

Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 34

9th June 2023



www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk



@thomasjohnsonlowerschool

Headteacher's Introduction

Welcome back to the start of the second half of the summer term! It was fantastic to see the children come back in on Monday and pick right up from where they left off before half-term. One of my favourite times of the day is 8.50am when the doors open. There is a such a lovely buzz around the school as children come inside together and get ready to start their day of learning.

Remember, doors will always open at 8.50am - and children should be inside school ready for the register to be taken promptly at 9am. Children arriving after this time must enter the school via the front office where they will be marked as late.

Children arriving after 9.15am will receive an unauthorised absence mark in the register. Being persistently late before and after school is a safeguarding matter - and can lead to the issue of a fixed penalty notice.

Being on time for school teaches children an important lesson for life and builds good habits for their future. It is about enabling children to prepare for their day ahead. If it is sunny and hot, getting them to bring a sunhat and put on sun cream teaches them that preparatory routine for life. The same as if it is raining, being prepared with coats, hoods, hats and umbrellas teaches them to be ready for what is ahead.

And that really is the essence of school, it isn't just about reading, writing and maths. It is about preparing and readying children for the future so they are able to thrive in the modern world.

With the rapid advancement of technology and understanding of the world, there is a good chance many of our children will grow up to pursue careers that don't even exist yet. But habits like being on time and being prepared for the day ahead will always put them in good stead for whatever future path they choose to take.

Simon Bolger
Headteacher

Year of Inspiration

The Year of Inspiration is for the whole calendar year of 2023, so it will continue to into the next academic year.

In the new school year, I am looking for visitors such as **Doctors, Dentists, Nurses, Vets... etc...**, if this sounds like you or someone you know, please do get in touch with us so we can set this up.

Communication

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, then your first point of contact is always the class teacher. Our teachers are on the playground at the end of every day - and they can also be reached on Class Dojo to answer any queries you may have.

If you have any organisational questions, like diary dates, upcoming events, or queries about every day school life - then please contact the front office where the very helpful, skilled and knowledgeable Ms Barron will be able to assist you. You can contact the office via email, telephone or you can just pop inside.

If you have a serious concern, such as a safeguarding issue - please contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads. Our DSLs are Mr Bolger, Miss Turner and Ms Barron.

A special well done to Year 4

This week, Year 4 started their school swimming sessions. It has been reported back to me how sensible, polite and respectful our children were during the first session. In addition to this, I've also been told about how brave many of our children were who are not yet confident swimmers.

I am sure that over the course of the next few weeks, children's confidence, skill and ability levels as swimmers will vastly increase.

School Council

Over the course of this year, the elected School Council have acted as voice for the children. When we meet, they have provided an excellent insight into life at the school that only be given from a child's perspective.

They have helped me understand what works and doesn't work around every day school life - and we have adjusted or amended as needed. A prime example is the changes we made to our inside and outside lunchtime routines. They talk to me about what they enjoy in lessons - and with all the curriculum developments we have made, they have been able to tell me how their lessons have changed and improved over the course of the year.

Over the next few weeks, the School Council are going to help to devise an action plan for next year. Our School Council focus for next year will be set in three termly stages with a different focus each term. Alongside this, they will choose a charity to support over the course of the year.

The focus will be along the following lines.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
An action to support the <u>school</u> community	An action to support the <u>local</u> community	An action to support the <u>wider</u> community
All year		
Ongoing support to a chosen charity		

At the end of September, there will be an election to choose a new School Council for children in Years 1-4. Next year, our School Council will be run by our much-loved **Miss Stacey**.

Our current School Councillors will move into a special advisory role - and be the first members of our **Youth Parliament**. In this role, they will meet once a half term with Mr Bolger to share their views of the school and to suggest how we can make the school an even better place for children to be able to dream, discover and flourish.

Sunshine at last!

Dare I say it...? With the lovely sunny weather we are now experiencing, please remember to send your child to school with a sun hat and apply sun cream before school if needed.

Upcoming diary dates

Friday 16th June - Coffee Morning

Session 1 - 9-9.30am - for children in Year 1, 3 and 4

Session 2 - 9.40-10.10am - for children in Pre-School, Reception and Year 2

Thursday 29th June - Sports Day

This will be held on the field between 9am and 12pm. Another letter will come out next week with further information about Sports Day.

Weekly Awards

This week's winners are:

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Miriam	Arthur	Skye
Year 1	Leo	Callum	Freddie
Year 2	Quinton	Sophia	Tilly
Year 3	Patrick	Angelica	Lacey
Year 4	Noah	Zachary	Toby

This week's **Golden Brush** winner for having the tidiest classroom and learning area is **Year 2 - Badgers**.

Dream - Discover - Flourish

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

Silver Awards - 40 House Points

Well done to:

- Cody - Y1
- Caleb, Brooklyn, Cerys, Ruben, Tilly and Zachary - Y2

Gold Award - 60 House Points

Well done to:

- Louisa, Freddie and Tiberius - Y1
- Beth - Y3
- Zachary - Y4

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. The current standings for the whole year are:



935 points



976 points



1002 points



954 points

The last day to collect House Points will be Thursday 13th July, with the overall winner announced in assembly on Friday 14th July. The winning House will have a 'House Colour Day' on Monday 17th July.

Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance
for this week - **93%**
(National attendance is **96.4%**)

Duggee The Every Day Dog

Awarded to the class with the
best attendance all week.

Hedgehogs - Reception - 98%

Online safety - TikTok

Parent Zone have worked with TikTok to produce a series about safety when using the platform.

You can read their support and guidance here: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>

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

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
21 st June	New Reception starter information session - 1.30pm
29 th June	Sports Day
6 th July	Sports Day Backup should there be poor weather
10 th July	Art Week
12 th July	Transition morning - meet your new teacher
12 th July	School Picnic
14 th July	PTFA Inflatable Fun Day
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 Leaving Assembly - 9.15am
21 st July	School closes for summer holidays

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