



## Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 17  
13<sup>th</sup> January 2023



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

### Headteacher's Introduction

It has been a fantastic first week back in school. I am really pleased to see how well the children have settled back into their learning and picked straight up from where they left off before Christmas.

Last term was a real success story for Thomas Johnson Lower School - and with your support I would like to make this term even more successful.

In this newsletter you will find lots of information about all the upcoming events for the term ahead.

*Simon Bolger*  
Headteacher

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### Outcome of our Ofsted Inspection

I hope that you have been able to take some time to read our Ofsted inspection report. We are very proud of it - and now even more determined to continue our work to enable the school to get even better. [If you haven't had a chance to read it yet - then you can find it here.](#)

An Ofsted inspection is a significant event in the life of a school. It isn't just about getting a final grade. It's about celebrating where the school is right now - and giving us the momentum to help us get to where we want to be in the future. This inspection is now going to be a springboard for all of our next steps - and I'm really excited about what the future holds for TJLS...

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### Information about upcoming school events

#### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January - Coin snake world record attempt

On this day, we are asking for donations of coins. Any amount, from pennies to pounds, will be greatly received and appreciated. We are going to line them up from one end of the school to the other and measure the total length of the 'coin snake'. The current world record is almost 47 miles - but we want to see how well we can measure up! The donations will be used to raise money for our school fund and to purchase future curriculum resources for our children.

#### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January - SPLAT (Stay Play Learning All Together) Session - 9-9.30am

On this morning we are inviting parents and carers into school to visit their child's class. During this time, your child will show you around their classroom, and you will be able to look in their books and see the progress they are making. After you have dropped your children off for school please make your way around to the hall via the patio door and at 9am our House Captains will escort you to the correct classroom.

#### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2pm - Year 2 SATs Information Session

Every year, children in Year 2 are assessed in the core subjects - and SATs tests form a part of this. At this session, you will learn what SATs are, when they happen, and be able to look at some example test papers. We will share some advice, strategies and tips for supporting your child during this time. This session will take place in the hall - and as always, we will use the external door on the patio to enter/exit the school.

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### Hot dinners

If you know your child will be in school late on a particular day (e.g. *because of a medical appointment*), then please try to let us know with as much notice as you can what they would like for lunch on that day. This will prevent us from unnecessarily wasting food. You can see the meals available on the lunch menu by using the following link: [Lunches – Thomas Johnson Lower School \(thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk\)](http://www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk)

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



# 2023

# THE YEAR OF

# INSPIRATION



## *Dream - Discover - Flourish*

2023 is going to be Thomas Johnson Lower School's 'Year of Inspiration'. This means we will be arranging visitors and experiences for our children that will inspire them for the future.

Without giving too much away, two visitors lined up so far include: a World Champion and also a Commonwealth Games Medallist...!

The **School Council** have been tasked with going away and researching who else we could invite into school to inspire our school community.

If you, or someone you know, has a job/career/trade/skill that could inspire our school community - then please do get in touch. Simply send Mr Bolger a message via Class Dojo.

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### School places information

If you haven't already applied for a school place for September - **then please do so as soon as possible.**

Children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 are due to start school as a Reception child in September 2023. You need to apply **before 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023** - even if your child already attends our preschool.

[To apply online - click here.](#)

For children currently in Year 4, you will need to apply for a place at middle school **before 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**. [To apply online - click here.](#)

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### Weekly Awards

This week, the awards go to...

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Dylan	Lana	Felix
Year 1	Callum	Beatrice	Monty
Year 2	Zachary	Thomas	Cerys
Year 3	Flora	Elijah	Esme
Year 4	Scarlet	Zachary	Amelia

This week's Golden Brush winner is **Eagles - Year 4**. They have had the tidiest classroom and cloakroom this week.

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### Bronze Awards

In the last week of term, the following children received their Bronze Awards, this is for earning 20 House Points:  
**Elijah, Arya, Keira and Angelica - all in Year 3.**

This week, the following children received their Bronze Awards:

**Beth, Mila, Bella, Flora, Esme and Noah - all in Year 3.**

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## House Points

This week's winning house is **Marston**.  
Well done everyone!



The House Shield will be awarded to the House that collects the most House Points this term. These points will also be added to the overall running totals - with the House earning the most points for the whole year being crowned as House Champions for 2023.

## Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance  
for this week - **95%**  
(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.

Hedgehog - Reception  
with an attendance of 97%

## Term dates for the remainder of the academic year 22/23

Term	Open AM on	Closes end of PM on
Spring 1 - 2023	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring 2 - 2023	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Summer 1 - 2023	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Summer 2 - 2023	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

School will be **closed** on the following days:

<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b> Staff training day	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b> Bank Holiday	<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b> Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III
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## Term dates for the academic year 2023/24

Term	Open AM on	Closes end of PM on
Autumn 1 - 2023	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
Autumn 2 - 2023	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Spring 1 - 2024	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring 2 - 2024	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Summer 1 - 2024	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Summer 2 - 2024	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July

School will be <b>closed</b> on the following days:	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b> Staff training day	<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b> Bank Holiday
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b> Bank Holiday	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b> Staff training day	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b> Bank Holiday

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

20 <sup>th</sup> January	Coin snake world record attempt
25 <sup>th</sup> January	SPLAT (Stay Play Learning All Together) Session - 9-9.30am. Your child will give you a tour of their classroom.
1 <sup>st</sup> February	Year 2 SATs information session - 2pm
6 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
10 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of half term
20 <sup>th</sup> February	School REOPENS for Spring 2
<b>24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Smile for a Mile Sponsorship Event CANCELLED - we will hold a sponsored event in coordination of the visit by Megan Kealy.</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day. Dress up as a children's book character.
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Progress Consultations for Parents and Carers
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Progress Consultations for Parents and Carers
8 <sup>th</sup> March	International Women's Day
13 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week

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17 <sup>th</sup> March	Coffee Morning - 9.15-10am
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Easter Bonnet Parade
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Last day of term
17 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET Day - School CLOSED to children
18 <sup>th</sup> April	School REOPENS for Summer 1
18 <sup>th</sup> April	National offer day for children starting in Reception
19 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> April	Scholastic Book Fair
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday - school CLOSED
1 <sup>st</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> May	KS1 SATs period
4 <sup>th</sup> May	School referendum
8 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III</b>
8 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Art Week
17 <sup>th</sup> May	SPLAT session - 9-9.30am. Your child will give you a tour of their classroom.
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of half term
5 <sup>th</sup> June	School reopens for Summer 2
5 <sup>th</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Screening Period
12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Period
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Coffee Morning - 9.15-10am
21 <sup>st</sup> June	New Reception starter information session - 1.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day - 9.30am
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day Backup should there be poor weather
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition morning - meet your new teacher
12 <sup>th</sup> July	School Picnic
14 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports sent out to parents and carers
17 <sup>th</sup> July	SPLAT - your child can share their learning from this year with you - 3.20-3.50pm
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition morning - meet your new teacher
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Leavers Assembly - 9.30am
21 <sup>st</sup> July	School closes for summer holidays

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