



## Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 5  
30<sup>th</sup> September 2022



[www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk](http://www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk)  
[@thomasjohnsonlowerschool](https://www.facebook.com/thomasjohnsonlowerschool)

### Headteacher's Introduction

As we reach the end of the fourth week of the new term I continue to be impressed with the effort and enthusiasm the children continue to show on a daily basis. In the last week I was proud to show prospective parents around the school and they commented on the "buzz" around the classrooms as children showed deep engagement with their learning.

I wanted to use today's newsletter as a reminder of our school motto: ***Dream. Discover. Flourish.***

In child friendly terms, this means the following:



### Dream

#### Start small, think BIG

This includes:

- Aspiring to more
- Being ambitious
- Developing self-esteem, self-belief and self-worth



### Discover

#### I can and I will

This includes:

- Developing resilience
- Responding to, and learning from, mistakes
- Acquiring new knowledge



### Flourish

#### My potential is endless

This includes:

- Understanding the relationship between effort and achievement
- Taking personal responsibility for our choices
- Being the best we can be

As the year progresses, further links between our whole school initiatives and curriculum will be made to our vision so that every door of opportunity remains open to our children.

*Simon Bolger*  
Headteacher

### Communication

Please remember that if you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child's learning and/or wellbeing then the following process needs to be followed:

Speak with the Class Teacher.	If it isn't resolved...	Speak with our Senior Teacher	If it still isn't resolved...	Speak with our Headteacher
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Thank you for following this process so we can help you as best as we possibly can.

*Dream - Discover - Flourish*

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### Safeguarding our community

Child Protection and the safeguarding of children are central to our duty as a school. All of the staff are trained in spotting the signs of abuse/neglect and what to do if they suspect that something is wrong. TJLS staff are also trained in FGM and anti-radicalisation. All staff are all fully vetted (*including enhanced DBS checks*) and the school has a clear Whistleblowing Policy.

However, there could be occasions when **you** might have a child protection concern (*suspecting abuse - physical/emotional/sexual - or neglect*) regarding another child. Perhaps something you witness outside of school that makes you feel uncomfortable or worried for a child. What should you do? Who should you tell?

Well, the key thing is to share your concern with someone. Mr Bolger (*Headteacher*) is the designated safeguarding lead, and is supported in this role by Miss Turner (*Senior Teacher*).

Information about safeguarding is available on request and there is a detailed policy on the school website regarding child protection.

**Keeping our children safe is everyone's business.**

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### House Captains

A huge thank you and well done to all of the children who applied for the House Captain positions. It was a very difficult choice as all of the children who applied put forward very strong reasons as to why they would make good House Captains. Thank you to parents and carers for supporting children in putting together their speeches and encouraging them to take a risk and have a go.

I am very pleased to announce that the new House Captains for this year are:



**Elliott  
Scarlet**



**Seija  
Hettie**



**Toby  
Noah**



**Matthew  
Ethan**

Huge congratulations to these 8 children. They will now be instrumental in helping to organise House events throughout the year - and for contributing to the shaping of our mindset and habits approach (*which, ssshhh, is coming very soon...!*)

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### School Council

There is still time for children to apply for the School Council. We are looking for 2 children from each class in Year 1, 2, 3 and 4. To apply for School Council, children need to make a campaign poster and **bring it to school by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. We will then hold a secret ballot the following day.

The School Councillors will meet with me on a fortnightly basis and contribute to decision making and goal setting for the school. I do hope that as many of you as possible will encourage your children to run for School Council.

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### Macmillan Coffee Morning

As you will have already seen in my letter this week, we are supporting Macmillan Cancer Support by holding a coffee morning on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October**.

If you are unable to attend, then please don't worry. Children without an attending grown up will still participate in the session and will be supervised by a member of school staff. If this applies to your child and you would like them to be able to buy a cake - then you can send them in with 50p and we will make this happen for them.

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

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### Cake and uniform sale

After school on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October**, the PTFA will be selling any leftover cakes from the coffee morning to raise funds for our school charity.

There will also be tables with items of school uniform that have been kindly donated to us. You are more than welcome to peruse the selection - and anything you would like to have - you can. **Free of charge**.

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### PTFA Disco

On **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October**, the PTFA have arranged for a disco to take place at Lidlinton Village Hall. A ticket ordering leaflet was sent home earlier this week and if you would like your child to attend then you can either send your ticket money into school or hand it straight to one of our PTFA members.

### Weekly Awards

This week, the awards go to...

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Harley	*	Frankie
Year 1	Callum	Amberley	Leo
Year 2	Sophia	Brody	Everly
Year 3	Arya	Elijah	Beth
Year 4	Ethan	Summer	Freddie

*\*We will introduce this award later in the school year for our Reception children.*

This week's Golden Brush winner is Hedgehogs - Preschool/Reception. They have had the tidiest classroom and cloakroom this week.

### Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance  
for this week - **95.43**

Duggee The Every Day Dog  
Awarded to the class with the best attendance all week.

(National attendance is **96.4%**  
- can we do better next week?)

Foxes with an attendance of **99%**

### Dates for your diary - new dates added will be written in green

6 <sup>th</sup> October	School Council Elections
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Macmillan Coffee Morning - 9.15-10am (Y1, 2 & 4). 10.15-11am (Preschool, Rec & Y2)
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Cake and uniform sale - after school
15 <sup>th</sup> October	PTFA Disco held at the Village Hall
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Last day of half-term
31 <sup>st</sup> October	School REOPENS for Autumn 2
2nd November	Children's individual school photographs
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Progress Consultations for Parents/Carers - 3.30-6pm - <i>more information in due course</i>
9 <sup>th</sup> November	Progress Consultations for Parents/Carers - 3.30-6pm - <i>more information in due course</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> November	PTFA Fireworks event
25 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day - school <b>CLOSED</b> to children
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
3 <sup>rd</sup> January	INSET Day - school <b>CLOSED</b> to children
4 <sup>th</sup> January	School REOPENS for Spring 1

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