

Town Junior School

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Dear Parents/Carers

It is hard to believe that we are now nearly half way through the academic year and that staff are already talking about events we will be organising in the summer term! We can clearly see how the children are continuing to develop and our assembly this week was about talents. We found that over a third of our children take part in sports at the weekend followed by musical activities and then hobbies of cooking and art. This theme will continue during our World of Work week starting on Monday. We have got 15 different speakers coming into school to discuss skills and talents required for their jobs. Our lucky World of Work Week Writing Competition winners will also be going out to visit the cinema, hair dressers or Pizza Express. Keep following us on Twitter @TownJnrSch to see what we are doing.

Best Wishes

Head Teacher

Kingsbury Theatre group

Year 4 and Comets had the pleasure of watching a performance by Alleykats, which is part of the Highbury Theatre group. We watched in excitement to see if Jack would ever marry his one true love, Cinderella. We were treated to a range of super singing, awesome acting and daring dance moves. Some children even got the opportunity to perform live with the group! We had a great afternoon and we look forward to the next performance.

Ms Rodgers



Last week some of the Year 4 classes went into our hall and we had a play from the YMCA Assembly Team about some fairy tale characters. It was very exciting. Everyone joined in signing with them.

By Finlay MART

Last week the YMCA came in to school to perform a play all about every fairy tale you can think of. There was the Big Bad Wolf, Snow White and all sorts of different characters. I think everyone really enjoyed watching the performance because when a song came on everyone joined in singing with them.

By Freya MART

Mother's Day Lunches

All Mother's Aunties and Grans are invited to our Mother's Day Lunches; these will be held week commencing 27th March for the following year groups. There are no workshops connected to the lunches this time.

Monday 27th March -Y5 & Y6 at 11.45

Tuesday 28th March – Y4 at 11.45

Thursday 30th March – Y3 at 11.45

Please look out for the letter after half term to book your place.

Upcoming Events

13th February

World of Work Week

16th February

Ready to Write Day

17th February

Purple Pinkie Day

Mufti Day wear something pink or purple & donate £1

17th February

Break up for Half Term

27th February

School Resumes

21st & 22nd March

Y3 Laches Wood Residential visit

27th March

Mother's Day Lunches
11.45 – Year 5/6

28th March

Mother's Day Lunches
11.45 – Year 4

30th March

Mother's Day Lunches
11.45 – Year 3

29th & 31st March

Y5 Residential Edgmond Hall Outdoor Education Centre

7th April

Break up for Easter Holiday

24th April

Inset Day School closed to children

25th April

School Resumes for children

18th May

Ready to Write Day

26th May

Break up for half term

Premier Sports

We are pleased to offer after school clubs for children, funded by the school, up to the Easter holiday. There are spaces available for 20 children in each club but they are filling up fast. Please contact the school office to put your child's name on the list as soon as possible, as they are on a first come first served basis.

Reading Award Awarded to the following children:

Robyn Met	Harry Com	Olga Swal	Isaac Met
Tyler Ott	Aayan Met	Megan Mart	Jack Mart
Ben Ott	Joshua Met	Layla Mart	



Bronze Merit Award Congratulations to:

Ben Ott	Emilia Ott	Leyla Ott
Elliot Ott	Rebecca (Music) Ott	Hannah Ott
Chloe Ott	Ewan (Clarinet) Swal	Jacey Ott
Rosa Com	Alice Com	Lewis Ott
Millie Adv	Arianna Adv	Emily Adv
Amber Adv	Kiera Adv	Jude Adv
Zara Adv	Millie Adv	
Zoe Disc	Madison Disc	



Silver Merit Award Congratulations to:

Sami Adv	Freddie Adv
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Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday (28th February)

Pancakes will be served as part of school dinners on Tuesday 28th February. They will also be available to buy at breaktime at a cost of 20p.



Purple Pinkie Day – Friday 17th February

We will be joining many of the other schools in Sutton to raise money to support Rotary International in their campaign to eradicate polio. I will be holding an assembly to explain to the children how polio affects many people in developing countries and how, when children are vaccinated, their little finger (pinkie) is dipped in purple ink to show they have seen the doctor. We would like all the children to donate £1 and wear pink or purple clothes for the day – no football tops please!



Safer Internet Day 7th February 2017

Is a fantastic opportunity to have a conversation with children about using the internet safely, responsibly and positively.



Get the conversation started on a positive note with these fun topics!

1. Ask your child about what they like most about the internet and why, such as their favourite app, game or website.
2. Ask your child if they like sharing images and videos online and why. You could talk about your favourite family photos.
3. Share your favourite emoji and ask your child what emoji they like best and why. You could discuss whether emoji's make it easier to communicate what you mean. You could get involved with our Safer Internet Day emoji charades. Find out how

www.saferinternet.org.uk/emoji-charades.

Magic Moments

Andrew Mitchell MP Visit

On Friday Mr Mitchell himself came to visit us said Shayaan Y6. It was brilliant to see a real MP and we asked him a couple of questions said Kenzie Y6. He told us stories about Winston Churchill. He told us how a shield of Parliament was brought to Sutton Coldfield after WW2. We found it really helpful as it helped us with our topic 'Yes Minister'.

By Shayaan & Kenzie



Mosque Visit

On Wednesday 2nd February Y6 went to the Mosque to learn about their faith and religion. We enjoyed it and learnt about their history and how Muslims were very good mathematicians, scientists and astronomers. We learnt that they worship Allah. Everyone enjoyed the trip and we would strongly recommend it to others.

By Simmy & Shania Y6

Class Attendance of the Week

Jan 23rd – 27th – BEAVERS = 99.7%

Jan 30th – 3rd Feb – SWALLOWS = 99.3%

Talk about young people's experiences, responsibilities and boundaries

1. Ask your child whether they have seen people in their school posting images to be mean or embarrass someone. What would they do if they saw this? Who could they turn to for help?
2. You could ask whether they think young people are sometimes embarrassed about the photos their parents/carers post of them. You could talk about what you could do to make sure they are happy with images of them online.
3. Ask your child how they can tell if an image or video is truthful. For example, they might have seen images edited to make people look better, or videos that are fake. Can we always tell?

Discuss how we can all 'be the change' and help make the internet a better place

1. What could your child do to make the internet a better place? Can they share images and videos that have a positive message, or do they have creative skills to make their own videos?
2. Ask your child if they know where to go for help, where to find safety advice and privacy settings, and how to report or block on the services they use.
3. Encourage your child to do good digital deeds to help others. Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend that would benefit from their help and support.

For more information and advice visit www.saferinternet.org.uk.

Dinners / Packed Lunches

Please could parents ensure the school office is always informed of any changes to your child's meal pattern (dinner or sandwiches) at the start of a new half term. This assists the kitchen and also ensures you are charged correctly.



World of Work Week 13th – 17th February

Thank you to the parents that offered to help with our World of Work week next week. The timetable for the week is taking shape with lots of different activities, speakers from local firms and parents sharing information for the children to enjoy, including visits out of school for the lucky entrants of our 'Dream Job' competition. The entries for the competition so far are excellent; it will be a difficult job to pick the winners!



Weekly Support Group for Children aged 6-11

St John's Church of Walmley will be offering a weekly support group for children ages 6 - 11 that have experienced loss in the family through death or a family breakdown. The loss could be that of a parent, a sibling, a grandparent or a best friend. The sessions do not take place during school holidays or Bank holidays. The support group called Pot of Gold will meet in the upper lounge of the church from 6.30 – 8.00pm. There is no charge for these sessions. The programme contains a Christian ethos but people of all faiths are more than welcome to attend. If you are interested please call St John's parish office on 0121 313 0413, email: office@stjw.org.uk. Open Monday to Friday 9.30am – 5.00pm.

Y5 Science Live Lesson

Y5 have been taking part in Science live lessons with the whole of the country. We have learnt about electricity and we all took part in an activity. We had to be a circuit, so we stood in a circle and passed the sweets around, which was to represent the current. Another lesson we enjoyed was finding out about how many calories were in our food. We also learnt how long our intestines were. We had an activity sheet where we sorted food into groups. We learnt that a human needs 50 – 70% water. I really enjoyed that science lesson I can't wait to watch more. By Rosa & Tyra Y5

Magic Moments continued

On Thursday 2nd February 'African Ark' came in to do three workshops with year 3. I really enjoyed the first workshop because we listened to a story I will never forget, about an African King. It started with people who were unhappy working for the King but they were happy at the end because they escaped to another island.

By Oliver OTT
We did an African dance and it was called 'A Footballer's Journey'. We had to pretend we were in the African Cup of Nations. We also did a big shot that went into the goal while doing an African dance! I really enjoyed it and I liked the African music.

By Lucy OTT
In the afternoon we made some African art. You had a choice of a pattern with red and orange paint and we could paint a crocodile or a turtle over the pattern in black paint. Then we let it dry. I liked doing this activity.

By Joshua BEAV



Staff Car parking

As you will know the car park on site is for **school staff only**. The only exception to this is for families who have spoken to me about using the car park as they have a difficulty with their mobility (blue badge). Please do not use the car park unless you have spoken to me about your need to do so. As with any car park there is a danger of adults and children stepping out from between the cars and it is for this reason anyone using the car park is to **drive very slowly**. I also urge users to remain extremely vigilant in order to keep everyone safe on the school site.

Snow Alert to Parents

In the event of 'Snow Closure' the school will send out text messages and update our website with the relevant information and inform local radio stations Free Radio and BBC WM of the closure details, so please ensure we have your correct contact details. If possible please check the website, as we have control over updating this, as early as possible. The radio stations phone lines / e-mail notifications, may take a little longer depending on how busy they are.



Local Governing Board

The local governing board has been busy behind the scenes. Prior to Christmas we met with the Plantsbrook governors and all the Trustees for a whole board training session. This proved really beneficial in setting some strategic goals for the Trust.

We have had training on "Safeguarding" and 'Raise on Line' training. The latter gave us a greater understanding of the school's data; this now enables us to challenge the Senior Leaders even further about the progress and attainment of the pupils at Town School.

By half term the Mathematics and Literacy Link governors will have met with the school subject leaders to discuss the monitoring and evaluation taking place within those areas and also to celebrate all the exciting things going on in school.

We have also been involved in updating school policies and practices, as well as carrying out an audit of governor skills.

Mrs Smith and the Governors have met on a regular basis to discuss aspects of school life.

We look forward to seeing you all at events after the half term break.

Kind regards

Diane Clapcott

Chair of the LGB

School improvements

- Mr Harris and Miss Powis have attended their NQT course at Boldmere Teaching School.
- SLT release day to look at new School Improvement Plan following the external review.
- Mrs Page has delivered Literacy lessons observed by Mr Harris and Miss Powis.
- Internal monitoring by the SLT has taken place in lessons across the school.
- Mrs Smith and Mrs Clapcott have attended the Board of Trustees meeting.
- Mrs Gilmour and Miss Rodgers have attended the Sutton Deputies meeting looking at Shanghai Maths and its links with the teaching of mastery in subjects.
- Miss Wilson has attended her course at Boldmere Teaching School.
- Mrs Rachel Davies, Headteacher of Little Sutton School, met with Mrs Smith to discuss School Improvement.
- Mrs Gilmour attended the area Safeguarding briefing.
- Ms O'Grady attended a training session on Early Health Assessments at Featherstone Safeguarding Hub.