

Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 35

16th June 2023



www.thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk



@thomasjohnsonlowerschool

Headteacher's Introduction

It has certainly been a hot one this week! We have tried very hard to ensure that the children are kept as cool as possible and do not overheat.

Throughout the building we have ensured that all windows and classroom doors have been opened to encourage a breeze throughout the building. We have also been encouraging children to drink water regularly throughout the day. We have tried to limit their use of outdoor spaces to the mornings before the sun reaches its strongest intensity later in the day. We have located several fans (*and ordered in a few more*) to ensure that we are creating a breeze throughout our shared spaces and to make everyone feel just that little bit more comfortable in this unusual weather.

By encouraging children to wear a hat, it keeps the sun directly off of their head and helps them to keep cool. By applying sun lotion at home before school in the morning, it ensures that children are protected for the times they are outside.

Thank you for supporting your children with both of these actions. I was pleased to see that 97% of children had a hat in school today and yesterday - up from 91% on Wednesday. In the case of hot weather in the future, can we make it to 100%?

*Simon Bolger
Headteacher*

Well done to Year 1

Every year, children in Year 1 take part in statutory assessment called the Phonics Screening Check. It involves reading 40 phonetically decodable words - with 20 of the words being real words and the other 20 being 'alien' words (*such as voip, blart, klep*).

This week, our children took part in the screening. The children were all fantastic and we are really proud of all of them. They are very familiar with the screening process as we follow the same pattern of word reading in our approach to teaching phonics.

We will be able to share the children's individual scores with their parents/carers when our end of year reports are published.

Well done to Year 4

This week, children in Year 4 took part in a Multiplication Times Table Check. This is done on a computer and they have to answer 25 multiplication questions up to 12x12 with 6 seconds to answer each question.

Again, the children are very familiar with this process as it is presented in the same way as Times Tables Rockstars - which I know the Year 4 children have really enjoyed using this year.

The Year 4 children showed resilience and determination in answering their questions - and we are really proud of every child who took part.

We will be able to share the children's individual scores with their parents/carers when our end of year reports are published.

Before and after school supervision

Over the last two weeks we have had a small number of injuries and accidents before and after school from children using the play trail equipment or running around in the playground.

May I remind you that the school day starts at 8.50am and before that time all children must be supervised by their parents and carers in the playground until children enter the building. This means knowing where your own child is at all times.

The play trail equipment should not be used by anyone before the start of the school day as it requires staff supervision during use.

Thank you for your support.

Car Parking

Unfortunately, when our Year 4 children returned to school at the end of the day from their swimming lesson this week, their minibus was unable to access the school gate because the area was blocked by 4 vehicles.

The minibus had to park further up the street and the class had to walk back down to the school.

Please can I remind everyone in the school community that no vehicles should be parked on the land outside the entrance to the school as it is protected by yellow zig zag lines.

If it had been, for example, a fire, the emergency vehicle would not have been able to access the school during this time.

I know you will agree with me that for the sake of our own personal convenience nobody should be putting anyone else at unnecessary risk.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who park considerately in the local area before and after school.

Weekly Awards

This week's winners are:

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Franklin	Esme	Lana
Year 1	Leo	Benji	Monty
Year 2	Caleb	Amelia	Judd
Year 3	Beth	Noah	Mila
Year 4	Ethan	Summer	Mikey

This week's **Golden Brush** winner for having the tidiest classroom and learning area is **Year 1 - Fox Class**.

Silver Award - 40 House Points

Well done to:

- Isla - Year 1
- Quinton - Year 2

Gold Award - 60 House Points

Well done to:

- Ty and Callum - Year 1
- Sam - Year 2
- Angelica - Year 3
- Marie - Year 4

Platinum Award - 80 House Points

Well done to:

- Monty - Year 1

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:



971 points



1032 points



1044 points



995 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.

Dream - Discover - Flourish

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

Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance
for this week - **95%**
(National attendance is **96.4%**)

Duggee The Every Day Dog
Awarded to the class with the
best attendance all week.
Owls - Year 3 - 98%

Online safety - Live Streaming

Live streaming has become a popular feature of many apps and platforms. By understanding why it is popular and what your child may come across, parents and carers can help children have a more positive online experience.

There are several factors that can make watching or creating live streams potentially harmful for children and young people including:

Content

If they're watching other people's live streams, children could be exposed to age-inappropriate content, including sexual or violent content.

Offensive comments

If a young person's live stream is open to the public, viewers may be able to leave negative or inappropriate comments on feeds.

Inappropriate contact

There can be hundreds, potentially thousands, of people watching a live stream, including people who might be looking to hurt or exploit children and young people. In order to manipulate children, these people may attempt to trick them into engaging in sexual activity, flatter them with positive comments or gifts, or make threats to try to force them to do things they don't want to do.

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) has [published a short guide with practical steps](#) and conversation starters to help children stay safer while live streaming.

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

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
7th July	Pre-School Sports Day
10 th July	Art Week
11 th July	School trip to Whipsnade Zoo - Reception and Years 1-4
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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