



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.

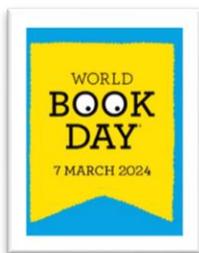
'If we live by the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit.' (Galatians 5:25)

Spring Term 2 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Spring 2 Term Newsletter. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable February half term.

This term is one marking lighter evenings and the arrival of Spring. You will see from this newsletter we have many events and initiatives springing up this term! Please do follow us on Facebook or Instagram to see what we are doing.



World Book Day and book fair – 7th March

On World Book Day we will be encouraging every child and adult to 'snuggle up with a book' - classrooms will have cosy corners, inviting children to 'snuggle' up and enjoy a book with friends and adults. With this in mind, children can come to school in pyjamas or dressed as a character from a book (fiction or non-fiction).

FOTOPS will be organising and leading a 'World Book Day Costume Swap Shop' - bring any costumes that you don't want and swap for a new costume! **The Swap Shop will be open before and after school on Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th February.**



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FOTOPS

The current aim of FOTOPS' fundraising is to install a new playground for all the children to enjoy! This is an ambitious project, with an estimated cost of £20,000, but with your help we know we can do it! They currently are coming into school during lunchtimes and with the help of some Year 6 children making beautiful gifts to sell at the 'Female Superhero' shop.

'Female Superhero' shop and celebrations

The 'Female Superhero' shop which will be open at lunchtimes on Friday 1st, Tuesday 5th and Friday 8th March. Your child will need to come to school with money in a named envelope.

All parents and family members are invited to join us on Friday 8th March at 3pm when the children will perform songs for Mother's Day. The rec gates will open at 2:55pm.

Science Week 8th – 17th March

During 8th -17th March, we will be celebrating British Science Week. It will be a wonderful week full of exciting opportunities and experiences for the children within their



classes and across the school. The theme for this year is 'Time'. All children will take part in activities such as: Disappearing Dinos, make your own pendulum timer, Our Amazing Brains, design a farm of the future and designing and creating a water clock, to name a few!

At Towcester Primary, our children enjoy Science, and this week will offer a wonderful opportunity to see them, and staff, become engaged in a wider understanding of science and of how science is part of our everyday life. For more information, visit: <https://www.britishscienceweek.org>

Parents Evening

We will be holding our mid-year parents evening sessions on Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March from 4-7pm. This is an opportunity for you to look at your child's books and speak to the teacher about your child's academic progress. Parents will be able to book their preferred time slot from Monday 4th March.

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SATs, Phonics Screening and Multiplication Tables Test Parents information sessions:

Year 6 SATs Information session – 5:30pm on Wednesday 28th February. The aim of the meeting is to ensure you and your child are fully prepared for the SATs by sharing important information and answering any questions you may have.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Assessment Information session – 3:30pm on Tuesday 5th March. The aim of the meeting is to ensure you and your child are fully prepared for the National Phonics Screening Check in May by sharing important information and answering any questions you may have. There will be a creche/childcare supervision for any children.

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Information session – Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 3.30pm or 5.30pm We would like to invite you to a short information session regarding the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check that takes place in June 2024. The Year 4 team will discuss the expectations and requirements needed for the MTC, as well as strategies and ideas on how to support your child at home. Please note, you only need to attend one session.

Easter Service at St Lawrence Church

Year 1 and 2 will be leading our Easter Service and reminding the school of the importance of Easter. Please join us at St Lawrence Church on Wednesday 27th March at 9:30am.

Pupil Leadership and lunchtimes

Did you know many of our pupils have leadership roles in school? We have children who are part of School Council, Reading Champions, Maths Champions, Eco-Club, Mental Health Champions, Playground buddies and Sports leaders. Many of the children take their responsibilities very seriously and are dedicated in their role and duties. The playground buddies, sports leaders and mental health champions can be seen on the playgrounds at lunchtimes leading games, helping children find a friend to play and being a listening ear. The Reading Champions open the library every lunchtime for children to find books, read or listening to stories. We believe Towcester School is nurturing our next leaders!

Could you be a volunteer?

We have several adults who volunteer every week by spending time listening to children read or helping in the classrooms. Giving your time in school can not only make a difference to a child, but it can also be rewarding, fulfilling and on a personal level, can build confidence and promote wellbeing for the volunteer. If you or someone you know has a spare hour or two and wants to make a difference, why not volunteer at school? We can support you to find the right year group and days/times. Please speak to the office staff for more information.



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Mental Health Support Team



We receive support from The Mental Health Support Team. This support can take a variety of forms including small group work, 1:1 sessions for a child with a trained Mental Health Practitioner and parenting advice. The Practitioners can help children and parents who are experiencing mental health difficulties including anxiety, worry, low mood, low confidence. If you feel your child or yourself could benefit from external support, please speak to or email Mrs Booth c.booth@towcester.pdet.org.uk

Extra-curricular Opportunities this term



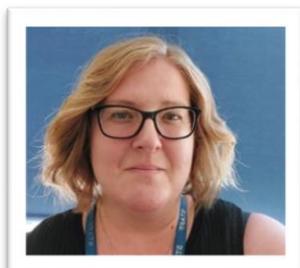
Extra-curricular clubs
for the Spring Term
at Towcester CE Primary

- Monday 8.00am** Freestyle Archery club
- Monday 3.45pm** Towcester Town Football Club
Girls Football Year 3-6
- Tuesday Lunchtime** Freestyle uDance &
Performing Arts club
- Wednesday 4.30pm** Freestyle Football club
- Wednesday 8.00am** Freestyle Gymnastics club
- Thursday Lunchtime** Choir
- Friday 8.00am** Freestyle Dodgeball club

Freestyle clubs can be booked on
freestylegroup.co.uk/event-list/term-time-clubs/.

Speak to your child's class teacher or the office staff if your child is interested in choir or girls' football

Family Support Worker News



Welcome back to a new term. I hope you have enjoyed the break and ready to get back into routines. Did you know we are here to help all parents with any support they may need, big or small? Please come and see me on the playground before and after school or chat to me over a cup of tea in The Hive. My email address is w.mcshane@towcester.pdet.org.uk

Recipe: [Easiest ever biscuits recipe](#) | [BBC Good Food](#)

Let me know if you try the recipe, don't forget to take pictures.

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Parents and Families



The free 'hot drink to go' continues to be a success every Wednesday in the Bandstand. We will continue to set up the drinks every Wednesday with a variety of hot drinks including tea, coffee, fruit teas and hot chocolate. Bring your own cup or help yourself to a takeaway cup and enjoy a drink!

Thank you to the parents who came along to one of our groups or workshops this term. It's great to see some 'regulars' as well as new faces. If you have not been along, please do as the sessions are very informal, friendly, and supportive. The sessions run from 9:00 – 10:30am and are held in The Hive. Sessions are open to everyone – including grandparents and family members. Babies and pre-school children are welcome, and we have toys and games for them to use.

Wednesday 6 th March 9-10:30am	Drop-in session to voice any queries or concerns about your child's academic progress, social and emotional difficulties, mental health, or specific needs/difficulties at home and at school with the Inclusion and Wellbeing Team (Mrs Booth, Mrs McShane and Mrs Grant) . Support from other professionals and agencies can be discussed too.
Wednesday 20 th March 9-10:30am	Towcester Community Larder are sharing who they are, what they do and how you can be part of the Community Larder.
Wednesday 17 th April 9-10:30am	Nicola and Kim are joining the session from West Northants Voices in partnership . They will explain who they are and how they can help and support children and families in West Northants.
Wednesday 24 th April 5.30-6.30pm	Online safety workshop by Simon Aston . Simon is an expert on informing parents how to ensure their children are safe online. Simon Aston - West Northamptonshire Council - YouTube
Wednesday 1 st May 9-10:30am	Foodbank are sharing recipes and advice to make healthy, child friendly meals on a budget!
Wednesday 15 th May 9-10:30am	Laura Byard (School Nurse) is available to share advice and support on sleep – come along with any concerns or difficulties your child may have.
Wednesday 5 th June 9-10:30am	Laura Byard (School Nurse) is available to share advice and support on eating/diet/food – come along with any concerns or difficulties your child may have.
Wednesday 19 th June 9-10:30am	Awaiting confirmation!

Thank you for reading our newsletter, if you have any questions or queries about any of the items, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With kind regards

*Sally Beaton
Headteacher*

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Dates for this term

<i>Dates and Events for the Term Ahead</i> <i>Spring Term 2 2024</i>	
Week 1	
Monday 26 th February	Training Day
Tuesday 27 th February	School Opens to Pupils Boccia and Kurling Finals
Wednesday 28 th February	Year 6 SATS Meeting for Parents 5.30pm
Friday 1 st March	FOTOPS Female Superhero Shop open at lunchtime
Sunday 3 rd March	Year 2 leading Family Service at Church
Week 2	
Monday 4 th March	Year R & Y6 Height & Weight checks
Tuesday 5 th March	FOTOPS Female Superhero Shop open at lunchtime Phonics Screening Check Parent Meeting 3:30pm
Wednesday 6 th March	Hive Parent Group: Drop-in session to see Mrs McShane, Mrs Booth or Mrs Grant Diocese Heads' Conference
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day Y5/6 Netball – Sponne
Friday 8 th March	FOTOPS Female Superhero Shop open at lunchtime 3pm Mothers Day Celebration with parents and families
Sunday 10 th March	Mothers Day
Week 3	
Monday 11 th	Science Week
Friday 15 th March	Year 4 visit Watling Village Retirement Home pm
Week 4	
Mon 18 th March	Magic Science Workshops
Tues 19 th March	Parents Evening 4 – 7pm
Wed 20 th March	Hive Parent Group: Towcester Community Larder
Thurs 21 st March	Parents Evenings 4-7pm
Friday 22 nd March	Year 4 visit Watling Village Retirement Home pm
Week 5	
Monday 25 th March	Safety Seymour CO Awareness Year 2 & CO Crew Awareness Workshop Year 5
Tuesday 26 th March	Safety Seymour CO Awareness Year 2 & CO Crew Awareness Workshop Year 5 Multiplication Test Check Parent Meeting 3:30pm and 5:30pm
Wednesday 27 th March	Easter Service in St Lawrence Church
Thursday 28 th March	Term Ends
Term 5	
Monday 15 th April	School reopens to pupils

Please note, that these dates may be subject to change, we will do our utmost to update you as soon as possible should any changes be needed.

Term Dates

Academic year 2023/24

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

Academic year 2024/25

Term 1	Training day	Monday 2nd September 2024
	Training day	Tuesday 3rd September 2024
	School re-opens	Wednesday 4th September 2024
	School closes	Friday 25th October 2024
Term 2	Training day	Monday 4th November 2024
	School re-opens	Tuesday 5th November 2024
	School closes	Friday 20th December 2024
Term 3	Training day	Monday 6th January 2025
	School re-opens	Tuesday 7th January 2025
	School closes	Friday 14th February 2025
Term 4	Training day	Monday 24th February 2025
	School re-opens	Tuesday 25th February 2025
	School closes	Friday 4th April 2025
Term 5	School re-opens	Tuesday 22nd April 2025
	School closed – Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May 2025
	School closes	Friday 23rd May 2025
Term 6	School re-opens	Monday 2nd June 2025
	School closes	Tuesday 22nd July 2025