



Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 16
6th January 2023



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Headteacher's Introduction

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a happy, peaceful and restorative Christmas break and were able to spend some quality time together with your families.

You may have noticed my absence around the school over the last few days - and I apologise for this. Unfortunately, I have had a sickness bug. I am starting to feel better today (*Friday*) - but in line with the 48-hour rule I have stayed away from school until I am fully recovered. I hope to be back fit and ready for Monday morning.

The staff tell me that the children have made a positive start to their learning this year - and I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone upon my return.

Simon Bolger
Headteacher

Welcome

This week, we have been very pleased to welcome **Miss Emma Belam** to the TJLS team. Miss Belam will be teaching in Year 1 and I know that she has been really excited to get started at our school.

I know you will join me in welcoming and supporting her in her new role.

The Beal Cup

Every term, one child in Year 4 is awarded the Beal Cup. It is named in memory of a previous school governor and is awarded to a child who has made significant progress and put in an exceptional effort.

The winner for the Autumn term 2022 was Seija.

Until the end of this term, she will be the proud keeper of the Beal Cup and her name will be added to the wall of winners. Well done, Seija!

Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever

This week, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has issued advice to parents and carers of school aged children as winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels.

The latest advice is:

- If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.
- Practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water.
- Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.
- Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering.
- When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.
- Flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus.

The full advice can be found here: [Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/back-to-school-advice-issued-amid-high-levels-of-flu-covid-19-and-scarlet-fever)

Also, further information about Strep A can be found here: [Strep A - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/strep-throat/)

Dream - Discover - Flourish

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



Safeguarding

Children's safety and wellbeing is our highest priority. To support this, we have further developed our approach to safeguarding by reviewing our current practices and amending them in light of the latest advice, guidance and research.

You can read on our website all about our approach to safeguarding. [Safeguarding – Thomas Johnson Lower School \(thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk\)](http://thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk)

House Day for Millbrook House



As the winners of the House Shield for the Autumn term, all children in **Millbrook House** are invited to come to school on **Friday 13th January** wearing their house colour of **red**.

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

11 th January	Open Day for Prospective Parents (<i>Tours at 9.30am and 1.30pm</i>)
13 th January	House Day for Millbrook House - all children in Millbrook House to wear red
20 th January	Coin snake world record attempt
25 th January	SPLAT (Stay Play Learning All Together) Session - 9-9.30am. Your child will give you a tour of their classroom.
1 st February	Year 2 SATs information session - 2pm
6 th - 10 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
7 th February	Safer Internet Day
10 th February	Last day of half term
20 th February	School REOPENS for Spring 2
24 th February	Smile for a Mile Sponsorship Event
2 nd March	World Book Day. Dress up as a children's book character.
6 th March	Progress Consultations for Parents and Carers
8 th March	Progress Consultations for Parents and Carers
8 th March	International Women's Day
13 th - 17 th March	Science Week
17 th March	Coffee Morning - 9.15-10am
31 st March	Easter Bonnet Parade
31 st March	Last day of term
17 th April	INSET Day - School CLOSED to children
18 th April	School REOPENS for Summer 1
18 th April	National offer day for children starting in Reception
19 th -26 th April	Scholastic Book Fair
1 st May	Bank Holiday - school CLOSED
1 st - 31 st May	KS1 SATs period
4 th May	School referendum
8 th - 12 th May	Art Week
17 th May	SPLAT session - 9-9.30am. Your child will give you a tour of their classroom.
26 th May	Last day of half term
5 th June	School reopens for Summer 2
5 th - 23 rd June	Year 4 Multiplication Screening Period
12 th - 16 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Period
16 th June	Coffee Morning - 9.15-10am
21 st June	New Reception starter information session - 1.30pm
29 th June	Sports Day - 9.30am
6 th July	Sports Day Backup should there be poor weather
12 th July	Transition morning - meet your new teacher
12 th July	School Picnic
14 th July	End of year reports sent out to parents and carers
17 th July	SPLAT - your child can share their learning from this year with you - 3.20-3.50pm
18 th July	Transition morning - meet your new teacher
19 th July	Year 4 Leavers Assembly - 9.30am
21 st July	School closes for summer holidays

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