

Thomas Johnson Lower School

Newsletter 39

14th July 2023



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Headteacher's Introduction

What an action packed week we have had!

Our whole school trip to Whipsnade Zoo was a real success - and the children all talked about how much they enjoyed it.

Art week has also been very successful with the children learning about culturally diverse artists and then being enabled to create artwork inspired by these artists. We will endeavour to display as much of this artwork around the school as possible.

I am sure you will agree that the children's singing on Wednesday was fantastic. I also want to say a special well done to the soloists - who were amazing. A special thank you is also very much deserved for Miss Belam - who taught the children all of the songs and has inspired so many of our children with her own passion and talent for singing and music.

Thank you for coming into school for the picnic afterwards as there was such a lovely feel around the building in the afternoon. I hope to make it an annual event - and will try even harder with my 'don't rain' dance next year...!

Although it is a shame we are not able to host the inflatable event, thanks to our excellent army of PTFA helpers they have still planned and prepared an excellent afternoon of activities for the school community to enjoy.

Thank you for continuing to support the school during all of the recent activities and events we have hosted.

Simon Bolger
Headteacher

Events for the final week

SPLAT - Monday 17th July at 3.20pm

- You may enter your child's classroom at the end of the day - and they can share all of their learning from this year with you.
- Children will be released to you as normal - and if you'd like to come back inside to look at learning then you will be able to enter the school via the ramp that children use at the start/end of the day.

Year 4 Leaving Assembly - Wednesday 19th July at 9.15am

- Our Year 4 children will present a final assembly for their parents and carers.
- Please drop off children as normal in the morning.
- We will open the external hall door shortly after 9am when all of the Hedgehog children have entered the school.
- The assembly will start at 9.15am.

Schools closes for the summer holidays - Friday 21st July

- This day is a non-uniform day for all children.
- School finishes at 3.20pm as usual.

No extra-curricular clubs next week

- Cube Club, Food Club, Science Club and Art Club have finished - and there will be no clubs next week.

Dream - Discover - Flourish

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

End of year arrangements

- By Wednesday 19th July, please make sure that any reading books have been returned to the school.
- On Thursday 20th July, children will bring home a selection of their books and learning from this year.
- We also have some books leftover from last year that children can take home on this day.
- To make it easier for the children to carry their belongings, please send a reusable carrier bag for them to hold their learning in.
- For our own evidence bank, we will keep a selection of children's books from this year so we can show progress to any external visitors - such as Ofsted or the local authority. Class teachers will speak to you if this impacts on your child. These books will be sent home at the end of next academic year.

Weekly Awards

This week's winners are:

	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week	Sportsperson of the Week
Reception	Isabella	Lana	Arthur
Year 1	Callum	Jozefina	Benji
Year 2	Cerys	Savannah	Joshua
Year 3	Esme	Bella	Patrick
Year 4	Amelia	Marie	Maddie

This week's **Golden Brush** winner for having the tidiest classroom and learning area is **Pre-School & Reception - Hedgehog Class**.

Gold Award - 60 House Points

Well done to:

- Joshua, Savannah, Tabatha, Thomas, Jack and Dexter - Y2
- Oscar and Scarlet - Y4

Platinum Award - 80 House Points

Well done to:

- Sam - Y2
- Flora - Y3

House Points

Congratulations to **MILLBROOK HOUSE!**

The final standing for House Points is:



1781 points



1831 points



1981 points



1909 points

This means **Millbrook** will have a 'House Colour Day' on Monday 17th July to celebrate winning the shield for the year. All children in Millbrook House will be invited to come to school wearing **red** on Monday.

Attendance - Every Minute Counts

Whole school attendance
for this week - **95.7%**
(National attendance is **96.4%**)

Duggee The Every Day Dog

Awarded to the class with the
best attendance all week.

Owl Class - Year 3

Both classes achieved 100% attendance!

Celebrating Birthdays

Every week in assembly we celebrate any birthdays children have had during that week. This means when we break up on 21st July, that we will have a window of birthdays taking place over the summer holidays.

Any Year 4 children with a birthday celebrated in the summer will come out in assembly next week.

Any children with a birthday before 15th August will also come out in assembly next week.

Any children with a birthday after 15th August will come out in assembly in the first week back in September.

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Attendance by class

The table below shows the overall attendance of each class in the school for the whole academic year.

Our overall school attendance for the year is **94.7%**.

Class	Attendance
Hedgehog Class Reception	94%
Fox Class Year 1	94.5%
Badger Class Year 2	95.6%
Owl Class Year 3	94.8%
Eagle Class Year 4	94.6%

The Department for Education's expected level of attendance is **96%**.

Online safety - How to Stay Safe Online this Summer

A free online safety guide on 'How to Stay Safe Online this Summer'.

With the school summer holidays only a matter of days away, many parents and carers will already be planning outings and activities to keep their young ones entertained. In between those special summer moments, though, there are also likely to be occasions when children happily invest a whole afternoon on a tablet or spend most of their Monday on Minecraft.

As young people's screen time almost inevitably increases over the holidays, parents like to feel confident that their child will stay safe while they're exploring the digital world. So the National College have produced a #WakeUpWednesday poster with some simple solutions to help children avoid frequent online pitfalls and enjoy a more positive experience when they go online this summer.

You can access the poster here:

<https://thomasjohnsonschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/summer.jpg>

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

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	Last day of school and non-uniform day
21 st July	School closes for summer holidays

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