

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 11th July



Y4 Teambuilding Day at Itchen Valley Country Park

On Friday, Year 4 visited Itchen Valley Country Park for a day of adventure and team building. They explored adventure trail challenges, built dens in their new class groups and even played hide and seek sardines trying to hide from Mr H! Despite the heat, they took part in all the challenges brilliantly and showed great teamwork throughout the day.



City Dance Festival

On Friday our Street Dance group performed at the City Dance Festival. They have been rehearsing hard for several weeks under the guidance of dance coaches Ella and Miss Beckwith. They represented the school brilliantly and they got to use the dance studio at St Mark's School to perform their routine. Although parents could not spectate they are putting on a special show on Tuesday following their success. They were given an award for teamwork and were also Mr Innes' choice for PE 'Star of the Week'.



Pizza Express Trip



On Wednesday, it was the turn of 3T to visit Pizza Express, as part of their DT work, to learn how to make pizza and select ingredients. They got to take taste their pizza and had an enjoyable morning of learning and questioning the staff who were able to enhance their learning before the children got to taste their pizza designs.

New Library



With the help of funding from our School Fundraising Committee and the hard work of a number of staff, we have been able to give our school library a modern overhaul. This week the children got to visit the library and enjoy the new furniture, layout and books on offer. Please speak to your child's class teacher about visiting the library after school.

Swimming Success

Last Friday our Swimming Team travelled to the Quays to perform in the City Swimming Gala. Against a very high standard of swimming, they performed brilliantly placing 9th overall in the City and swimming a total 6 races over 25metres. This was after most of them had performed at Sport Day in the morning.



Family Board Game Night



On Friday evening great fun was had with our family board game evening. The School Fundraising Committee were on hand with refreshments and there was a hugely successful raffle which raised £210 for the school. The company we linked up with, Board in the City, donated a huge selection of games to the school. We are extremely grateful for their support and would encourage our families to pay them a visit.

Summer Reading Challenge

On Monday, the School Library Service came in to speak to the children and introduce The 2025 Summer Reading Challenge – Story Garden!

This year's theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.



With free rewards to collect and plenty of brilliant books to enjoy, the Challenge is the perfect summer activity to keep young minds and bodies active over the holidays.

Everything you need to know!

Story Garden will launch in all our libraries on **Saturday 5 July 2025** and run until **Saturday 30 August 2025**.

It is open to **all** children, completely free of charge. Simply visit your [local library](#) to get started. This year you can challenge yourself and set your own goals for reading, or you can stick with the standard six books – it is entirely up to you!

What books do we need to read?

Children can read **any** book of their choice; fiction, non-fiction, picture books, or books they share with parents and carers, they can also listen to audiobooks, they all count! Very young children can pick up a special prize when they have completed their challenge too.

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3G	Dylan
3T	Bow
4T	Jayde
4P	Max BK
5I	Archie
5OH	LILY N
6S	Is'Haq
6C	Harnoor
6O	Aniyah
PE	Street Dance Club



Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Improvement in Speed
1	Joshua	5I	-1.3
2	Heritage	3T	-0.35
3	Matilda	5OH	-0.23
4	Fleur	4P	-0.17
5	Valerie	6C	-0.13
6	Phoebe	5I	-0.08
7	Olivia	3G	-0.04
8	Clarke	5I	-0.03
9	Kaci-Jai	4T	-0.01
10			



Boom Reader



Spelling Shed



Class	Most Reads
3G	Oliver P
3T	Penny
4P	Iliana
4T	Cohen
5I	X
5OH	Matilda
6C	Andrea
6O	Max B
6S	X
Weekly Class Winner	3G

Rank	Pupil	Class	Score	Total Score
1	Janelle O	3G	13,606,006	212,108,043
2	Charis M	4P	8,520,376	179,772,022
3	Amelia K	5OH	3,274,000	31,287,266
4	Tawfiq R	5I	1,721,497	77,333,894
5	Mysha M	5I	1,193,108	79,726,450
6	Hector G	5OH	913,784	53,489,756
7	Is'Haq Y	6S	672,684	6,712,558
8	Louis H	3G	478,732	19,039,386
9	Lincoln J	3G	450,570	9,578,616
10	Lana T	3G	391,838	852,926

School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	Whole School Attendance this year to date
93.4%	93.8%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year
206	116



Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3G	3T	4P	4T	5I	5OH	6C	6O	6S
Attendance Percentage	96.2%	95.1%	93.6%	93.8%	88.9%	90.4%	90.7%	95.5%	95.9%
Difference on last week	-1.7%	-0.3%	-3.5%	-5.2%	+1.8%	-0.3%	-3.1%	+2.1%	+0.4%

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 AI-ENABLED SCAMS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

PUSHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER

Pushing emails is another way to trick people into handing over their details or money. It's not new, and it's not new in education. It has made them become more aware, but it's still a problem. Some parents have reported receiving emails at school, mimicking their own, or even, hearing and language that sounds like their own. It's important to be aware of this, as it's a growing problem. It's not just about the money, but also about the information that's being shared.

ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD

Online marketplaces offer a common way to buy and sell everything, from second-hand clothes to cars. It's a great way to find what you need, but it's also a place where fraud is common. People are using AI to create fake profiles and listings, making it hard to tell who's real and who's not. It's important to be careful when buying or selling online, and to use secure payment methods.

VOICE IMPERSONATION

AI can now realistically imitate a person's voice, which means small children can be tricked into giving away their details. This is especially concerning when it comes to school accounts. In 2019, a young girl was tricked into giving away her details to a fake person who was using AI to sound like her parents. It's important to be aware of this, and to teach children to be careful when talking to anyone online.

EMPLOYMENT SCAMS

AI is being used to create fake online profiles that look like real people. These profiles can be used to trick people into giving away their details, or even into paying money. In 2019, a young person was tricked into paying money to a fake person who was using AI to sound like a real person. It's important to be aware of this, and to teach children to be careful when applying for jobs online.

INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS

It's now so easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content. Using the likeness of celebrities or influencers, scammers are using this to create convincing videos of well-known figures promoting fake products or services. Young people can be particularly vulnerable to these scams, as they are often looking for inspiration and advice from their favourite influencers. It's important to be aware of this, and to teach children to be careful when following influencers online.

ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION

Scammers use AI to create realistic profiles and photos, which makes it easier for them to trick young people into giving away their details. In 2019, a young person was tricked into giving away their details to a fake person who was using AI to sound like a real person. It's important to be aware of this, and to teach children to be careful when talking to anyone online.

Advice for Parents & Educators

THINK CRITICALLY

The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically and slow readers. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and reading before taking any action. For example, if a social media post expresses urgency, proceed with caution. If content seems unusual, even from a known person, it may be that their account has been hacked.

USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES

Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items; however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their own money when they buy things. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated security measures in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traded on their sites.

SEEK TO VERIFY

Children may receive an instant or direct message, or spread misinformation and fake news. Encourage them to seek verification. If you're limited to a single message, site or service, where possible, encourage children to verify themselves by checking legitimacy before proceeding. Simple actions, such as phoning the person who is the subject of a suspicious email, or checking content via an individual or company website or social media site can be a big difference. The greater the risk, the more what we should expect to confirm whether the information presented is true or false.

REPORT IT

As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention or acting quickly. It's important that young people know how to report incidents as they happen. They should know to report their concerns to the relevant site, Action Fraud, police, and other organisations. If you are unsure of the next steps, reporting a scam is a good first step.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the UK Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Fonetti Summer Reading Challenge

Townhill junior School

Register your child for FREE at:

<https://readaloudchallenge.co.uk/join/H4KR-6WSJ-K3IN>



- ★ **FREE** for children from July 1st - August 31st
- ★ Safe and easy for every child to use **without supervision**
- ★ Encourages a child's love for reading and helps **maintain and improve** reading skills
- ★ Uses games, competition, leaderboards and prizes as a proven method to further **engage children in a fun and competitive way**
- ★ Encourages **independent** reading, fires up their imagination and **improves** their reading skills
- ★ Winning schools get 4 places to a fully-funded day trip to London to the awards event hosted by **Clare Balding CBE** at Amazon HQ.

readaloudchallenge.co.uk
#BeProudReadAloud

"Reading is fuel for our imaginations and reading aloud is all about confidence... So let's get reading!"

Clare Balding CBE, National Read-Aloud Challenge & Fonetti Brand Ambassador



#BeProudReadAloud

National Read-Aloud Challenge 2025
Powered by **Fonetti**

Enrol Now



National Read-Aloud Challenge 2025
Powered by **Fonetti**

"We started the National Read-Aloud Challenge to make reading accessible for every child—especially over the summer, when many fall behind. We offer Fonetti free during the holidays, and by partnering with like-minded businesses to help spread the word, we're sparking a love for reading and driving lasting change."

Kim Antoniou, Founder of Fonetti



Meet Fonetti



Children choose from a library of engaging books and simply read them aloud. Progress and stars achieved are shown to inform and encourage.



When read correctly, the words turn green. If skipped or misread, they turn gray. For children, an audible clue can be accessed by simply double-tapping the word.



Children can effortlessly monitor their progress on a daily, weekly, monthly or overall basis! Parents and carers are kept informed with weekly progress updates.

Introducing the **award-winning** Read-Aloud App for children, the perfect tool to improve literacy, fluency and language skills.

Fonetti is proven to boost oracy, fluency, reading and English language skills.



74%

of students notice an improved reading level in just 3 weeks!



16%

Average accuracy improvement



25

Additional correct words per minute

Measured from a dataset of over 200,000 reading sessions on Fonetti in 2023.

... is the key ...

Events at Waterstones in West Quay



Cruise Ship Kid:...

Emma Swan

Jump on board with CRUISE SHIP KID!

Emma Swan is a West End Actress who frequently stars in the *Horrible Histories* stage shows. She spent her childhood living on cruise ships. Her parents worked onboard and like Silver, the star of her book CRUISE SHIP KID, she was 'ship-schooled,' while travelling the globe.

In this special event, Emma will reveal what life was like at sea and how it felt to be a mini crew member, in her cabin, at the bottom of the ship. There will be fun quizzes, drama games and maybe a couple of interruptions from Silver herself! It's *shore* to be a good time!

All children attending will take home some CRUISE SHIP KID goodies.



Waterstones, Southampton -
West Quay

Saturday 26th July 2025
10:30 - 11:15

£5.00

£10 ticket and book

BOOK TICKETS



Cirque Du Freak:...

Come along and meet Darren Shan to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his international bestselling book *Cirque du Freak*. Atmospheric, funny, realistic, moving and terrifying, *Cirque du Freak* has been thrilling readers for twenty-five years and is now available in a stunning anniversary edition. Darren will be signing copies and meeting readers.

Book a ticket in advance to secure a place in the queue and a copy of the *Cirque du Freak*, to be collected on the day, and which Darren Shan will the dedicate and sign for you.

There will also be copies of the book available to purchase from the bookshop on the day, so feel free to pop along and get a copy then and meet Darren Shan.



Waterstones, Southampton -
West Quay

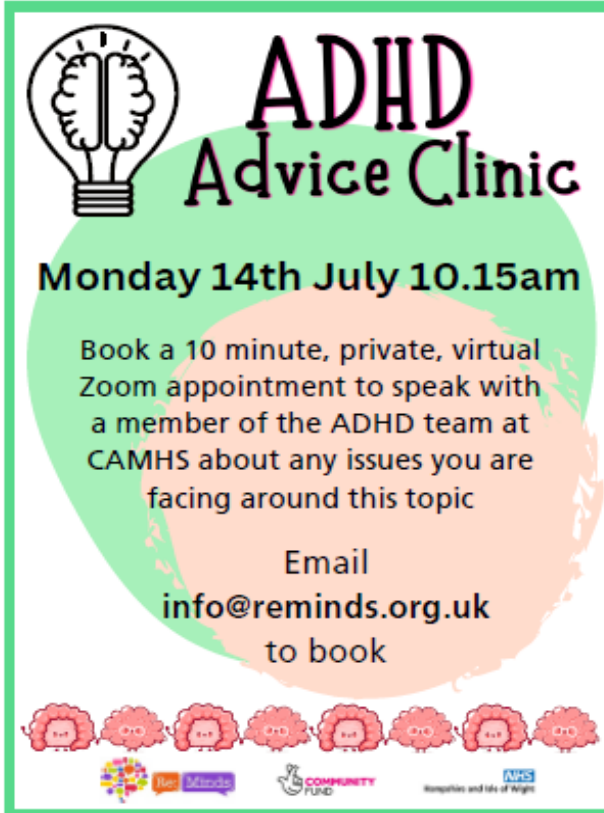
Sunday 9th November 2025
14:00


£7.99 for admission & copy of
Cirque du Freak (incl. fees)

BOOK TICKETS

Next week at Re:Minds...

14th - 18th July 2025

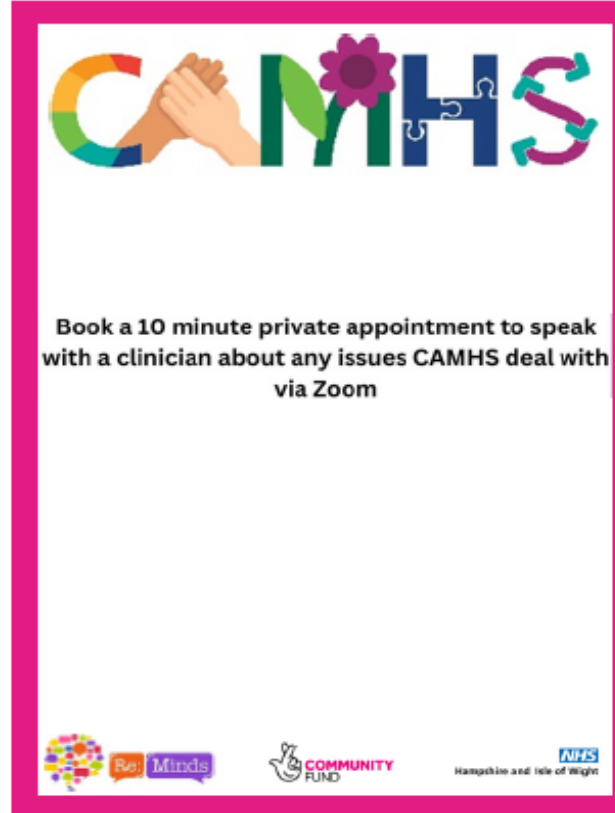





 **ADHD**
Advice Clinic

Monday 14th July 10.15am


Book a 10 minute, private, virtual Zoom appointment to speak with a member of the ADHD team at CAMHS about any issues you are facing around this topic

Email
info@reminds.org.uk
to book





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



To book a space at either of the clinics, please email info@reminds.org.uk



with thanks to  

**FREE-PLAY FUN
FOR EVERYONE!**

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Locations in: Bracknell, Farnborough, Newbury,
Poole, Southampton, Swindon & Worcester



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- 🎮 **Birthday parties and exclusive hire available!**
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Only £12.50 per person!

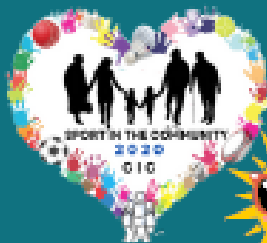
Family of 4 ticket for £40!

Use code PACMAN20 for 20% off!

*T&Cs apply. To be redeemed on single General Admission tickets only.



Nothing is the key to success



SUMMER HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP



BOYS & GIRLS
5-11
Year Olds

MONDAY 28TH JULY - FRIDAY 15TH AUG 2025

Individual Day Course

COST: £13 A DAY
TIME: 9AM-3PM



Join our fun-filled activity sessions during half term! Entertaining games and exciting matches of Football, Tag Rugby, Dodgeball, Kwik Cricket, Tag Games and much more!

4 year olds can join sessions from 9am-1pm or 11am-3pm

S018 Residents* COST: £9 A DAY
*S018 Residents - qualifying criteria applies, email sportinthecommunity2020@gmail.com to see if you are eligible for discount

BOOK HERE ➔ <https://sport-in-the-community.classforkids.io/>

See all our sessions on the below link
<https://sport-in-the-community.classforkids.io/>

Wynter Road Playing Fields
Wynter Road | Bitterne | S018 6NX

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday, 16th July	:	Music Showcase (4pm)
Thursday, 17th July	:	Y3 Stone Age Workshop Day
Friday, 18th July	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
Monday, 21st July	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event at BPS (6:00pm)
Tuesday, 22nd July	:	End of Term: (3.15pm)



INSET Days for 2025/26

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Thursday 4th September 2025

Friday 10th October 2025

Monday 23rd February 2026

Friday 19th June 2026

Wishing you all an enjoyable and relaxing weekend,

Mr H
Headteacher

