

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 12th September



It has been a fantastic first week of the new term. The atmosphere in school has been extremely positive and the children's behaviour has been exemplary. It was great to see so many of you able to come in for our open classroom events and hopefully it helped you to picture their classroom and the key staff when they talk about them to you.

Staffing Update

There have been some exciting staff updates over the summer break. Firstly, Miss Oliver got married and is now Mrs Oliver-Rogers leading her class 4OR. We have also had changes to our site team with Mr Bygrave taking over as Site Manager, and we have also added Mrs Remzi to the cleaning team.

Individual & Sibling Photos

On **Monday** we have the school photographer in for individual and sibling photographs.



Year 3 Teambuilding Day

On Friday, our Year 3 children took part in a Teambuilding Day as they got to know their new classmates and key adults in the year group. They took part in a range of activities and got to explore the school grounds and nature garden. Here is a flavour of the day:



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.

Street Parking

There has still been some extremely poor parking and driving in Cutbush Lane with a number of concerns raised. I have asked the Council enforcement team to send their officers along and they will be issuing penalty notices for cars parking on the zig zags at any time. There are plenty of spaces in the roads opposite with crossing points in place. Please support us in keeping the roads safe for the children.



Star of the Week

| Class | Name |
|-------|---------|
| 3F | Bright |
| 3G | Darcy |
| 4OR | Arthur |
| 4T | Ava |
| 5T | Fleur P |
| 5C | Jesaiah |
| 6I | Lillia |
| 6OH | Fleur W |
| PE | |

Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

| Rank | First Name | Class | Correct Answers |
|------|-------------|-------|-----------------|
| 1 | Desandu | 6I | 3204 |
| 2 | Valencia | 5T | 727 |
| 3 | Bella-Grace | 5C | 526 |
| 4 | Matilda | 6OH | 408 |
| 5 | Freddie | 3F | 356 |
| 6 | Divino | 5T | 354 |
| 7 | Oliver | 6OH | 349 |
| 8 | Hector | 6OH | 349 |
| 9 | Oscar | 4OR | 320 |
| 10 | Cohen | 5T | 278 |



Clubs

All of our clubs start this coming week and there are only a limited number of spaces left to book on Arbor. Gymnastics and Football provided by Superstar Sports also start this week. Please see the flyer below:



The flyer has a blue background with a yellow banner in the top right corner that says "BOOK NOW". A dark blue rounded rectangle contains the text "AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS" in white. To the right of this is a circular logo for "The Primary School" featuring a bird. Below this, a yellow rounded rectangle contains the following text:

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)

At the bottom, there are three circular images: a child performing a gymnastic move on a ball, two children playing football on a field, and a child playing basketball. Below these images is a black box with the "SUPERSTAR SPORTS" logo (a yellow star with a face) and a yellow box containing contact information:

 023 8212 7331
 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

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

EMAIL: info@southernkarate.org

Tel: 07764 478507



Child Protection
in Sport Unit



Parent Governor Vacancy

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 |
| 96.5% | 96.0% |
| Number of children with over 97% attendance this week | Number of children with over 97% attendance this year |
| 183 | 177 |



Class Attendance for this week:

| Weekly Attendance | 3F | 3G | 4OR | 4T | 5C | 5T | 6I | 6OH |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Attendance Percentage | 96.3% | 98.8% | 99.3% | 97.4% | 92.5% | 98.0% | 93.7% | 92.0% |
| | | | | | | | | |

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 CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

I WANT TO BELIEVE

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keefe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



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

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.09.2025

Next week at Re:Minds...

15th - 19th September 2025



**New Support Group
Weston**
* 10am Monday 15th September

Come and join us at our first Weston group
Meet other parents and carers who truly understand what it's like. Share experiences, talk about the ups and downs of neurodiversity and mental health, and pick up advice, information, and support - all over a friendly cuppa.

No booking needed and no cost to attend - Just drop in - you'll be warmly welcomed



The Hope Centre,
Drayton Close, Weston, SO19 9JN
Onsite parking available and fully accessible.
The Bluestar 17N17 bus stops right outside - from Southampton city centre through Woolston, Shirley, and General Hospital.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight NHS



**SEND Legal Advice
Clinic**


**Wednesday 17th September
12.30pm**

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

**Please email info@reminds.org.uk
to book a slot,
or follow the link on the event**



Shentons
Solicitors



**CAMHS
Advice Clinic**


Thursday 18th September 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



Hampshire and Isle of Wight NHS

Join us for our NEW support group in Weston!

You do not need to book to attend support groups - just come along

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



with thanks to



Learning is the key to success

Dates for the Year



AUTUMN TERM 2025

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Monday, 15th September | : | Children's Photos (Individual) |
| Tuesday, 16th September | : | Y6 Stubbington Parents Meeting (5:30pm) |
| Wednesday, 1st October | : | Y6 Mayflower Trip (non Stubbington children) |
| 6th – 9th October | : | Y6 Mock SATs Week |
| Monday, 6th October | : | Harvest Festival |
| Wednesday, 8th October | : | 5T Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:30pm) |
| Friday, 10th October | : | INSET Day |
| 13th – 17th October | : | Y6 Stubbington Residential Trip Y5 Bike Week |
| Tuesday, 21st October | : | Parents Evening (3:30pm – 7:00pm – not 5T) |
| Wednesday, 22nd October | : | Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:30pm) |
| Friday, 24th October | : | 'Break the Rules' Non Uniform Day |
| 27th – 31st October | : | Half Term |
| Friday, 14th November | : | Disco (5:30pm - 7pm) |
| 24th – 28th November | : | Assessment Week |
| Tuesday, 16th December | : | Whole School Church visit (9am) Carols by Candlelight (5pm) |
| Wednesday, 17th December | : | Christmas Lunch |
| Friday, 19th December | : | 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 – 5:30pm) |
| 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 |
| Wednesday, 20th May | : | 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) |

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

