



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)

End of Academic Year 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final newsletter for this academic year!

This term has been full of activities and celebrations! From amazing activity days and trips; to sharing our talents in musical performances; to Sports Days and Healthy Living weeks; not to mention the academic achievements of all of our pupils across the year; we are incredibly proud of everything that our children and staff have achieved.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the school and its staff team. Your feedback is hugely appreciated as is your support and appreciation of the many activities and events that we offer.

As we come to the end to a wonderful year at Towcester, I would like to wish our Year 6 pupils every success in their move to their new schools in September. I know that they will continue to make us proud and take our school values with them in the next steps of their journey.

I hope that you all have a restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to seeing you again in September.

Kind regards,

*Sally Beaton
Headteacher.*

Welcome to our new EYFS intake

Our new Reception intake children have been joining us each week on a Friday ahead of starting school in September. Their sessions have been a success with the children running and skipping into school and looking very much at home whilst enjoying all the activities in our early years setting and establishing relationships with the adult. We look forward to (officially!) welcoming the children and their families to our school in September.

Last Assembly: Dojos, Golden Pegs, Golden Mentions and Special Awards

We look forward to celebrating the children's successes and awards on Friday in our final celebration assembly. So many children have been recognised over the year and earned Dojo points for learning behaviours, work and positive attitude. Many of the children have also been awarded a Ruby, Emerald or Sapphire pin badge – well done to you all! It is fabulous to see children proudly walking around school and in the local community with the pin badges on their collars. Also shining bright on collars are the golden pegs – earned when a child has 'pegged off' 10 times for great behaviour in the classroom and around school.

Our Golden Mention certificates are given out at the end of each term to one child in each year group who has been noticed for displaying all of our school values all the time. In our final assembly we will also be awarding special recognition badges to some individuals, these awards include 'Yes, I can' and 'Courageous Advocacy'.

Sporting Success

Thank you to all the parents and family members who supported our children at Sports Day this year. We had a record number of spectators who created a sense of occasion and brought a positive atmosphere to the event. This year's Sports Leaders along with our newly appointed Sports Leaders for next year helped the event run quickly and smoothly. It was great to see so many children all taking part.

This term has seen the school participate in a great number of external sporting competitions and festivals including PDET's Going4Gold and Sponne's Key Stage 1 Festival. At every event, the staff have always returned to school having received so many compliments regarding the children's teamwork, behaviour and attitude. We are very proud of all the children at every event they have been to this year as they certainly show our values.

Mr Boon will be leading PE next year and is keen to ensure the school builds on their sporting successes this year and achieves even more next year! So, watch out everyone - Towcester are coming!

Musical Success

What a musical term we have had. Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed their ukulele lessons whilst year 6 have embraced the challenge of playing a brass instrument. Their hard work was celebrated with an outstanding musical soiree which also included performances from our school choir, some of our guitar players, string players and keyboard players all who have lessons at school. We were amazed by their confidence and ability as we enjoyed listening. Well done to everyone who took part.

Our school choir also performed at Towcester's Midsummer Music Festival in a packed Town Hall and also at St Lawrence Church Fete. They sang beautifully and we look forward to more events where they can showcase their talent and love for singing.

'Fond Farewell', 'Thank you' and 'Best of Luck'

As we come to the end of the academic year it is time to say a very fond farewell to all of our current year 6 pupils, we wish them happiness and success as they move onto their new secondary schools.

It is with great sadness we also say 'goodbye' and 'all the best' to Miss White, Mrs Daniels, Mrs Simonds, Miss Tillen, Mrs Meddings, Mrs Agness, Miss Stratton and Mrs Humberstone. We thank each of them for the difference they have made to so many children's lives and the commitment and enthusiasm they have shown for the school.

We also have a special mention to Mrs Hayley Meller who has taught our year 1 children this year. We thank her for her time and care.

Tesco Tokens

You may have noticed that there is a blue token collection at Towcester Tesco for Towcester CE Primary School's Hive.

The Hive is our wellbeing and mental health hub where many of the wellbeing and social, emotional mental health interventions take place; it also serves as a space for our Breakfast and Lunch club.

Please support the school and add your tokens to our collection. We thank you for your support and look forward to purchasing new furniture so the space can become even more nurturing and homely.

Pre-loved School Uniform

Have you visited our pre-loved school uniform stand in our reception area? You are welcome to come in and have a browse. Items are being sold for FOTOPs funds with a minimum donation of £1 per item.

We currently have a couple of summer dresses, t-shirts, shorts and trousers and a few small sized jumpers/cardigans. If anyone has any good quality pre-loved uniform they would like to donate, especially in larger sizes, please drop these in at reception, thank you.

School Uniform

Please remember, we want our children to wear their school badge with pride and for people to look at our pupils and their first impression be - WOW—these children really represent Towcester Primary School well!

School uniform expectations are as follows:

- ✓ black or grey trousers or skirt,
- ✓ a plain white polo-shirt or shirt, with school logo where possible
- ✓ a blue school jumper or cardigan with the school logo
- ✓ black or grey socks or tights
- ✓ smart, closed-toe black leather shoes. No trainers or astros please.

During warmer months:

- ✓ blue and white summer dresses.
- ✓ smart black or grey shorts

Hair:

- ✓ We ask that long hair is kept neatly tied back during school time.
- ✓ Simple headbands may be worn in the school colours.
- ✓ Please do not send your child into school wearing large bows, clips, scrunchies or headbands.
- ✓ Please save adding hair colours, dyes and shaved-in shapes for the summer holidays

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled with a sewn-in label or a Sharpie (Biro washes out) as we already have a mountain of unclaimed clothing, most of it unnamed.

Please do let us know if you need support with providing the listed school uniform. We have a supply of excellent quality, unclaimed uniform items that we are happy to provide.

Please contact the school office team who will be happy to help: office@towcester.pdet.org.uk

Lost Property

Has your child lost an item of clothing this year?

From Thursday, any un-named non-uniform in our lost property collection will be in the Bandstand after school. Please come and have a look. Any good quality unclaimed lost property will be used to restock our preloved uniform rail.

Nut Free School

We are a nut-free school.

Please could we ask that our community are mindful of those children who have allergic reactions to nuts. We ask that when selecting items for your child's lunchbox or mid-morning snack that you choose nut-free options. This enables us to keep all of our children safe in school. Thank you for your support.

Food tasting in school

From September, we will send out to all parents a communication requesting permission for children to taste foods at school. This consent form will ask you to detail any food allergies that your child has. If your child has an allergy, we will contact you to ensure that the information held on our system about their allergy and any preventative measures linked to this is up to date.

If your child has developed an allergy, please ensure that you communicate this to the school office.

When food tasting activities are taking place, teachers will contact the parents of children with allergies directly to ask them to come into school to check the ingredients of the foods in person and sign a consent form for the foods to be tasted.

School Term Dates and Holidays

As we go into a new academic year, we will be monitoring attendance and absence closely.

We believe that 'every lesson counts' and encourage regular attendance at school. We have high expectations of our children just as you have high expectations of us; these expectations cannot be met if your child is frequently absent.

Please avoid booking holidays during term-time. Our term dates are published on the website a year in advance giving ample notice of holiday periods.

Any holiday in term time will be treated as unauthorised absence and will be taken into account when referring parents and families to the Education Welfare Services. We will refer families to the Local Authority to consider administering penalty notices for non-school attendance when holidays are taken during term-time.

If your child's attendance drops below 95%, we will notify you and work with you to ensure that their attendance rate increases. Our target for every child is an attendance rate of above 96%.

If your child's attendance drops below 90%, they will be classified as a 'persistent absentee'. We will work with you to set targets to improve their attendance, but if attendance rates don't increase within the timescales that are set, we have a duty to report the absence to the County Attendance Team. A Penalty Notice Warning may be issued which could result in a fine or further legal action through the courts.

Good attendance at school gives your child the very best opportunity to flourish, please support them in this by ensuring that they are in school every day that they are well enough to be. If you need any support with your child's attendance, please do contact us through the school office. We will be more than happy to help.

ABM School Meal Costs

We are pleased to say that our school meals provider continues to be ABM next year; this means that our school will continue to offer freshly cooked food on site whenever it is possible, this is important at a time where a number of schools are changing the type of service they have.

Unfortunately, the rising costs of food items means that we have to revise our meal prices for those parents / carers who pay for meals to £2.60. The Trust has followed a robust procurement process to ensure that this is the best value offer available to us. These changes in cost will be implemented from the start of the Autumn Term.

School Website

Have you visited our new website? [Towcester CE Primary School - Home \(towcesterprimary.northants.sch.uk\)](http://towcesterprimary.northants.sch.uk) We have added the school term dates for the next two coming academic years. There is a school calendar on the website which we will keep updating with school events.

Works in the school during the Summer Holiday

We are having some considerable site work carried out over the summer: This is very exciting for the school and will work towards giving our school a much needed 'face lift'. Work includes creating an Art room, revamping the communal rooms in our KS1 building, fitting a new fire alarm system across the whole school as well as car park resurfacing in the main carpark adding new automated main gates and a new intercom system to access the main gate.

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.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer break, we look forward to seeing you on September 6th, when the school reopens to pupils.

With kind regards

Sally Beaton

Headteacher

Academic year 2023/24

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