

Townhill Junior School

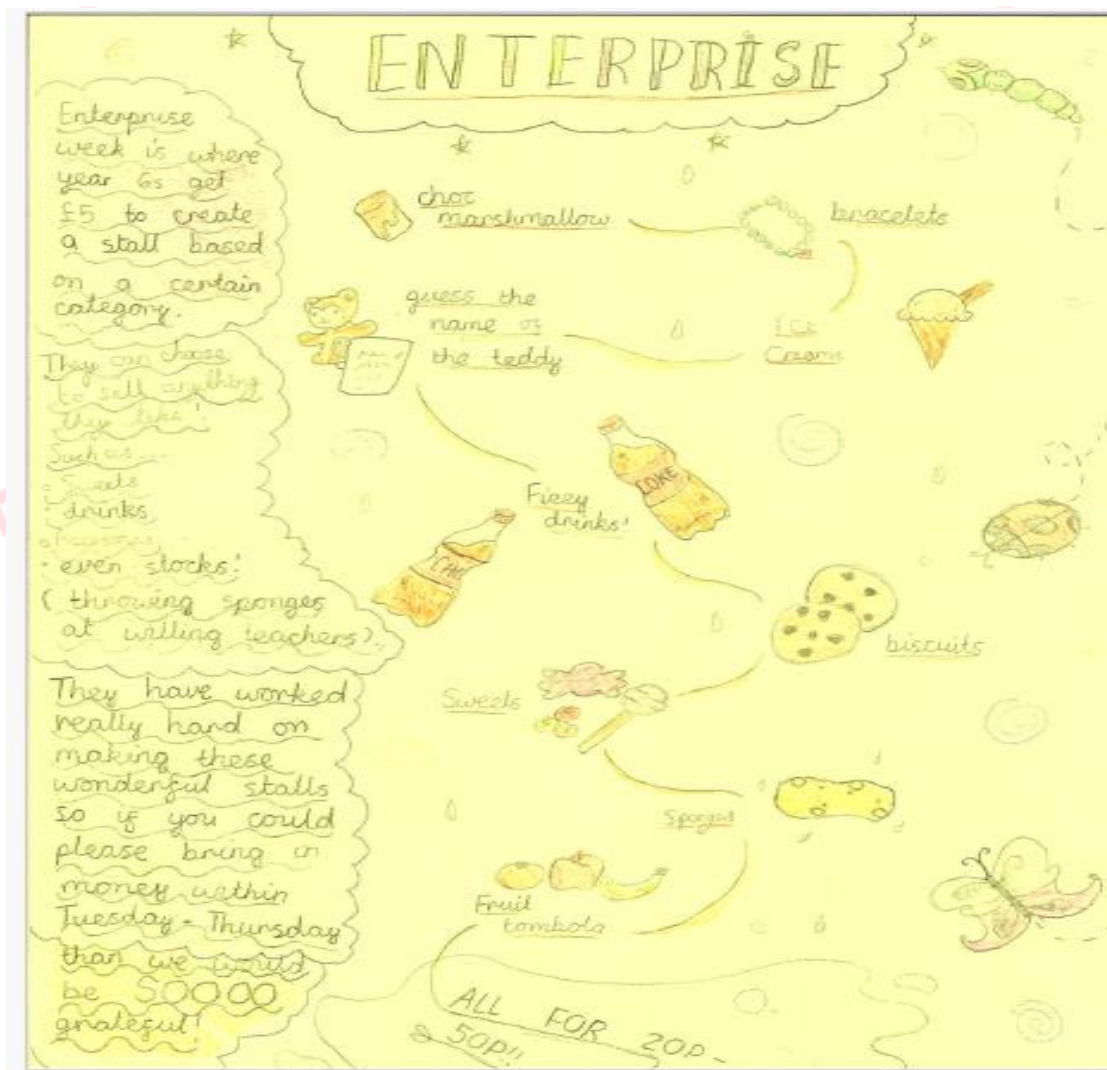
Weekly Update: 6th June



It was great to welcome everyone back this week for the last half term of the school year. Although the weather was changeable this didn't dampen the spirits and there was lots of positive learning taking place and the week finished with our school discos, kindly run by our School Fundraising Committee.

Year 6 Enterprise Week

The week ahead sees our Y6 children putting their maths and enterprise skills to the test as they have stalls to run on the playground at break and lunch from Tuesday to Thursday. They will learn about profit margins and any money made will go into end of term rewards for the year group. The children talked about their plans in assembly and produced their own posters. Please could the children bring small amounts of cash to school on those days.



Speech Competition

On Monday we launched our annual Speech Competition. In the coming weeks, the children will be asked to prepare a two minute speech to present to their class. **There will be time put aside in English lessons in the coming weeks to help them to structure and write their speech on a topic of their choosing.** We would ask you to help them with picking a topic that they find interesting and can research easily.

Some examples of topics that have worked well in previous years are: pets, hobbies, places they have visited or special interests. However, unusual topics do stand out and it is great to hear new things – the them can literally be on anything.

Additionally they will be asked to speak for one minute on a random, surprise topic. This will again be explained by their class teachers and is always lots of fun!

Class teachers will give each child a date for their speech to be performed in lesson time and this is open to negotiation based on when speeches are ready.

Our Speech Competition is a proud TJS tradition and often brings out the best in the children and try something new. What makes it great is that every single child in the school presents a speech and as a result all of our pupils are supportive and encouraging of one another.

Once the class speeches are completed, the class teacher selects a winner to present in a year group final and produce a year group winner for our whole school final.

Should you have any further questions about this please talk to your children or have a word with the class teacher.



Book Talk Challenge

Mrs Gregory has entered the school into a Literacy Trust Book Talk Competition where prizes can be won for the winning year group. The children need to make a note of the different genres they are reading and then have to tell someone about them to earn a book to stick onto the Reading Tree on display in each year group area. The clear winners this week were Year 3 with a number of genre branches filling up already.



Family Board Game Night

We have teamed up with Board in the City to host a Family Board Game Night on Friday 11th July. Please save the date and signing up details will be coming out on aRbor shortly.

FRIDAY 11TH JULY - 6-8 PM

FAMILY BOARD GAME NIGHT

£1 PER PERSON ENTRY

RAFFLE!

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & SNACKS.

SOME REFRESHMENTS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

Sponsored by
Board in the City
cic

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3G	Oakley G
3T	Blessing
4T	Lena
4P	Charis
5I	Joshua
5OH	Oliver
6S	Chloe
6C	Sienna
6O	Alfie
PE	Kobe

Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Improvement in Speed
1	Rio	4T	-1.54
2	Oscar	3T	-1.5
3	Gloria	6S	-1.22
4	Herkus	4P	-0.31
5	Jorgie	4T	-0.23
6	Tallulah	4T	-0.22
7	Elsie	4T	-0.19
8	Raena	3G	-0.18
9	Fleur	4P	-0.18
10	Rhema	3T	-0.16



23rd May - 5 June 2025 07:00 - 21:00



4T

1032

5I

235

5OH

229

6S

214



Boom Reader



Spelling Shed



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

Rank	Pupil	Class	Score	Total Score
1	Oscar O'R	3G	32,022,347	33,144,579
2	Janelle O	3G	22,293,570	135,648,817
3	Desandu G	5I	10,687,848	44,284,319
4	Tawfiq R	5I	2,477,707	56,498,698
5	Daniel L	3G	1,266,932	4,353,504
6	Raena S	3G	1,130,816	68,931,832
7	Hector G	5OH	1,028,440	49,733,466
8	Alexandra P	5I	802,652	257,145,413
9	Karina A	3T	770,928	4,399,988
10	Joanne O	3T	475,468	6,619,143

School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	Whole School Attendance this year to date
92.4%	93.9%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year
196	116



Class Attendance for this week:

Weekly Attendance	3G	3T	4P	4T	5I	5OH	6C	6O	6S
Attendance Percentage	94.7%	90.1%	91.6%	96.9%	88.8%	95.5%	95.5%	93.5%	97.6%
Difference on last week	-1.2%	-7.1%	-2.3%	-3.1%	-6.7%	+4.2%	+2.5%	+4.2%	-2.4%

Every School Day Counts

0 Days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned
5 days absence over the whole year	97% - 100%	Good chance of success and progress
20 days absence over the whole year	90%	Less chance of success and harder to make progress
20+ days absence over the whole year	Under 90%	Deterioral to success and progress

key to success

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions – they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 🤔 (Thinking face) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcasm or passive-aggression. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emoji, mean-spirited jokes or derogatory language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'lol' or 'kawaii' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person sending 🙄 (Rolling back of eyes) once signified exasperation but might now be reinterpreted for something entirely different. This ever-shifting lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍷 (Gulping liquor wine) or 🍯 (Honey) might suggest drug use, while 🙄 (Rolling back of eyes) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Things like 🍷 (Gulping liquor wine) or 🍯 (Honey) may appear innocuous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojiexplains.org or Urban Dictionary. Having current knowledge builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.



CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emoji, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.



ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emoji with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🙄 (Rolling back of eyes) mean to you?" can open an conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.



PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to – not just someone who's watching them.



EMOJI CHEAT SHEET – The following slang terms and emoji are some common examples – please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

- 🤔 (Thinking face) Exasperation or something around
- 🙄 (Rolling back of eyes) Sarcasm, eye-roll, or disbelief
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POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- 🍷 (Gulping liquor wine) May refer to pornography (with censorship algorithms)
- 🍯 (Honey) Can represent betrayal or being 'honey-trapped'
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Meet Our Expert

Keith Iron is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojiexplains.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Queen's School of Business and Technology.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about OFCOM MEDIA REPORT 2025

Every year, Ofcom releases its Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report, offering fresh insights into how young people are using digital platforms. The 2025 edition highlights key safeguarding concerns as children's engagement with social media, gaming, and live streaming continues to grow. This guide pulls out the top statistics from the report, focusing on the main areas of concern for parents and educators.

ONLINE LIVES

Children are engaging with social media and online content at increasing rates.

37%
3-16s

now have access to social media platforms, having up to a third of parents use it independently of parents.

79%
3-16s

have a social media profile with 38% making a public post.

66%
3-16s

want to receive video regularly, with 16% of them streaming their own content.

POST

ONLINE GAMING

Gaming remains popular but raises concerns:

74%

of children say they play with someone they know, with 82% reporting only with strangers.

62%

of parents worry about their child being talked to by strangers while gaming.

31%

of children who game online chat with people they don't know.

PARENTAL CONCERNS

Parents are increasingly worried about online risks:

70%

fear their child may see age-inappropriate or sexual content.

68%

fear exposure to content that promotes self-harm.

72%

worry about their child disclosing real-life information.

61%

worry about exposure to extreme views.

69%

are concerned about online bullying.

SCREEN TIME

Screen time is still a major challenge for parents:

70%

of parents of 12-16s say it's difficult to manage screen time.

33%

of 8-11s think their own screen time is too high.

At **29%** vs **24%**

boys were more likely than girls to disagree that their screen time is too high.

18

HARMFUL CONTENT & INTERACTIONS

A significant minority of children continue to have negative feelings about social media and messaging apps:

Nearly four in ten (39%) believe that people are mean or unkind to each other online at or most of the time.

Girls aged 8-17 are more likely than boys to say they have experienced someone being nasty or hurtful to them online (30%).

One third of teenagers agree that it's important that people can say what they want online, even if it offends someone.

ONLINE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

Feeling like the vast majority of children reported wanting schools to focus safety at school:

92%

of children aged 8-17 think at least one lesson on online safety and cyber security should be taught in school.

63%

think recognise harmful content.

63%

know how to keep personal information safe.

62%

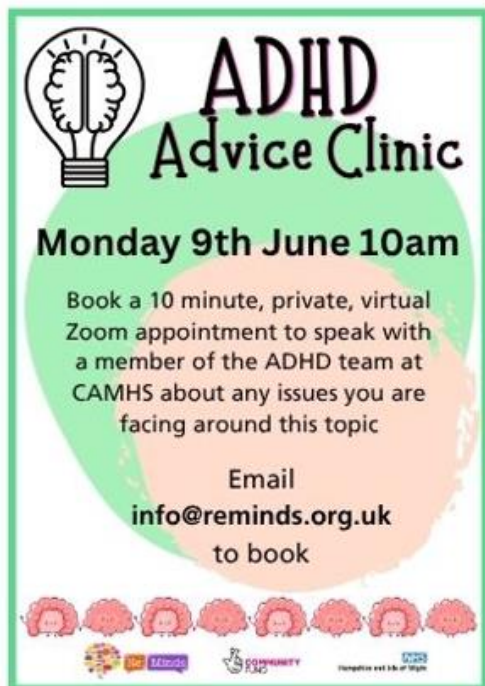
being kind and respectful online.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Next week at Re:Minds...

9th - 13th June 2025



ADHD Advice Clinic

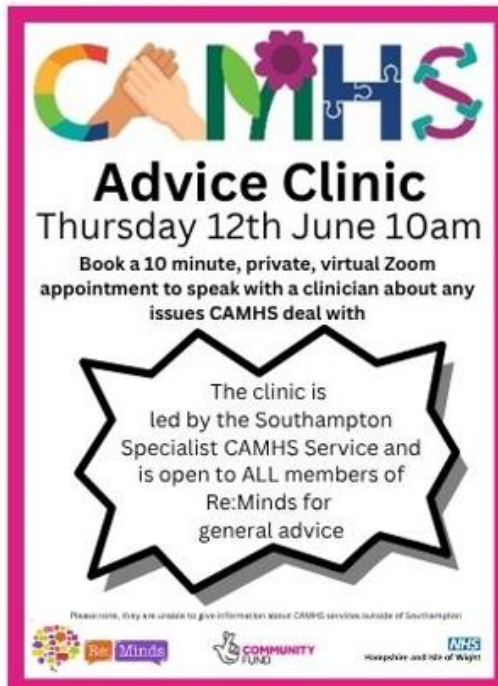
Monday 9th June 10am

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

Please note, they are unable to give information about CAMHS services outside of Southampton

Logos: Re:Minds, COMMUNITY FUND, Hampshire and Isle of Wight



CAMHS Advice Clinic

Thursday 12th June 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

Please note, they are unable to give information about CAMHS services outside of Southampton

Logos: Re:Minds, COMMUNITY FUND, Hampshire and Isle of Wight



Shirley Support Group

Friday 13th June 10am

Children welcome!

A chance to talk to other parents/carers with neurodiverse children and/or mental health issues. Get advice & support from our team - it doesn't matter where you live, you can attend any group!

You can also access the book & sensory library on request
please allow 48 hours prior notice for this

Face to face meetings are in Room 7 upstairs at St James Road Methodist Church, SO15 5HE

This venue has free parking, is accessible (has a lift) - Refreshments are available

Logos: Re:Minds, COMMUNITY FUND, Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book an appointment at the clinic You do not need to book to attend the support groups - just turn up!

with thanks to  





Kerstin from our 16-25 team will be on hand at Shirley to support anyone with children/young people who are in or approaching this age

Kerstin from Re:Minds is offering

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



Dates for the Diary

10th – 12th June	:	Y6 Enterprise Week
Friday, 13th June	:	Y6 Paultons Trip
Friday, 20th June	:	INSET Day
23rd – 27th June	:	Assessment Week (Y3 –5)
Wednesday, 25th June	:	3G Pizza Express Trip
Wednesday, 2nd July	:	Transfer Day Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm)
Thursday, 3rd July	:	Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
Friday, 4th July	:	Y5 & Y6 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day: Mon 7 th July)
Tuesday, 8th July	:	Y4 Itchen Valley Teambuilding Day
Wednesday, 9th July	:	3T Pizza Express Trip
Friday, 11th July	:	Board Game Family Evening (6pm – 8pm)
Friday, 18th July	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
Monday, 21st July	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event (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

