



Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 6
7th October 2022



www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk



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Headteacher's Introduction

It has been a very good week in school - and today has been particularly cake filled! It was fantastic to see so many families join their children in school to enjoy a drink and a cake (or two!). I really hope you enjoyed being able to spend some time in school with your child(ren). I know you will agree that the children were very proud to show their learning to you.

A huge thank you to all the families who donated cakes and/or bought cakes during our Macmillan Coffee Morning Events. Thanks to your generosity we have managed to raise a total of **£279** for Macmillan Cancer Research.

I am sure you will join me in saying thank you to the House Captains for their excellent effort and politeness as part of their 'meet and greet' duty this morning. They really were superb - and I was very proud of them.

I would like to say a big thank to all of the school staff and PTFA members who prepared, served and cleaned up after the cakes were eaten. Well done!

Macmillan Cancer Support is a very worthy cause. There are now 2.5 million people in the UK living with cancer. By 2030, it will be 4 million people - and Macmillan has set out to support them all. One in three of people can get cancer, and it will be one of the toughest things we'll ever have to face. Macmillan's goal is to make sure no one faces cancer alone. They provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support, as well as campaigning for better cancer care. And because cancer affects more than just those facing it, they are there for friends and family too. The TJLS Community is proud to offer their support.

*Simon Bolger
Headteacher*

School Council Election Result

I was delighted to see that we had a total of **36 children** run for School Council. I must add that every child who ran for School Council received at least one vote (*and they were not able to vote for themselves*).

Congratulations, thank you and well done to every child who made a poster and applied for the role.

The children really enjoyed taking part in a secret ballot and learning about the **British Value of democracy**. These types of experiences will deepen children's understanding and prepare them for life in modern Britain. It will help them to understand what is happening during election periods and give them some grasp of what their parents/carers will be doing during these times.

So... we are proud to announce that our new School Councillors are:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Leo Jozie	Savannah Tabatha	Noah Keira	Mikey Summer

A huge well done to all of these children. They will soon meet with me and begin to decide on termly initiatives of how we can make the school even better.

Dream - Discover - Flourish

The aim of our curriculum is to open doors of opportunity for our children



Harvest Festival

We would like to warmly invite you into school to attend our Harvest Festival Celebration. It will be held in the school hall on **Friday 21st October 2022**.

There will be two celebrations over the course of the day due to the capacity of the hall.

They will be as follows:

Friday 21st October at 9.30am
For children in
Preschool, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 21st October at 2.30pm
For children in
Year 3 and Year 4

A letter will come out next week with further information about the Harvest Festival Celebration. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Dogs on school grounds

Further [to my newsletter on 23rd September](#) (where I reminded the TJLS Community that dogs are not permitted anywhere on school grounds), I wanted to clarify that this also includes the gates and posts just outside the school fence perimeter - as this is still classed as school grounds.

I know you will agree with me that the last thing we want is for anyone (*dog or human*) to be injured as a result of animals being left on the school grounds.

Thank you for your support on this matter and helping to keep everyone (*including dogs*) in the TJLS Community safe.

We are a nut free school

People who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy, it is not just from eating nuts that can cause reaction. Just by being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has eaten nuts, or a product containing nuts, can trigger an allergic reaction.

For this reason, **I must insist we are a nut-free school** - and children should not have nuts in school in any form.

Reading at home

The children's reading record books are designed to track the progress they make with their reading. Every time you hear your child read - please take a few moments to indicate this in their reading record. It helps the class teachers to understand how regularly children are reading - and which children can be identified as requiring some extra reading time in school.

Did you know, research shows children who read aloud every day acquire new language and vocabulary **up to ten times faster** than children who read aloud only once a week?

Thomas Johnson PTFA

We have a small and dedicated group of people who work hard over the school year to raise valuable funds for the school to pay for new resources, facilities and experiences. If you would like to join this fantastic group then [please see our previous letter](#) and get in touch with our wonderful PTFA.

Weekly Awards

This week, the awards go to...

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Lana-Moon	*	Robyn
Year 1	Monty	Ty	Isla
Year 2	Lolade	Noah	Judd
Year 3	Elijah	Keira	Mila
Year 4	Maddie	Scarlet	Jaydn

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

This week's Golden Brush winner is **Owls - Year 3**. They have had the tidiest classroom and cloakroom this week.

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Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance
for this week - **93.04%**

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

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

Foxes with an attendance of **97%**

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

15 th October	PTFA Disco held at the Village Hall
21 st October	Harvest Festival - 9.30am for PS, Rec, Y1 and Y2. 2.30pm for Y3 and Y4
21 st October	Last day of half-term
31 st October	School REOPENS for Autumn 2
2nd November	Children's individual school photographs
7 th November	Progress Consultations for Parents/Carers - 3.30-6pm - <i>more information in due course</i>
9 th November	Progress Consultations for Parents/Carers - 3.30-6pm - <i>more information in due course</i>
12 th November	PTFA Fireworks event
25 th November	INSET Day - school CLOSED to children
16 th December	Last day of term
3 rd January	INSET Day - school CLOSED to children
4 th January	School REOPENS for Spring 1

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