

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 19th September



It has been another busy week and all the children have settled into their routines brilliantly. Over the past week, we have carried out a fire drill and lockdown drill in order to ensure the children are familiar with what would happen in a real emergency and they have dealt with both of them fantastically. There will not be another planned practice until the summer term.

Individual & Sibling Photos

On **Monday** the children had their individual and sibling photographs taken. They should have now brought home a flyer with information on how to order them.



Positive Behaviour Points



You can now use the Arbor app to find out about positive behaviour points your child may earn. Marvellous Me has been phased out by their parent company so we have decided to keep everything in one place using Arbor. You can also check record your child's absence, check your child's attendance and pay for trips using Arbor.

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3F	Freddie
3G	Zack
4OR	Abdullah
4T	Oliver T
5T	Cohen
5C	Isla
6I	Isa
6OH	Maisie
PE	Jesaiah

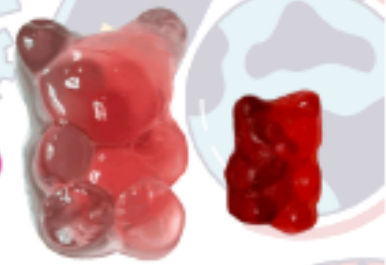


Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Correct Answers
1	Desandu	6I	1774
2	Jesaiah	5C	1070
3	Valencia	5T	1016
4	Divino	5T	970
5	Connor	5C	855
6	Lincoln	4T	595
7	Oliver	6OH	584
8	Desandi	6OH	556
9	Poppy	3G	538
10	Bright	3F	497



GROWING GUMMY BEAR! SCIENCE EXPERIMENT TO SHOW OSMOSIS



- **Materials needed**
- gummy bears
- glass or clear plastic jar
- water
- stopwatch
- paper and pencil
- ruler
- spoon

Why does this happen?

It happens because of something called osmosis.

Osmosis is just a fancy word for how water likes to move around. Water will always try to move from a place where there's lots of water to a place where there's less water.

Method

1. Place one or two other gummy bears in a glass of water.
2. Observe the gummy bears over time and note down on your paper what happens to them.
3. You might like to set a stopwatch to intervals of time and note down the appearance of the gummy bears after 1, 5, ten, twenty, forty and sixty minutes. Then after two and four hours.
4. You can carefully, using a spoon, take the gummy bears out of the water at each time interval. Measure them with a ruler and record their size on your paper, and then carefully place them back in the water.
5. After you have left your gummy bears in the water for the time you have decided on, carefully take them out of the water using a spoon and set them beside the gummy bears you have used as your control (the ones that weren't placed in water).
6. What do you notice about their appearance? How have the gummy bears that were in the water changed? Have the control gummy bears changed?

Show us how you did!
X: Townhilljuniorschool
email:

Botiver-Rogers@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk

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
15th September - 15th December (excluding Half-Term)

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



CLUBS
SPORTS

023 8212 7331
www.superstarsportsuk.com



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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

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE
EMAIL: info@southernkarate.org

Tel: 07764 478507



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 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

Learning is the key to success

School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	Whole School Attendance this year to date
95.4%	95.8%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year
176	150



Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3F	3G	4OR	4T	5C	5T	6I	6OH
Attendance Percentage	99.4%	98.8%	99.3%	97.4%	92.5%	98.0%	93.7%	92.0%
Progress	+3.1%	-1.9%	-0.8%	+1.4%	-6.0%	-5.9%	+4.3%	+4.8%

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

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately, talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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/wuw.thenationalcollege

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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: 17.09.2025

Next week at Re:Minds...

22nd - 26th September 2025



Wednesday 24th September 6pm

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



Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book your space at the clinic

with thanks to



Learning is the key to success

Dates for the Year



AUTUMN TERM 2025

Wednesday, 1 st October	:	Y6 Mayflower Trip (non Stubbington children)
6 th – 9 th October	:	Y6 Mock SATs Week
Monday, 6 th October	:	Harvest Festival
	:	Y4 Art Gallery Trip
Wednesday, 8 th October	:	5T Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm)
Friday, 10 th October	:	INSET Day
13 th – 17 th October	:	Y6 Stubbington Residential Trip
	:	Y5 Bike Week
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
Wednesday, 20 th May	:	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, 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 6th 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 2025/26

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



Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend,

Mr H
Headteacher

