

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 28th February



Welcome Back

It was wonderful to welcome everybody back for the start of the second half of the Spring term this week, and towards the end of the week it certainly felt like Spring is in the air with some sunshine and brighter evenings.



The Roof



Following weeks of preparation work the main work on the roof began over the half term break. Unfortunately the recent rain has led to some delays and Year 6 will be in the spare classrooms for another week. Providing everything runs to schedule this week, they will move back into their usual classrooms next Monday 10th March. On the same day, Year 5 will then move out and move to the spare classrooms. I will keep you informed as the works progress.

Dolce School Meals



A reminder that there will be an incoming price increase for school meals. From 31st March the price for a meal will increase from £2.35 to £2.59.

Cutbush Lane Parking

There are still concerns around the driving and parking in Cutbush Lane and we are due to take delivery of some safety bollards this week which will be placed on the zig zags to prevent parking there. This will hopefully serve as a reminder, but traffic enforcement officers have also already issued 3 fines to parents parking or dropping off there. They will be returning on a regular basis and we are beginning some travel planning work with The School Council aimed to encourage cars to park in more suitable spaces and walk to school.





TJS CELEBRATES



World Book Day



THURS 6TH = WBD

It's time to celebrate all the incredible characters we come across when we read, and dress up. Who will you be? Red Riding Hood? Robin Hood? Super Potato? Alex Rider? Looshkin? VI Spy? The Iron Man? The list is endless! Or will you think outside the box and represent the world of non-fiction? Prizes will be awarded for creative efforts.

COMPETITION TIME

Every year we set a competition that everyone can enter, and this year is no different. This year we are promoting the National Book Token competition to design a book token along the theme of 'Read Your Way'. Entry forms will be given out this week and entries should be handed in to Mrs Gregory by Monday 10th of March for judging. We will have at least one winner in every year group so it is time to get creative. (Entries will also be forwarded to the national competition)



EXTREME READING!

'Read Your Way' is the theme of this year's World Book Day. To make things exciting, we will also be running a photo competition - Where is the most 'extreme' place you can be caught reading? Or what is the most 'extreme' way to be caught reading? The photographs will be displayed in school and on the website. Prizes will be awarded for the most extreme and most creative. Please forward your photo entries to rgay@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk by Monday 24th March 2025.

Current Learning

	Subject	What the children will be learning	Ideas to support with the learning at home
Y3	English	Tense work	Play Verb Tenses games on: Verbs and the different tenses - BBC Bitesize
	Maths	Equivalent Fractions	Go on TT Rockstars to make sure you are confident with your times tables
	Art	Practising still life skills	Draw objects from your house just like Cezanne used to
Y4	English	Diary Writing as Medusa	Write a diary about your weekend using informal phrases
	Maths	Fractions & Time	Get an adult to ask you what the time is at regular intervals
	Science	Condensation and Evaporation	See where you can find examples of condensation and evaporation around your home
Y5	English	Writing a diary based on The Highwayman	Practise using 18 th century language when talking to an adult!
	Maths	Decimals	Look at work on www.maths.co.uk to solidify what you know about fractions and decimals
	DT	Soft Toys	Brush up on your sewing skills. Also find features in your own soft toys that either work or don't work too well
Y6	English	Writing escape stories based on King Kong	Find some picture or video clips of King Kong and think about how to describe him to make him sound scary or kind or misunderstood
	Maths	Geometry: Angles	Refresh your memory in fractions using www.maths.co.uk and the optional homework that went out today
	Art	Pop Art	Look for examples of pop art and identify what you like or dislike and why



Year 6 Revision Packs



As Year 6 build up to SATs there will be optional revision packs available for each week from class teachers. Please ask your class teacher each **Friday** and they are ready for you to take home.

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3G	Kacie
3T	Oscar
4T	Isla W
4P	Isaac
5I	Lillia
5OH	Charley
6S	Max M & Jack
6C	Connor
6O	Noah
PE	Reimisa (4P)
Music	Esme (6O)



Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Correct Answers
1	Lily	5OH	14234
2	Idah	5OH	10820
3	Theodore	6O	2426
4	Esme	6O	1351
5	Heritage	3T	1206
6	Connor	4T	1156
7	Kara	5I	810
8	Daniel	6C	642
9	Anaya	3T	501
10	Isaac	6O	423



21st February - 27 February 2025 06:00 - 21:00

Year 5 **580**
 Year 3 **77**
 Year 6 **75**
 Year 4 **36**

Boom Reader



Class	Most Reads
3G	Aoife
3T	Penny
4P	Herkus
4T	Connor P
5I	Kara & Alexandra
5OH	Matilda
6C	Andrea
6O	Max B
6S	Eli
Weekly Class Winner	4P

Spelling Shed



Rank	Pupil	Class	Score	Total Score
1	Idah M	5OH	29,859,873	116,846,974
2	Louis H	3G	7,699,868	18,117,198
3	Peterclever	5I	3,519,727	3,669,501
4	Mysha M	5I	3,102,357	28,914,554
5	Emilia Z	5I	1,334,802	81,142,178
6	Brogue B	6S	1,134,802	2,331,584
7	Wonder K	3T	996,002	996,002
8	Janelle O	3G	928,320	79,167,099
9	Raena S	3G	806,896	57,967,492
10	Daniel L	3G	685,560	2,099,526

School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	Whole School Attendance this year to date
94.3%	94.0%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year
225	126



Class Attendance for this week: 27th – 31st January

Weekly Attendance	3G	3T	4P	4T	5I	5OH	6C	6O	6S
Attendance Percentage	94.8%	96.7%	93.0%	96.2%	90.9%	93.6%	92.4%	94.7%	93.4%

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

Parent Governor Vacancy


We currently have a parent governor vacancy and we would love to hear from you if you would be interested in supporting the school in a governor capacity. Meetings are on Monday evenings through the year, with two meetings per half term. If you would like to express your interest please email:

info@townhilljuniorschool.co.uk .



Next Week at Re:Minds

Next week at Re:Minds 3rd-7th March 2025




Shirley Evening Support Group 

Monday 3rd March 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

Face to face meetings are held in Room 7 at St James Road Methodist Church, Shirley, SO18 3RH. This venue has free parking, is accessible from a DLU - Refreshments available

   Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Autism Advice Clinic 

Wednesday 5th March 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

   Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Adult Mental Health Advice Clinic

Wednesday 5th March 11.30am

Sarah Leonard, Head of Adult Community Mental Health Services, will be able to give advice and information for anyone needing it for themselves or their young person over the age of 18

Email info@reminds.org.uk to book

Parents are welcome to attend with their young person

   Hampshire and Isle of Wight

SEND Legal Advice Clinic

Wednesday 5th March 12.30pm

We are linking with Shentons Solicitors to offer three SEND legal advice clinics to our ReMinds 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**

Sholing Support Group 

Friday 7th March 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

Face to face meetings are in the community room, to the right of the church, at Marys church, at Monica Road, Sholing, SO16 6SS. This venue has free parking and is accessible - Refreshments are available on road parking also available

   Hampshire and Isle of Wight



with thanks to  

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MARVEL RIVALS



ESRB advise nobody under the age of 13 should play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Marvel Rivals launched in December 2024 and amassed a player count of nearly 150,000 in mere weeks. This player versus player (PvP) shooter packs in a host of recognisable comic-book characters, pitting two teams of six against each other. Despite the game's cartoonish nature, there are several potential risks for parents and educators to be aware of.

IN-GAME CHAT

Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally prominent among those playing on PC and will be shown on the side of the screen. Moderation on chats is relatively lax, so it's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a 100 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire – but they can't be purchased once the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict when your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to run into strangers through voice and text chat, for starters. Most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players – either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.

VIOLENT CONTENT

There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the playable characters available vary between more traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Black Widow and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms. Given the game's nature as a shooter, this may make some parents and carers uncomfortable as some players will be firing these weapons at each other.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The game includes some innuendo and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age, detracting from a safe and family-friendly gaming experience. As we mentioned previously, the content of the in-game chat could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from swearing to mature themes to potentially harmful content.

FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

The inclusion of iconic characters might make Marvel Rivals appear more approachable than other games in the genre, with recognisable heroes and villains like Spider-Man and Venom. This could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

Advice for Parents & Educators

FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS

The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral compass of the roster of characters (people can play as Halo, the Goddess of Death, for example), while also ensuring that the violence, however cartoonish, won't overwhelm them.



FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the fuss is about. Since it's free, consider playing Marvel Rivals yourself to gauge how you feel about a child playing it. Alternatively, you could let them play against the game's AI in Practice Mode, until they're old enough to compete online.

MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT

Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play alongside friends, remind them that they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.



DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and instils a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of the Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, he has been published on sites including iOH, TechRadar and plenty more.



[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds)

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**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.**



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EMAIL: info@southernkarate.org

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Child Protection
in Sport Unit





DISCOVER THE AMAZING



SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DAY

Saturday 15th March 2025

Highfield Campus and
Boldwood Innovation Campus,
Southampton



Book your **FREE** tickets
www.sotsef.co.uk





BARCLAYS WOMEN'S
CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY
MAR 22

KICK-OFF
5:30PM

ST MARY'S STADIUM

FREE TICKETS



SCAN
HERE



Winchester Books Festival:



[Children's events – Winchester Books Festival](#)

Parents Evening

Details and the link to sign up through Arbor will be going out this week. See the dates below for when they are taking place for each class.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday, 6th March: World Book Day & Dress Up Day

10th – 14th March: Assessment Week

Friday, 28th March: Parents Evening for 4P, 4T, 5I and 6S

Monday, 31st March: Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm) (Not Y4, 5I or 6S)

Tuesday, 1st April: Parents Evening (3:30pm – 7:00pm)

Thursday, 3rd April: Y5 Parent Reading Event (2:30pm)

Friday, 4th April: Break the Rules Day

End of Term: (3.15pm)



Wishing you all an enjoyable and relaxing weekend,

Mr H
Headteacher

