



# Townhill Junior School Newsletter - May 2025

Welcome to our school newsletter



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## Headteacher's Welcome

This half term has gone really quickly and the weather has really made it feel like summer. We also have so much to look forward to in the remaining half term including: Sports Days, the Year 6 Prom, lots of trips and of course Transfer Day on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.



This past 5 weeks has been absolutely brilliant and very busy with a real community feel for our VE Day celebrations and some wonderful praise from people outside the school community who have commented on and commended the children for their fantastic attitudes. Year 6 made us very proud at our Careers Fair: several of the speakers praised their excellent behaviour and fantastic levels of engagement. Year 3 were also wonderfully engaged with their activities at Hilliers Garden Centre where the staff there praised them for their questions and manners.

In school, the children have been equally brilliant: Year 3 have produced some excellent letters in role as Edward Tulane; Year 4 have been Egyptologists, exploring the ancient pyramids and the tombs of the pharaohs; Year 5 have been inspired by two books – Here We Are and Wild Robot which have led to some fantastic writing outcomes; Year 6 worked so hard on their SATs, showing real resilience, and have since started to produce some great work on *The Arrival*.

Throughout the term, and particularly during SATs Week, we have seen fantastic teamwork across the school and the support that was given to ensure that the children had the very best conditions to do well in their SATs made us even prouder than ever of the children and staff.

That just leaves me to thank the staff and governors for all of their continued efforts: the children of Townhill are thriving because of this.

Have a great half term,

Mr Humphries



## Wonderwall Winners

Congratulations to all our Wonderwall Winners who received their certificates and pin badge in assembly. The winners were:

3G: Alfie W

3T: Joanne

4P: Fleur

4T: Seth

5I: Harley

5OH: Charley

6C: Shaya

6O: Bradley

6S: Tommy

Sport: James (6S)

## Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Correct Answers
1	Jaivon	4T	18282
2	Divino	4T	15022
3	Kaci-Jai	4T	13083
4	Lily	5OH	6375
5	Desandu	5I	6072
6	Paul	6S	2801
7	Mia	6S	2345
8	Jesaiah	4T	1948
9	Gloria	6S	1528
10	Sarah	4P	1187



17th May - 22 May 2025 06:00 - 21:00

Year 4 835 Year 5 269 Year 6 102 Year 3 42



## Boom Reader



## Spelling Shed



Class	Most Reads
3G	Oliver P & Louis
3T	Oscar
4P	Herkus
4T	Connor P
5I	Desandu
5OH	Desandi
6C	X
6O	X
6S	Jasmine
<b>Weekly Class Winner</b>	<b>3G</b>

Rank	Pupil	Class	Score	Total Score
1	Janelle O	3G	12,375,936	112,933,975
2	Mysha M	5I	9,413,291	56,275,677
3	Desandu G	5I	5,421,434	33,596,471
4	Rhema A	3T	4,448,136	57,398,497
5	Joshua O	3G	3,623,794	3,623,794
6	Finley W	4T	1,941,592	4,134,052
7	Charis M	4P	1,614,526	138,788,396
8	Charlie S	3G	1,435,068	46,280,901
9	Hector G	5OH	1,404,678	48,705,026
10	Bella-Grace	4P	758,176	2,323,378

## Sports News

In year 3 our children have been working on dances from across the world! They have been comparing the music and moves between the dances and worked really well on their timing.

Our year 4 children looked at rhythmic gymnastics. The children created routines using jumps, rolls and balances which they then added in using a hoop, ball or ribbon to the routine.

Year 5 have been looking at twisting and turning and using the apparatus to build them into gymnastic routines, showing some impressive control in their landings and movement.

In year 6, the children have been busy choreographing modern dance routines for their end of year celebrations, which will be performed at their leavers event at the end of term.

The half term finished with a House based cricket tournament in Games Lessons. The results were:

House	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total	Points
Sapphire	90	82	39	92	326	1
Emerald	72	72	66	135	345	3
Ruby	72	103	52	102	329	2

## Sport Values – Summer 1

Best Dressed – 3G

### Determination

Timur – 3T  
Alfie W – 4P  
Amelia – 5OH  
Orla – 6O

### Passion

Alfie W – 3G  
Kaci-Jai – 4T  
Woody – 5OH  
Oliver S – 6S

### Honesty

Kaya – 3T  
Renesmai – 4P  
Alyssia – 5I  
Evie-Grace – 6C

### Teamwork

Lucia – 3T  
Ava – 4P  
Reggie – 5I  
Tommy – 6O

### Self Belief

Kacper – 3T  
Dexter – 4P  
Oliver S – 5OH  
Shaya – 6C

### Respect

Sasha – 3G  
Remisa – 4P  
Alexandra – 5I  
Theodore – 6O



key to success

## Drama Club Performance

Our fantastic Drama Club have had a very busy week. On Monday it was time for a final rehearsal in front of the whole school during assembly which helped to get the nerves out of the way. Then on Wednesday they had their evening performance on the stage with parents and family members there to watch. Their performance of Matilda was the culmination of months of hard work learning lines and the songs of the musical under the expert direction of Mrs McAllister.

There were some fantastic performances and some very positive feedback from the audiences at both shows. We are looking forward to seeing what the Drama Club have in store for their next performance. If it has inspired your child to get involved please get them to speak to Mrs McAllister.



## Year 6 Careers Fair

Following their busy week of SATs last week, it was time for Year 6 to think about their futures and consider what type of job they might go into when they are older. We were fortunate to have a number of professionals across various industries come into school to talk to groups of our Year 6 children who asked a number of thoughtful and probing questions to see if any of the professions they were learning about could be their future job. The children got to hear from the following:

- ❖ Vet
- ❖ University Technician and Artist
- ❖ Fireman
- ❖ Police Officer
- ❖ Nurse
- ❖ Global Sales Businessman
- ❖ Mortgage Advice Manager
- ❖ Beautician
- ❖ Structural Engineer
- ❖ 3D Modeller & Animator



We were extremely grateful for all their support and honesty in engaging with our pupils and answering their questions.

## 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 half term break is the perfect time to get started and log those reads. We will keep you updated through our weekly newsletter.



## House Points

Throughout the half term, the children have enjoyed competing in houses and collecting house points by demonstrating the school's learning values and following the three school rules. Additionally, children can also gain house points for participating in TT Rockstars, Spelling Shed, Boom Read and the House Cricket competition.

After a very closely fought contest, congratulations to the winning house for Summer 1... **Ruby!** On the first Friday back, they will get the opportunity to be 'first' for everything including school dinners and breaktimes. They will also have a longer break and lunch time than the other children.



Summer 1  
Standings:

House	Weekly Points	Cricket	Total Points
Sapphire	0	1	1
Emerald	2	3	5
Ruby	4	2	6

## Speech Competition



During the last half term we will be launching our annual TJS Speech Competition. Each child will have the chance to research and prepare a speech about something that interests them that they will then have the opportunity to share with their class. Why not use the half term break to come up with a theme for the speech.

## School Fundraising Committee



Our wonderful SFC team will be selling Father's Day gifts for the children to buy at the disco and then in the week leading up to the event on Sunday 15th June.

The **discos**, run by the SFC, is on **Friday 6th June** and tickets are available through Arbor.

## Home Learning

A reminder of the expectations....

**Boom Reader** – this is an on-line reading log, and does not have online books for your child to read. Once on the site all you need to do is log when your child reads. There is even the option to for children to log for themselves. This allows us to keep a record of the texts and genres each child reads. We would expect a minimum of 4 logs a week, this can be just parents, just children or a mix. It would be great if it was more – they may just be our weekly star reader!

**TT Rockstars** – On TT Rockstars there are a number of options to practise your times tables. Sound check is beneficial for practising against the clock in preparation for the Year 4 times table check. Or to get up the school leader board, choose Studio!

**Spelling Shed** – Once logged on your child should head to assignments where games have been allocated that match the current pattern / rule being learnt in school. We would expect the children to spend ten minutes, 4 x a week playing these games.

**Any problems please speak to your child's class teacher.**

Learning is the key to success

# Year 3 Updates

## What we have been learning this half term:

- Maths = Fraction word problems, angles, 2D and 3D shapes and perimeter
- English = The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane has allowed us to write narratives and letters in role
- Guided Reading = The boys who grew dragons by Andy Shepherd
- Geography = Circles of the World: the equator and the Tropics: 3 climates: polar, temperate and tropical
- Science = Completed our 'Light' unit and began looking at 'Plants'
- Spanish = Las Frutas (fruits)
- Art = Art in Nature – sculptures
- Computing = Coding
- PE & Games = Dances from around the World & Cricket
- RE = Sacred – Places of Worship
- PSHE = Relationships
- Music = Jazz

## Next half term, we will be learning...

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>Learning</u></b>
Reading	Main texts: Hunter Gatherer, plus a selection of poems
Writing	Speech, Poetry and Narrative Using a range of poems and film clips
Maths	Data handling & Time
Science	Plants
PSHE	Changing Me
RE	Protection
History	Stone Age to Bronze Age
DT	Bread making
Computing	Programming
Spanish	Instruments
PE & Games	Athletics and Gymnastics

# Year 4 Updates

What have we have been learning this half term:

- English: The House with Chicken Legs
- Maths: Area and measure
- History: The Ancient Egyptians
- Science: Electricity
- RE: Devotion and how Hindus show this
- Art: Kente / Adinkra cloths
- Computing: Repetition in shapes
- PSHE: Relationships
- Spanish: Los Helados (Ice Creams)
- Music: Samba instruments
- PE: Gymnastics and Cricket

Next half term, we will be learning...

<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b><u>Learning</u></b>
Reading	Main text: White Giraffe by Lauren St John
Writing	Speech, Poetry and Narrative Main text: The Village That Vanished by Ann Grifalconi
Maths	Position and movement, shapes
PSHE	Changing me
RE	Symbols
History	Ancient Egypt
DT	Woodwork
Computing	Repetition in games
Spanish	Los helados (ice cream)
PE	Line Dancing & Athletics

# Year 5 Updates

## What we have been learning this half-term:

- **English:** Non-chronological reports based on Here We Are by Oliver Jeffers
- **Reading:** Wild Robot by Peter Brown
- **Maths:** Measurement: distance, weight, time, area and perimeter
- **Science:** Properties of materials
- **Geography:** North America
- **RE:** Sacred places
- **DT:** Making Apple Crumbles
- **PSHE:** Relationships
- **Computing:** Selection in physical computing using crumble kits
- **Spanish:** En el café (in the café)
- **Music:** Looping and re-mixing
- **PE:** Twisting & Turning, and cricket

## Next half term, we will be learning...

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Learning</u>
Reading	The Savage by David Almond
Writing	Speech, Poetry and Narrative Main Text: Be The Change: Poems to help you save the world
Maths	Volume
Science	Properties of Materials
PSHE	Relationships
RE	Umma (Community)
Geography	North America
DT/Art	North American Art: Keith Haring
Computing	Selection in quizzes
Music	Musical Theatre
Spanish	En el café (In the café)
PE & Games	Indian Dance and Athletics

# Year 6 Updates

## What we have been learning this half-term:

We are so proud of the children for how unbelievably hard they have worked through SATs week! It has been a busy half-term packed with learning and we ended it with a focus on writing and our Careers Fair!

- English: Different genres based on The Arrival
- Maths: Position, Movement and Statistics
- Computing: Coding games with variables using Scratch
- RE: Death Ceremonies
- Science: Light
- DT: Bird Boxes
- PSHE: Relationships
- Spanish: Tienes una mascota? (Do you have a pet?)
- Music: Composing a leavers song
- PE: Leavers Dance & Cricket

## Next half term, we will be learning...

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Learning</u>
Reading	Main Text: Overheard in a Tower Block by Joseph Coelho
Writing	Speech, Poetry and Narrative Main Text: Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen
Maths	Word Problems / Consolidation
Science	Electricity
PSHE	Changing Me
RE	Peace
History	The Mayans
Computing	Coding – using a Micro:bit
Music	Baroque
PE & Games	Dance & Athletics

## School Attendance News



### Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week <b>94.1%</b>	Whole School Attendance this year to date <b>93.9%</b>
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week <b>216</b>	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year <b>120</b>



### Class Attendance for this week: 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January

Weekly Attendance	3G	3T	4P	4T	5I	5OH	6C	6O	6S
Attendance Percentage	95.9%	97.2%	93.9%	100%	98.2%	91.3%	93.0%	89.3%	97.6%
Difference on last week	+1.2%	-1.2%	-1.1%	+13.8%	+8.0%	-3.9%	-7.0%	-7.6%	-0.4%

## Every School Day Counts



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 8% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after reading violent content. For some, these effects may be short-term, but for those with existing mental health problems, the threat can be more severe. Many also find themselves 'tough up' when asked to discuss, or realise they find it distressing.

### BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

### ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

### DESENSITISATION

Video users may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – possibly because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a snitch by their peers.

### HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online rarely exists with neutral, unambiguous or otherwise educational aims. These messages can desensitise others to graphic violence as a way to gain power, popularity or sympathy. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

### DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, single-parent, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, jointly agreed forums or trusted carers they can turn to for support.

### KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a self-harming mental health risk. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. Useful resources to report harmful content are:

### AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to restrict or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

### UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these skills and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy helps online and offline.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Broad – James is the founder of onlineMentalUK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, mental health and young people. Her PhD investigated children's understanding of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [onlineMentalUK.com](http://onlineMentalUK.com) for more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

# After Half Term at Re:Minds...

2nd - 6th  
June 2025

**Shirley Evening Support Group**



**Monday 2nd June at 6.30pm**

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!

See in these categories and sub-categories on Re:Minds  
Re:Minds Community Fund, Shirley, 2025-2026

This resource has funding, it is available for a 48h - 48h prior notice period.




**Autism Advice Clinic**

**Wednesday 4th June 10.30am**

Book a private, 10 minute virtual Zoom appointment to speak with a clinician about any issues related to Autism

The clinic is led by the Southampton Autism Assessment Service  
Email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk)



**SEND Legal Advice Clinic**

**Wednesday 4th June 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](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk) to book a slot, or follow the link on the event



**Sholing Support Group**



**Friday 6th December 10am**

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!

See in these categories and sub-categories on Re:Minds  
Re:Minds Community Fund, Sholing, 2025-2026

This resource has funding, it is available for a 48h - 48h prior notice period.



Please email [info@reminds.org.uk](mailto:info@reminds.org.uk) to book an appointment at any of the clinics. You do not need to book to attend support groups - just turn up!



with thanks to  





# BUSHCRAFT HOLIDAY CLUB

**SPEND YOUR HOLIDAYS EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS!**

Unleash your adventurous side at our Bushcraft Holiday Club! This one-day outdoor course is perfect for young people aged 9-14 (Year 5 and up) who are ready to explore the great outdoors and learn real bushcraft skills.

Spend the day building shelters, cooking delicious food over a campfire, mastering the use of Kelly Kettles, and trying your hand at woodworking. Whether you're a first-time explorer or an experienced adventurer, there's always something new to learn! Sign up and book your space through the QR Code →

 School holidays

 Itchen Valley Country Park, Allington Lane



[www.youthoptions.org.uk](http://www.youthoptions.org.uk)  
Youth Options is a registered Charity (1054463).



PRESCHOOLS  
& CHILDCARE

PREVENTION

TARGETED

PROGRESSION

OUTDOOR  
LEARNING




# WOODLAND HOLIDAY CLUB

**SPEND YOUR HOLIDAYS EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS!**

Unleash your sense of adventure at our Ofsted Registered Forest School-themed holiday club!

Designed for children aged 5-11 (Year 1 and up), our holiday club offers a magical mix of outdoor activities. From shelter building and campfire cooking to woodland art, games, nature walks, and habitat exploration, there's something for every young explorer. Join us for a holiday experience full of learning, fun, and fresh air!

Sign up and book your space through the QR Code →

 School holidays

 Outdoor Learning Centre, Bishopstoke Road, Eastleigh



[www.youthoptions.org.uk](http://www.youthoptions.org.uk)  
Youth Options is a registered Charity (1054463).



PRESCHOOLS  
& CHILDCARE

PREVENTION

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OUTDOOR  
LEARNING



## National Oceanography Centre World Ocean Open Day

Join us for a fun day of discovery at the [National Oceanography Centre \(NOC\)](#). Discover the wonders of the ocean through interactive exhibits, hands-on activities, and engaging presentations. Meet marine scientists, learn about cutting-edge research, and explore the fascinating world beneath the waves.

Whether you're a marine enthusiast, a curious learner, or just looking for a unique experience, this event is perfect for all ages. Dive into the world of oceanography and gain a new appreciation for our planet's most mysterious and vital ecosystem.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to explore the depths of the sea!

[Book Your Tickets Here](#)

Learning

Success



## Dates for the Diary

<b>26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	:	Half Term
<b>Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Discos Y3/4 (5:00pm) & Y5/6 (6:45pm)
<b>Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Y6 Paultons Trip
<b>Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	INSET Day
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Assessment Week (Y3 –5)
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	Y6 Enterprise Week
<b>Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	:	3G Pizza Express Trip
<b>Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	:	Transfer Day
		Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm)
<b>Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	:	Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
<b>Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	Y5 & Y6 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day: Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> July)
<b>Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	Y4 Itchen Valley Teambuilding Day
<b>Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	3T Pizza Express Trip
<b>Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
<b>Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event (6:00pm)
<b>Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	:	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

## Contact Us

Should you need to contact us:

### Townhill Junior School

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Tel: 02380 473611  
Email: [info@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:info@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk)



Visit our website at: <https://www.townhilljuniorschool.co.uk/>