

# Town Junior School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Last week we saw Y3 enjoy an overnight residential visit to Laches Wood undertaking oral storytelling and outdoor craft activities; this week Y5 will experience a residential visit to Edmond Hall to undertake river based Geography activities. We know that residential visits are thoroughly enjoyed by all the children who attend them and they are able to show many skills and talents whilst working outside the classroom. It is for this reason that we have tried to provide a residential opportunity in each year group for the last 2 years. Unfortunately, budget and staffing restraints mean that this is no longer possible. We will continue to organise the adventurous activities visit for the end of Y6 and possibly one in Y4 based around the creative arts at Ingestre Hall. I would welcome parent comments about this subject on our [enquiry@townj.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@townj.bham.sch.uk).

Best Wishes

Head Teacher

## Mother's Day Lunches

As you know Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March was Mothers' Day, Town School celebrated with a week of nice lunches. The children sang some lovely songs, Y5 & Y6 sang 'Spring Fever' and 'This Day'. Y3 and Y4 sang 'Sunshine, Showers and Rainbows' and 'Season of Singing'. Each year group made a card for their mothers on the Friday beforehand. In Y5 we put different coloured hearts on our cards and put them in the shape of a rainbow, we also wrote a little note inside which was personal to our mothers. If you are a mum and you came to lunch or got a card we hope you enjoyed it!

By Poppy & Sid COMETS



## Year 6 SATS week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> May

We now have the timetable for the Y6 SATS tests which will take place every morning from Monday – Thursday at 9.00am. It is vital that the children are in everyday in order to take the papers at the correct time. We are not able to allow the children to take them later or on another day. Therefore, if the children are absent or late during this week then they cannot show how much progress they have made over the last four years and it also means that their secondary school will not have as much information as they need to make accurate decisions about their academic ability. Please make every effort to ensure that your child is in school every day during SATS week. Thank you

## Upcoming Events

### 6<sup>th</sup> April

3.30 SATS Parents Meeting

### 7<sup>th</sup> April

Break up for Easter Holiday

### 21<sup>st</sup> April

Book Sale

### 24<sup>th</sup> April

Inset Day School closed to children

### 25<sup>th</sup> April

School Resumes for children

### 1<sup>st</sup> May

May Day Bank Holiday

### 8<sup>th</sup> May

SATs Week

### 15<sup>th</sup> May

Y4 Synagogue Trip

### 18<sup>th</sup> May

Ready to Write Day

### May 26<sup>th</sup>

Book Sale

### 26<sup>th</sup> May

Break up for half term

### 5<sup>th</sup> June

School resumes for children

### June 30<sup>th</sup>

Book Sale

### 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> July

Y6 Residential to Condoval Hall

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### SATS Meeting for Year 6 Parents

We will be holding an important meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April at 3.30pm to explain to parents about all aspects of the Y6 SATs. This will cover the format of how the papers are marked and how you can support your child during this time.

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### Council Meeting for the Mayors Challenge

I was invited to attend the Council Meeting for the Mayors Challenge on 17<sup>th</sup> March. We were split into three different groups to discuss improvements to the community. I went into the category of gardening and benches. Everyone in that category agreed we should have gardening clubs in school. As a third discussion point at the meeting we discussed if the Council are likely to provide a water fountain in the park, unfortunately due to budget restrictions, this is not likely. There will be a council meeting to discuss the points we have brought up which anyone can attend, the council will contact the school with any information.  
By Isla DISCOVERERS

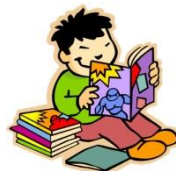
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### Book Sale

Mrs Zoe Toft (Y4 parent) has kindly volunteered to hold a book sale once a month to sell brand new children's books she has received as part of her role promoting reading. She will donate 50% of the sales to School Fund and will hold the book stall on:

- Friday April 28<sup>th</sup>
- Friday May 26<sup>th</sup>
- Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>

She will be situated outside the main entrance at Town School after school; all books are £4 each or 3 for £10.00.



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### Uniform Grant Form

We have now received the Uniform Grant forms; if you are a resident of Sutton Coldfield in one of the following wards: New Hall, Vesey, Trinity or Four Oaks and are in receipt of one of the following benefits: Income support, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, Job Seekers Allowance, State Pension Credit or Employment & Support Allowance please ask in the office for an Application Form.



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### Premier Sport Clubs next term

We are very pleased to announce that the Premier Sports club will carry on being funded by the school for the next half term.

Please ask at the office for a form to fill in to enrol your child in the club, they are as follows:

- Athletics- Monday
- Dance-Wednesday
- Dodgeball- Thursday
- Basketball- Friday

As per last term the clubs will be on a first come first served basis, if your child already attends then please inform the office they would like to continue.



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## Magic Moments

### Y3 Laches Wood

Day one at Laches Wood was really fun. We settled in and went to our dormitories; I had a bubbly feeling in my tummy. We got out our duvets and pretended it was night and we were asleep in our comfy beds. We had our first activity meeting where the Indian Chief said we couldn't look at his eyes, I looked anyway! We then cooked marshmallows on the campfire, they were delicious. Finally we made flags and painted them in bright colourful colours. Afterwards it was time for dinner and we had some free time. The next day we had breakfast I had beans on toast with yoghurt. Our first activity was a Woodland walk; we looked at nature and the trees and made dream catchers. After lunch, which was tuna sandwich and crisps which was all really yummy, we packed and then put all our luggage back on the bus. On the way back I sat next to Emily again and we played a game all the way home it was a lot of fun.

By Poppy BEAVERS



### Well Done to:-

- Tom Y6 who has been signed by Walsall Football Club as a member of their goalkeeping academy.
- Jude Y6 who has been selected for the 'Pathways England' swimming training which leads to 2024 Olympic Games.
- Aiden (Y4) whose letter was published in the Sutton Observer expressing his concerns over parking meters in Sutton Park.



### Red Nose Day

On the 24<sup>th</sup> March children at Town Junior dressed in red and brought in to school £1.00 to help Comic Relief 2017. On the day before children in Years 4 and 5 brought in delicious cakes to sell to raise extra money. On Friday years 3 and 6 brought in their cakes to sell. In total we raised £371.09. Everyone agreed that the cakes were very nice and proved a great attraction.

By Imme and Ewen Y4 SWALLOWS



### Red Nose Money

Many thanks for your support, we raised £371.09 and sent lots of tweets of Malteser cakes. If you missed them please follow us on Twitter @TownJnrSch.



### Woodwind lessons

Mr Henry will be starting new lessons in the new academic year beginning September 2017. He will be sending out an introductory letter and form next term but as spaces are limited he will have to work on a first come first served basis but he assures us he will do his best not to disappoint anyone. If you have any questions please email Mr Henry on the following email address: [henrrob@aol.com](mailto:henrrob@aol.com)



### School Photographer

The School Photographer will be in school on Wednesday 24th May to take group photographs of the children; these will include the Football team, the Y6 leavers and leaver's individual photographs.



### Self-Harm

Self-harm can take lots of physical forms, including cutting, burning, bruising, scratching, hair-pulling, poisoning and overdosing. There are many reasons why children and young people try to hurt themselves. And once they start, it can become a compulsion. That's why it's so important to spot it as soon as possible and do everything



## Magic Moments continued

### Wylde Green v TJS 3 - 3

We played Wylde Green on 20<sup>th</sup> March. In the first half we were 3 – 0 down but before the break Matt scored to make it 3 – 1. In the second half Taila tackled their defender and passed to Matt and Matt took a shot and scored making it 3- 2. We then won a throw in which Freddie took and played to Taila which she passed to Matt to shoot and he scored to make it 3 – 3 to get a draw and Matt scored a hat trick!

Matthew & Taila Y6

### Hill West v TJS 0 - 0

We played Hill West on Tuesday. The weather was awful as it poured down with rain for the whole match. Hill West are a good team and although we had lots of chances no one was able to break the deadlock so we had to be satisfied with our 0-0 draw.



### Bronze Merit Award Congratulations to:

Libby COM  
Jack COM  
Rosa COM  
Harry COM  
Emily COM  
Daniel MET  
Robyn MET  
Emily ADV  
Francesca OTT



you can to help.

Self-harm isn't usually a suicide attempt or a cry for attention. Instead, it's often a way for young people to release overwhelming emotions. It's a way of coping. So whatever the reason, it should be taken seriously.

Self-harm is the fourth most common concern that children and young people contact ChildLine about. There were over 19,000 ChildLine counselling sessions about self-harm in 2014/15.

#### Why children harm themselves

The exact reasons why children and young people decide to hurt themselves aren't always easy to work out. In fact, they might not even know exactly why they do it.

There are links between depression and self-harm. Quite often a child or young person who is self-harming is being bullied, under too much pressure to do well at school, being emotionally abused, grieving or having relationship problems with family or friends.

The feelings that these issues bring up can include:

low self-esteem and low confidence, loneliness, sadness, anger, numbness, lack of control over their lives. Often, the physical pain of self-harm might feel easier to deal with than the emotional pain that's behind it. It can also make a young person feel they're in control of at least one part of their lives. Sometimes it can also be a way for them to punish themselves for something they've done or have been accused of doing.

#### How to spot the warning signs

Young people will go to great lengths to cover self-harm scars and injuries. If you do spot them they might be explained away as accidents.

The signs to look for divide into the physical and emotional.

#### Physical signs of self-harm

These are commonly on the head, wrists, arms, thighs and chest and include:

Cuts, bruises, burns, bald patches from pulling out hair.

Young people who self-harm are also very likely to keep themselves covered up in long-sleeved clothes even when it's really hot.

#### Emotional signs of self-harm – SEE NSPCC WEBSITE

The emotional signs are harder to spot and don't necessarily mean that a young person is self-harming. But if you see any of these as well as any of the physical signs then there may be cause for concern, depression, tearfulness and low motivation, becoming withdrawn and isolated, for example wanting to be alone in their bedroom for long periods, unusual eating habits; sudden weight loss or gain, low self-esteem and self-blame, drinking or taking drugs.

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### School improvements

- Performance Management mid-term reviews have been carried out for all staff.
- Mrs Smith has met with the Sports Council to discuss organising sporting events in school.
- Miss Wilson has attended her course at Boldmere Teaching School looking at challenging middle ability children.
- Mrs Smith has attended an update on carrying out Peer Reviews.
- Mrs Hill has attended the SENCo network meeting and visited the Four Oaks Sensory Room at Mere Green School.
- Mrs Gilmour has attended the Safeguarding Hub meeting at Plantsbrook School.
- Mrs Smith and Mrs Clapcott have attended the Board of Trustees meeting.
- Mrs Smith and Mrs Gilmour have undertaken a budget forecast meeting with Mrs Lynda Smith, Director of Finance.
- All year groups have been involved with Mothers' Day lunches.
- Miss Rodgers has visited Little Sutton Primary School to observe maths teaching in KS2.
- Miss Rodgers has attended the Four Oaks Leaders meeting at Whitehouse Common Primary School.