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm)
<b>Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> October</b>	:	INSET Day
<b>13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	:	Y6 Stubbington Residential Trip
	:	Y5 Bike Week
<b>Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 7:00pm – not 5T)
<b>Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	:	Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm)
<b>Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	:	'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
<b>27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	:	Half Term
<b>Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	:	Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
<b>24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	:	Assessment Week
<b>Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	:	Whole School Church visit (9am)
	:	Carols by Candlelight (5pm)
<b>Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	:	Christmas Lunch
<b>Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	:	End of Term (3.15pm)

### SPRING TERM 2026

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

### SUMMER TERM 2026

<b>Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	:	Summer Term begins
<b>Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	:	Y6 SATs Parents Evening Event (6:00pm)
<b>Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	:	Spanish Language Day
<b>Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>	:	Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
<b>Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May</b>	:	Y3 Hilliers Trip
<b>Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	:	Bank Holiday
<b>11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	:	SATs Week (Y6)
<b>Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	:	Y6 Careers Fair (pm)
	:	'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day
<b>25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	:	Half Term

<b>Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Disco (5:30pm – 7pm )
<b>Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	INSET Day
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Assessment Week (Y3 –5)
<b>Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm)
<b>Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	:	Transfer Day
<b>Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	:	Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
<b>Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	:	Y5 & Y6 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day: Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> July)
<b>Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	Y4 Itchen Valley Teambuilding Day
<b>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
<b>Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event (6:00pm)
<b>Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	:	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 2025/26

Friday 10th October 2025  
Monday 23rd February 2026  
Friday 19th June 2026



Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend,

Mr H  
Headteacher

