



### **Towcester Church of England Primary School**

*We will send the children out, as Noah did the dove (Genesis 8:8-12), having nurtured and prepared them for life. Knowing that they are valued, they can fly and take the values of the school out into the world.*

*'If we live by the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit.'* (Galatians 5:25)

### **Newsletter End of Term 4 2023**

*We are at the end of our Spring Term; it's been a busy and a great term – packed full of events, opportunities and achievements across the school. I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter that is a collection and celebration of just some of the highlights.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank you' for all your support – from attending specific events like parents evening, Mother's Day celebrations and open mornings to the everyday events and helping your child at home with their school work.*

*I will end by wishing you all a very Happy Easter – may you enjoy precious time with your families and friends. I look forward to seeing you on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April for the start of our Summer Term.*

### **British Science Week**

This term, in school we celebrated British Science Week from Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. It was a wonderful week full of exciting opportunities and experiences for the children. The theme for this year was 'Connections'. The children took part in activities where they investigated soap and bacteria; investigating nature, becoming a Victorian inventor, and creating a brand-new scientific invention to name a few! It was wonderful to see all the children, and staff, engaged in Science and understanding how Science is part of our everyday life.

Mrs Hemming



## News from our Year 6 Mackintosh class



This term in Mackintosh we have been busy learning about two influential young activists - Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafai. Spring also marked the start of our SATs boosters and preparation for the upcoming exams after Easter. Here's a few comments from our pupils:

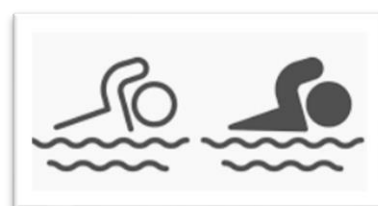
"I enjoyed researching all the interesting facts about Malala and putting them into my biography" Milly

"The boosters really help me in maths lessons, before; maths was one of my weaker lessons but now I'm getting better" Amelia

"I enjoyed the Easter Experience at church as we prayed and took part in fun activities." Maisie

## Swimming Lessons for Year 5

Year 5 have represented the school incredibly well during their swimming lessons. Their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm shown in the water has paid off with an improvement in their confidence and technique in the water. Well done Year 5!



Mr Boon

## News from our Year 4



This term has been a very busy one in Year 4! We have had an amazing time investigating many things in Science, such as: How many teeth do we have? What is a predator? and What does 'food chain' mean? Our investigations continued into Geography, where we learned, How many boroughs does London have? What is the difference between human and physical geography? Our English focussed upon continuing the narrative of Shylo, the tiny rabbit, in The Royal Rabbits of London and an explanation text of how a

toaster works! The children have thoroughly enjoyed them all and it has been a pleasure to see their progress. All the children are spending more time practising their times tables and reading which is wonderful to see. They know that they need to continue this over the Easter break.

Mr Skears

## News from Year 6 Tull Class

Here's a round up of highlights from Tull class when reflecting on this term:

Netball tournament – Year 6 won first place!

Tag rugby festival – We competed in the county finals.

The library – We have been going at lunchtimes and during the week with our class. The books are great. It is a really good space.

Sports crew – The Year 6 children have been supporting KS1 children really well with fun games at lunchtimes.

Computing lessons – purple mash.

Geography lessons with Miss Yuill

" I have enjoyed learning about the tribes in the Amazon" – Charlotte

"I have liked our geography this term" - Harry  
World book day – Our class door looked amazing!  
Yellow chick day – I loved wearing yellow!  
visiting the chicks

Maths – PERCENTAGES

"I love maths" – Noah

"Just maths" - William.

Learning about Greta Thunberg and Malala in our English lessons.

Choir on a Thursday.

Outdoor adventurous activities in PE

Gymnastics in PE with Mr C. "Vaulting was really cool" – Thomas and Max.

"I have enjoyed my intervention with Miss Buckland" – Zachary

What a busy term! Year 6 have worked incredibly hard. I am very proud of them! I have particularly enjoyed our English lessons learning about Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai. The writing that they have completed is wonderful.

Miss Yuill

### History at Towcester CE Primary

We brought history to life! This term Miss Tillen has been really impressed with some of the creative history lessons she has seen. Year 1 completed a crown court where they put both Mary Anning and Florence Nightingale on trial! They questioned their beliefs and debated against one another – the children loved it. They even spent their wet play times this week repeating the lesson using a hot seat in the classroom.



Year 3 completed a re-enactment of a Roman battle. They used their trays for shields against the pipe cleaner 'arrows' and practised moving in different formation to protect themselves. They even learnt some Latin army commands! They put themselves inside the Roman's shoes and they thoroughly enjoyed it.

### Key Stage Two Choir



Miss Buckland and Miss Tillen have really enjoyed their first term with our KS2 choir. They did a wonderful job performing at the Easter Church Service for the first time and we were very proud of them. We have lots of upcoming events that our lovely choir will be singing at over the next terms including the Towcester Midsummer Music Festival and the Church Summer Fete. We are very excited to share our wonderful voice with the local community.

### Reception children's visit to Rookery Farm

The children in Reception thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Rookery Farm in Stoke Bruerne. We went on a coach for the first time and were excited to meet the driver and see the sights on the short, but very exciting, journey. Once there, the children enjoyed seeing and petting the different animals including many babies. We were even lucky enough to see a lamb being born! It was an amazing experience for the children and the adults. The children were excellently behaved and did the school proud. A huge success!



### Year 2 Church Service

Year 2 enjoyed their visit from Clare Reetz. They listened carefully to the story from the bible about Jesus meeting the woman at the well. They thought carefully about how Jesus had seen something special in the woman even though nobody else had. Then they drew and wrote about what made them special and why God loved them. There was a great turn out from Year 2 in church the following Sunday, with many enthusiastic helpers handing out flowers, leading prayers and singing. Well done, Year 2!

### Parents Open morning; Reading

Thank you to everyone who attended the reading morning on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. It was lovely to have different family members learning about reading in our school and joining us for our reading lessons. As we explained in the parent session, we are ambitious for our children and want them to read for '20 minutes a day' at home. This could be reading to an adult, reading to a sibling, reading independently, or listening to a story. We know it will vary depending on the age of the child, but evidence shows that every minute counts.

### School Council



The School Council have been working hard this term on their upcoming fundraising idea 'Rule Swap Day' which is going to be held on the first Friday back after the Easter holidays.

There are pre-decided rules that the pupils will be allowed to choose to 'swap' for the day. For example, wear nail varnish, wear 'crazy' hair, wear your own choice of footwear etc. For each rule that is swapped, 50p is donated. Up to a maximum of £2. Pop the date in your diary - 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023. More information to be published soon.

School Council have also been considering the launch of the 'Playground Buddies' scheme which is coming to the playground next term. If your child might be interested in becoming a 'Playground Buddy' (open to Years 2-6 initially) they will need to keep an eye out for information about applying coming soon. They are looking to appoint 'Playground Buddies' to enhance everybody's experience on the school playgrounds. Possible 'Playground Buddies' will be interviewed after the Easter holidays. They will be asked to help lead games/activities on the playground and keep an eye out for children who may need a friend at playtime. This opportunity is for Year 2 and upwards at the moment, although all pupils will have access to the 'Playground Buddies' when on the playground.

Finally, School Council have held a meeting with the school Governors to discuss current and upcoming plans. They were very courageous delivering their presentation and enjoyed sharing their ideas.



### **FOTOPS NEED YOU!**

FOTOPS are always on the look out for volunteers who are willing to offer a couple of hours of their time to help out at school events. FOTOPS run a number of different activities and events through the year for the children, but without help from volunteers it becomes increasingly difficult to do so. We're always appreciative of any time and help people can offer, and it's usually good fun to help out and a wonderful opportunity to see the children in their school environment.

In addition, if you have any particular skills that may be useful we're always keen to hear from you, for example we've been very lucky to have received help from parents in the past with decorating within school, and one parent arranged for the safe disposal of green waste after our day cleaning up the school environment last year, this is very much appreciated.

Lastly, with some big projects on the horizon we're keen to secure further sources of funding to enable us to really build on the generous support we receive for mufti days, etc.

If you are aware of any funding opportunities, or you know of or work for a company who may wish to sponsor a project within the school please don't hesitate to contact us. [FOTOPS@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:FOTOPS@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Eggs and Chicks!**



The whole school were egg-cited when the 'Living Eggs Programme' delivered the incubator with 10 eggs in it to our reception classrooms. There have been trails of children in and out of the reception classrooms who have come to watch the chicks grow! We decided to keep four hens and the school embarked on a fundraising mission – thank you to you all for taking part in Yellow Mufti Day as we raised £580 towards a coop and run. We now need to prepare the area for the chicks. If you would like to help, come along any Sunday in the Easter holiday from 10am for a couple of hours where staff will be in their gardening gear and getting stuck in!

**Can you help us?**

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help re-build our chicken area.

**We need help with ...**

- > Gardening - clearing the area
- > Demolishing- The old coop
- > removal of branches
- > Building- new chicken run

**Dates:**  
Sunday 2nd April  
Sunday 9th April

Meet by reception for 10am please. Bring along gloves and tools thank you !

**CONTACT US:**  
**01327 350332**

lmeddings@towcester.pdet.org.uk

As you can see, we have had a wonderful Term of learning opportunities and adventures. We are looking forward to many more in the Summer Term. If you have any questions or queries about any of the items in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

With kind regards

**Sally Beaton**

Headteacher

Please see below the term dates for this academic year 2022/23.

Term 5	School re-opens	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
	School closed – Bank Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023
	School closed – Bank Holiday	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
	School closes	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
Term 6	School re-opens	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
	School closes	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023

#### Academic year 2023/24

Term 1	Training day	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	Training day	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	School opens to pupils	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	School closes	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Term 2	School re-opens	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
	School closes	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Term 3	Training day	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
	Training day	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
	School re-opens	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
	School closes	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Term 4	Training day	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
	School re-opens	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
	School closes	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Term 5	School re-opens	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
	School closed – Bank Holiday	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
	School closes	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Term 6	School re-opens	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024
	School closes	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024