

## Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 31

12<sup>th</sup> May 2023



[www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk](http://www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk)



@thomasjohnsonlowerschool

### Headteacher's Introduction

I hope that you were all able to spend some family time together with the extra Bank Holiday. We are now well into the Summer term (*always my favourite term*) - and this term is always jam packed with different events and activities. The next section of this newsletter summarises and provides information for many of the upcoming events in school.

*Simon Bolger*  
Headteacher

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### Organisation of upcoming events

#### The Great Lidlington Bake Off - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May

We are inviting children to bring in their baking creations as part of a bake-off competition. The rules are as follows:

- Cakes must be homemade
- A recipe and full ingredients sheet must be provided with the cake
- This sheet should be designed and decorated by children (*as it will be used for the final recipe book*)
- All cakes must be nut-free (*we are a nut-free school and cannot have nuts of any kind in school*)
- If you want to make a cake that caters for a particularly dietary requirement (*such as gluten free*) - then you are also welcome to
- The judges will taste each cake and the baker's identity will remain anonymous until after judging
- The decision of the judging panel is final
- We will create a .pdf recipe book and distribute this to the school community
- We will then be selling slices of the cakes after school to raise money for the school fund
- This is a fundraising activity (*and a bit of fun*) so the prize for 'star baker' will simply be a merit award
- All entries need to be brought into school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May in a lidded container that is clearly named

Happy baking!

#### SPLAT Session - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May - 9-9.30am

During this session you will be able to visit your child's classroom and have a look at some of their learning with them. After dropping off children from the playground, please stand in the designated spaces for each year group.

Our House Captains will collect the groups from the playground at 9am and escort them to the correct classroom. If you have children in more than one class then you will be able to move between the classrooms with all of your children if you wish.

Please note, that for this event parents/carers are not permitted to use their mobile phones whilst inside the school. Also, for the safety of the children, we cannot allow any parents/carers to bring hot drinks into the building - this includes drinks in flasks.

#### Coffee Morning - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June

- Session 1 - 9-9.30am - for children in Year 1, 3 and 4
- Session 2 - 9.40-10.10am - for children in Preschool, Reception and Year 2

#### Sports Day - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June (*with Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July as a backup*)

This will start at 9.15am. Once children have been dropped off for the start of the day, parents/carers will be able to make their way to the field and stand in the designated spectator areas. To make spectating easier, children will take part in House Teams so all siblings will be together.

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### Art Week - 10<sup>th</sup> July

Over the course of the week, children will learn about diversity in art through a range of activities and experiences. At the end of the week there will be an opportunity to visit the TJLS gallery to browse all the children's creations.

### Transition Mornings

On the mornings of 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July, children will spend time with their new teacher for the next academic year. These sessions are opportunities for children and teachers to get to know each other, find out what they like/dislike, and their goals for the next year.

### School Picnic - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July

On this day, parents/carers will be invited to join their children for an afternoon tea picnic. Children will have their lunchtime in school as normal until 1pm.

Parents/carers can join us on the field at 1.30pm - and the gates will be locked at 1.40pm. You are welcome to bring any sandwiches or cakes along to enjoy as a family. We will provide juice/water for all children and there will be an ice lolly for each child gifted by the PTFA.

After the food and drink part of the afternoon, the children will come together at 2.15pm to sing a range of songs they have learned over the last year. We aim to finish by 3pm - at which point if you are in attendance you will be able to take your children home.

Children without family attending or going to after school club will be dismissed as normal.

If you, or another family member, is unable to attend this event then you can arrange for your child to sit with another family (*please let us know this in advance*) - if this is not an option then we will make provision for staff members to join these children. They will then be dismissed as normal at the end of the school day.

### PTFA Inflatable Fun Day - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July

On this day, our PTFA have arranged for inflatable play equipment to be set up on the field for our children to enjoy as an end of year treat.

### End of Year SPLAT Session - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 3.20-3.50pm

You will have the opportunity to come into school and look at your child's learning from this year.

### Year 4 Leaving Assembly - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July - 9.15am

Parents/carers of Year 4 children are invited to a leaving assembly where our Year 4 children will celebrate and remember their time at TJLS.

*More information will be shared about all of these events nearer the time.*

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### Car Parking

The most vulnerable road users are pedestrians - and especially children. I am sure you will agree that children's safety is paramount and it is important we drive and park considerately and safely.

Please do not park directly outside the school gate - there is a large yellow KEEP CLEAR sign painted on the ground signalling this. The gates must be kept clear so emergency access can be provided by police, ambulance or the fire brigade if required.

Please do not park on the grass/mud verge opposite the school gates. This area constitutes as land that is protected by the yellow zig zags on the road.

Double parking and obstructing other vehicles outside of a school is against the Highway Code and puts our children at unnecessary risk.

The school car park is not a public car park - so it is not to be used by parents/carers between the hours of 7.30am and 4.30pm. Outside of these times, parents/carers who are dropping off or collecting children from DTD may use the car park.

If you are a blue badge holder then there is one disabled parking space at the front of school. When using this, please be mindful of pedestrians by driving very, very slowly and clearly display your blue badge.

I understand and appreciate there is limited parking around the immediate school site - and this is a real issue for many schools around the country. However, I know you will agree that our own personal convenience is never more important than the safety of our children.

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

I would like to say a personal thank you to the vast majority of parents who park considerately and safely around the school grounds.

A special thank you to the families who choose to walk instead of drive. In some cases, this is not an option for some families because of the distance they live from school - so thank you to those who choose to drive most of the way, park nearby and choose to walk the last little bit of the journey.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep our children safe.

**Drive safe. Park smart. No excuses.**

**DRIVE SAFE  
PARK SMART  
NO EXCUSES**



### Weekly Awards

Last week's winners were:

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	George	Violet	Harley
Year 1	Louie	Cody	Amberley
Year 2	Emily	Joshua	Lolade
Year 3	Flora	Esme	Elijah
Year 4	Seija	Scarlet	Hettie

### Weekly Awards

This week's winners are:

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Miriam	Felix	Franklin
Year 1	Benji	Isla	Beatrice
Year 2	Savannah	Noah	Dexter
Year 3	Arya	Keira	Beth
Year 4	Mikey	Elliott	Scarlet

### Bronze Awards - 20 House Points

Well done to:

- Harley - Reception

### Silver Awards - 40 House Points

Well done to:

- Malachi, Robyn, Orla and Artie - Reception
- Louisa - Y1
- Emily, Sophia and Dexter - Y2
- Arya, Keira and Bella - Y3
- Marie and Jaydn - Y4

### Gold Award - 60 House Points

Well done to:

- Monty - Y1

### House Points

In the Summer term the House Shield is awarded to the House that has collected the most House Points overall for the academic year. With nine school weeks remaining, the current standings for the whole year are:



**774 points**



**814 points**



**774 points**



**807 points**

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The last day to collect House Points will be Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July, with the overall winner announced in assembly on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July. The winning House will have a 'House Colour Day' on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July. With just 40 points separating all four Houses - it really is all to play for in this final term!

### Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance  
for this week - **94%**  
(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.  
Hedgehogs - Reception - 99%

### Online safety - Children and Smartphones

This handy parent/carer guide suggests how to have a conversation with your child about smartphones, and also gives advice on the risks and benefits of using a smartphone.

[Phones - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

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

1 <sup>st</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> May	KS1 SATs period
15 <sup>th</sup> May	The Great Liddington Bake Off
17 <sup>th</sup> May	SPLAT session - 9-9.30am.
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
21 <sup>st</sup> June	New Reception starter information session - 1.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day Backup should there be poor weather
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Art Week
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition morning - meet your new teacher
12 <sup>th</sup> July	School Picnic
14 <sup>th</sup> July	PTFA Inflatable Fun Day
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 Leaving Assembly - 9.15am
21 <sup>st</sup> July	School closes for summer holidays

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