

Town Junior School

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Dear Parents / Carers

Well, Christmas has arrived at great speed this week. Stars are being made in all classrooms to provide the hall decorations and the production rehearsals are in full flow. As you know, we held open auditions for the roles in the Christmas play and we had over 150 of the children attend, which is fantastic. Unfortunately, we only had around 70 speaking parts to allocate, although everyone will take part and contribute to the whole performance. We do know that many children were disappointed that they did not get a main part. Therefore, we have talked to them about being resilient enough to deal with this and also that it is a life skill to be able to put yourself forward for something that you may not achieve. Although we have had several parents who have spoken to us about the parts their children have been given we would ask that you support your child with continuing to develop these skills. As Mrs Gilmour said when she spoke in assembly they could either feel sad that they hadn't been given the part they wanted or feel really pleased that one of their friends had been successful.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas Fayre, Christmas Production and the Carol Service in the next few weeks.

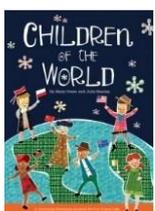
Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes,

Mrs A Smith
Headteacher

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 14th December

We are asking children to bring in a £1 donation and to wear their Christmas jumpers on Friday 14th December to support Save the Children.



Children of the World School Production

Thank you to the many parents that have reserved tickets for the school production via the PARENT EVENING System. The system is open for bookings until 7th December at 4pm. As you may be aware you can book 2 tickets per family, we will inform parents of how any spare tickets, for the performances, can be applied for next week.



Upcoming Events

5th December

Bottle Mufti Day

6th December

3.45 – 4.45 – TJS Christmas Fayre

12th December

9.30 Christmas Production
1.30 Christmas Production

13th December

9.30 Christmas Production
1.30 Christmas Production

14th December

Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day

14th December

11.00 Singing at Wyndley Grange

17th December

Winter Games – PE kit needed in school

18th December

1.15 Y5/6 Christmas Party

19th December

1.15 Y3/4 Christmas party

21st December – 10.45

Whole School Carol service at South Parade Methodist Church
All Welcome

21st December

School breaks up for Christmas holiday at 3.25

7th January 2019

Teacher Training Day

8th January 2019

School reopens - children return to school at 8.40am

21st January 2019

4pm – 6.30pm – Spring Term Parent Consultations

23rd January 2019

4.30 - 7pm – Spring Term Parent Consultations

Christmas Fayre

Reminder we are holding our Christmas Fayre after school on Thursday 6th December and are hoping you can support us with the following donations. Raffle donations – if anyone has anything that they would like to donate to our raffle we would be grateful if you could please send it in.

'Decorate a bag'. The children have been given a paper bag to bring home and decorate, and then we ask that they return it with 'goodies' to a maximum value of £1 by Wednesday 5th December. This was a great success last year and we hope to repeat that success and popularity this year.

Donation of Cakes for our cake stall. Many thanks for your continued support.

Also, please remember to send back to school the completed order form for baubles.



Children's Christmas lunch

You should by now have received a letter, with a consent form to return to school, if your child wants a Christmas lunch on 11th December. Please pay via ParentPay the same way you pay for your child's meals, any queries or problems using the system please contact the school office.



Christmas Party Arrangements

We will be organising parties for:
Y3 & Y4 on Tuesday 18th December
Y5 & Y6 on Wednesday 19th December.

School will provide the food and drink, but children need to bring their party clothes in a bag so that they can change into them after lunch. Please think about the clothes and shoes they wear as the staff will be organising party games in the hall.



Christmas Production at Holland House

Y3 children have been invited to watch the production at Holland House on Monday 10th December at 9.30am. Staff will accompany the children there and back to school.

Whole School Carol Service at South Parade Methodist Church

All family and friends are welcome to join us for the Carol Service on Friday 21st December at South Parade Methodist Church starting at 10.45am. We will be retelling the Christmas story and singing some of our Production songs. Members of the Church will be serving refreshments after the service.



Christmas Games

Mr Murrell and the Sports Council will be running the 'Town Junior School Christmas Games' on Monday 17th December. Each year group will be participating in many Christmas related sporting events and puzzles such as 'Snowball Shot', 'Sled Slalom', 'Rudolph Run' and 'Letter Dash Obstacle'. On the day children are asked to bring in their full PE kit (outdoor kit as 2 events will be on the playground) and a Christmas hat if possible.



MAGIC MOMENTS

Word of the Month

Congratulations to the following children for winning the Award for the Word of the Month for September and October.

Abisha Year 6 wrote:
"A glorious beam of sunshine broke through the hideous grey storm clouds and shone soothingly on my cheerful face".

Sebastian Year 3 wrote:

"The shooting star dazzled and sparkled like an angel in the sky"
Well done to them both!!



Best Attendance in School

Congratulations to the following classes:

5th – 9th November -
Adventurers 99.7
12th – 16th November -
Adventurers & Otters = 100%



PTA Disco

Thank you to the PTA, staff and volunteers for the hard work they put into organising the school disco. The children had a great time, we really appreciate all you do to support the school.



Fortnite: Advice from School Nursing Team

Many of you may be aware of the risks and concerns around children playing the online game Fortnite, which has a 12 rating but is played by much younger children. We have been made aware of an emerging trend, where people are playing strip Fortnite using webcams. The rule is that when you achieve a "kill" you have to strip off, potentially adding an additional risk from children being exposed to and/or sharing indecent images whilst playing the game. Reminder that inappropriate/unlawful contact with children online needs to be reported.



Safeguarding Article

This week the children have been looking at the theme of respect during our assemblies. The following article explains the concept of respect as we have delivered it to the children. Please take the time to discuss this with your family.

What is Respect?

Definition of respect for kids:

"What is respect" is a big concept to grasp. Try this definition of respect for kids, written in terms children can understand, and with examples of what is respect for others and what is respect for self.



A definition of respect includes

- 1) how you feel about someone and
- 2) how you treat him/her.

Respect is how you feel about some someone

Having respect for someone means you think good things about who a person is or how he/she acts. You can have respect for others, and you can have respect for yourself.

Respect is how you treat someone

Showing respect to someone means you act in a way that shows you care about their feelings and well-being. Showing respect for others include things like not calling people mean names, treating people with courtesy, caring enough about yourself that you don't do things you know can hurt you.

Examples of what respect is:

- You admire (respect) a historical figure who stood up for what she believed in, even when it was hard.
- You are quiet in a library to show that you care about (respect) others' need to read without interruption.
- You follow your parents' rules to show them you care (respect) how they feel about the situation.
- You don't call people names because you care about (respect) their feelings.
- You don't hit or otherwise hurt people because you care about (respect) their well-being.

MAGIC MOMENTS

Blue Reading Awards:

Ellie L	Emilia M
Thomas P	Zara C
Tilly B	Jacey L
Poppy S	Alex L
Laylay P	Evi C
Aurora D	Lucy C
Harley P	Joshua B
Daniel W	

Bronze Merit Award

Blake B	Elijah L
Jack H	Chloe G
Tilly B	Flynn M
Harriet B	Mary-Kay M
Ellie L	Rebecca W

Bronze Music Award

Rebecca W	Mary-Kay M
Harriet B	Thomas P

Pen License

Isabel C

Christmas Post Box

This will be in the entrance hall from next week for any children to use to send cards to their friends. Please remind them to put full names and classrooms on the envelope.



Singing at Wyndley Grange

We have been invited to sing at Wyndley Grange and will be taking the school choir to perform on 14th December.



Children in Need

Thank you to parents and staff that contributed to our Children In Need collection. We raised £308.40 through donations and cake sales!

- You dress, speak, and act in a way that shows you care about what you know is right and safe, because you care about (respect) yourself and your well-being.
- You don't interfere with other people's right to look, think, or act differently than you because you care about (respect) their feelings and well-being.

[So, what is respect?](#)

- Respect is thinking and acting in a positive way about yourself or others.
- Respect is thinking and acting in a way that shows others you care about their feelings and their well-being.

What Parents Need to Know about Twitch

As part of the #WakeUpWednesday campaign by The National Online Safety Team we are sharing with Parents and Carers the free online safety guide for schools about 'Twitch'. It is important for parents and trusted adults to be aware of the associated risks, including, but is not limited to; uncensored material, unwanted contact from strangers, online bullying, live streaming and online payments.

Please read the guide by clicking on the below links

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1067809053865402373>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety/photos/a.1681508315488685/1924624341177080/?type=3&theater>



School Improvements in the last fortnight

During the last two weeks, the following activities have been undertaken:

School Improvements

- Mrs Smith and Mrs Gilmour undertook lesson observations in Y6 & Y5 looking at the quality of teaching and learning.
- Plantsbrook School Trainee Teachers undertook their KS2 placement with Miss Wilson and Mrs Millidge.
- Miss Powis undertook a review of pupil books for RE and Mr Penhall looked at the Personal, Social, Health Education (PHSE) books.
- All staff and children took part in the invacuation procedure. This was very successful, and the children coped very well with it all. Feedback from the exercise will be discussed at the PLT Health & Safety meeting.
- Mrs Smith attended the Sutton Head Teacher Consortium meeting to discuss recent changes to DfE and OFSTED procedures.
- Mrs Millidge undertook a review of pupil books and planning for Science.
- Mrs Thomson, our English Leader, attended the Deputy Head Forum. Along with colleagues from other Sutton schools she discussed the teaching of reading.
- Miss Rodgers, our Maths Leader, met with Mrs Wright, the Maths Leader from HH to discuss the teaching of Maths across both schools.
- Mrs Smith and Mrs Thomson undertook monitoring of the quality of Guided Reading across the school.
- Mrs Smith led the staff meeting when staff undertook comparative judgements on 600 pieces of writing. We have done this as part of a Y5 national assessment of writing in which the writing from our children will be compared to that of up to 20,000 other Y5 children across the country.
- Mrs Smith and Mrs Clapcott attended the Finance Committee of the PLT.
- Miss Collins attended a Lead Practitioner meeting with Mark Hill looking at strategies to support children with Autism.
- Mrs Smith met with Mr Neil Porter, Head Teacher of SS Peter & Paul in Erdington who will be leading a Peer to Peer Review of TJS in January 2019.
- Mrs Smith, accompanied by Ms Campbell, showed Ms Claire Pritchard, PLT Chair of Trustees and Mrs Manuela Aplaton, PLT Trustee round TJS to meet the staff & children.
- Mrs Thomson attended the LTE English Leaders meeting at Little Sutton School to discuss aspects of teaching English.
- Mrs Smith met with Mrs Bradford to discuss school diary dates along with concerns expressed by Town Junior School Governors around the MAT plans for Holland House and how the two schools will work together in the future. A joint staff meeting looking at curriculum progression is planned for the Spring Term.