

Townhill PS News

August 2024



School Motto: **T**ogether we **P**romote **S**uccess for all as EVERY child matters and every moment counts.

A huge welcome back to school for session 2024-2025! We are so very excited to welcome our children and families back. Whilst it has been a great summer to enjoy with our families (well maybe not the constant rain!) we have missed you all and are raring to go! We start the session with a roll of 310, split over 12 classes. Our children have returned to school enthusiastic and ready to learn, looking smart in their school uniforms. Thanks to all parents for supporting us with this! Mrs Love, Miss Neilly and I have been visiting all of our classes this week and are pleased to report settled, happy children ready for a new school year.

Recently we have had children leaving school at the end of the day via the main entrance. **Please note that unless a prior arrangement made with the school and there is a reason for this, then all children should leave via the playground.** The foyer is becoming very busy at the end of the day, and we need to be able to manage the registration of afterschool school clubs and the safe exit of children going to after school care. From Monday 19th August we will allow entry to the **bubble only** for collection for those **families where there is an agreement.** This will ensure no adults are in the foyer allowing us to manage all exits safely. All children, unless late, should use the gates at Luss Brae/Melfort Road to enter school.

A reminder please that any pupil not collected should return to the school building in order for school staff to ensure safe collection. Whilst we understand the kindness that goes in to other parents offering to take a child and drop them off this goes against our school procedures. All children P3-P7 know to return to the school should their grown up not be at the agreed meeting point or gate. Please support us with this.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.



Our school vision:

Together at Townhill
we **nurture**,
encourage and **inspire**
the development of
skills for **lifelong**
learning and **success.**
We embrace **equality**
and **diversity** to
promote a **happy** and
healthy life.

Our school blog:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sl/townhillps/>

Please follow us on



Twitter:

@townhillps

We now have 1063 followers!

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school or by emailing one of the addresses below:

office@townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Office email

headteacher@townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Mrs McGovern's email

gw20townhilldht@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Love's email

gw07neillyjennifer@glow.sch.uk

Miss Neilly's email

gw10kennedysiobhan@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Kennedy's email



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Mr Jim Campbell- Oor Janny

As most of our Townhill family will know, our world was turned upside down with the passing of our Janitor Jim Campbell in late July. Jim was a true gentleman and had worked at Townhill PS since 1998! We could write a book, a best seller, with all of our stories and memories about all of his carry on and shenanigans- what a character! Jim knew everybody! Every child, every parent and likely every grandparent and he took forever to come in from the gates at either end of the day due to gossiping with everyone and anyone. If Jim didn't know it, it wasn't worth knowing. Jim loved Townhill and was fiercely proud of our school. If Townhill is ever mentioned in conversation circles, Jim is always the first person asked about. We could describe him in many ways- janny, friend, protector, wind-up, football daft, family man... he was ours and we loved him very much! The school will be a very different place without him, but he will never be forgotten.

He's given a us a good few laughs over the years! From the time he binned our £500 cash we had won in the Hamilton Shopping Centre choir competition and had to deploy security guards to man every bin in the centre until he raced back to fish it out! We have never seen him move so fast!! To when the naughty Christmas elf terrorised him for weeks with tricks in the run up to the Christmas holidays! Some staff even dared to mess with his chair set up for a Christmas show and sent pictures of chairs back to front with folk laying all over them! And if you know how Jim felt about the Townhill chairs you will know this sent him in to a spin!! We even dressed him up as a domino one Halloween! Another favourite memory is when Jim volunteered to read to P1 during Book Week and asked someone to choose him a book.... What better book than 'I need a new bum'- what a hoot and he took it all in his stride. He rolled with it all and always had a comeback, maybe except the time his 'Secret Santa' gift was wrapped in the 'wrong' football team wrapping paper.... How we laughed!

We will never forget our wonderful Mr C and send all of our love to Anne and his wonderful family.

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." -- *Dr. Seuss*



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Staffing and classes update

Please see below staff details for the upcoming academic session:



A special welcome to new staff starting with us in August.

- Miss Sophie Newberry
- Miss Rachael Adam
- Mrs Kim McCluskie

Head Teacher

Mrs Ally McGovern

Depute Head Teacher 0.6

Mrs Lorna Love

Depute Head Teacher 0.4/DHT of Equity 0.6

Miss Jennifer Neilly

Principal Teacher 0.4

Mrs Siobhan Kennedy

Primary 1 (Room 1)	Miss Sophie Newberry/Mrs Katie Gibson
Primary 1 (Room 2)	Mrs Fiona Cook
Primary 1/2 (Room 3)	Mrs Siobhan Kennedy/Mrs Katie Gibson
Primary 2 (Room 4)	Mrs Kim McCluskie
Primary 3 (Room 6)	Mrs Emma Kelly/Mrs Gemma Crawford
Primary 3/4 (Room 7)	Mrs Janis Miller/Mrs Emma Kelly
Primary 4/5 (Room 8)	Mrs Laura Valentine
Primary 5 (Room 9)	Mrs Catherine Culbertson
Primary 5/6 (Room 10)	Miss Rachael Adam/Miss Jennifer Neilly
Primary 6 (Room 11)	Miss Kelsea Macdonald/Mrs Katie Gibson
Primary 7 (Room 13)	Mr Liam Garrett
Primary 7 (Room 14)	Miss Shelley Harvey

Additional members of teaching staff:

Mrs Gemma Fagan (soon to go on maternity leave)

Mrs Maureen Henry- Science Lab covering CCC

Support Staff:

Mrs Caroline Comer- Team Leader

Mrs Nicole Stirling

Miss Claire Salim

Mrs Fiona Lawlor

Mrs Jessie Sempie

Mrs Gaynor Sherlock

Mrs Lesley Ann Spence

Miss Elizabeth Broadhurst

Janitor:

Monica- Mon-Wed/ Ryan Thur/Fri



Mrs Fagan will begin her maternity at the end of August and we will share her incredible news when baby Fagan makes his/her arrival! We cannot wait to hear what baby number 3 will be!

Mrs Allan and Mrs Morrison are already enjoying their retirement but are missing us all greatly!

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As always newsletters will be available on our blog with notifications posted on our Twitter feed and emailed via ParentPay contacts. If you would like to receive paper copies of all Newsletters then please email the school office on office@townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Primary 1



We are so proud to see our Primary 1 children in their school uniforms and they are enjoying getting to know the routines for each day. What a confident bunch! A reminder that indoor shoes are required for the children to change in to each day. They have had a lovely few days getting to know their new friends, teachers and Big Buddies! All P1 children will wear a High-vis vest when out in the playground. This is a safety measurement allowing all staff to easily identify our youngest pupils in a big and busy playground. They feel very important in their special vests!

A few reminders-

- Our parent free playground will resume from Monday 26th August- **from this day all children should be dropped off at the first gate at either Luss Brae or Melfort Road where they will be supported to enter the playground by school staff and/or our Senior Playground Pals and buddies.**
- Children should know if they are a school lunch or a packed lunch, please go over the menu with your child each day to ensure they are choosing a meal that they will eat.
- **Snacks for playtime should be separate from the packed lunch to avoid any confusion for the child.**
- Please ensure **ALL** items are labelled with your child's name. We have already had a few missing items like blazers and shoes! A name always helps!
- PE days are attached to this Newsletter, children should wear their polo shirt on these days and have shorts under their trousers/skirts for easy dressing and undressing.

BUDDIES

Our P1 and P7 buddies have been getting to know each other. The children had a wonderful time reading and playing together this week. Our Big buddies have also been helping our children at snack time and lunchtime, showing them the ropes in our lunch hall! What a fantastic job they are doing!

We have so many great Buddy events planned for coming session.... Watch this space!



Uniform.

Uniform, as outlined in previous communication is expected for **all** Townhill pupils. Our uniform is plain **navy/grey** trousers/skirt/pinafore and a **white shirt** and tie. **Navy/grey** jumpers/cardigans etc. can also be worn and these can be plain or have our school badge on them.



Indoor shoes

Last year we were very lucky to have some new carpets and fresh paint work! This is very exciting and is making our school look brand new again! This is something we want to keep so we are asking **all** children to bring a pair of soft shoes to change into once they have entered the building in the morning and after any breaks. A change of shoes also helps to maintain our clean carpets and to minimise germs from the grass and dirt, please support us with this as we are having more new carpet fitted in the coming months.

PE.

As we have changing facilities in the school children no longer need to arrive in school dressed down in joggers and a t-shirt for the day. Children can wear a polo shirt and have their shorts on under their school bottoms/skirt or access space to change. **Gym kit should remain navy on the bottom and white on the top and strictly no football strips. As always jewellery should be removed as a safety precaution.** All classes have both indoor and outdoor sessions and in the case of inclement weather all will be indoor. Highlighted slots are intended outdoor PE slots. Please ensure your child has a warm jumper, a waterproof jacket, and sensible shoes. PE days for each class are listed below.

Room 1	Tuesday	Wednesday
Room 2	Monday	Wednesday
Room 3	Monday	Thursday
Room 4	Monday	Thursday
Room 6	Wednesday	Friday
Room 7	Thursday	Friday
Room 8	Tuesday	Wednesday
Room 9	Tuesday	Friday
Room 10	Monday	Wednesday
Room 11	Monday	Thursday
Room 13	Thursday	Friday
Room 14	Tuesday	Thursday



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Homework Consultation

Last year we undertook a consultation with all stakeholder groups on 'Homework'. This was in response to many concerns and queries regarding homework, how much is given, when it is given, when it is returned, the stress it causes families, the planning time for teachers etc.

The survey showed that whilst all stakeholders recognised the various barriers to homework that overall, homework is a valuable tool which creates a connection between home and school. It has highlighted it can help create good habits for later in life and also allows the consolidation of key skills. Staff have worked together to create a policy on homework which will be issued in due course. A summary is below.

Using all of the survey information we propose the following guidelines.

Our Intention:



- To provide opportunities to reinforce and deepen learning which has taken place in school.
- To promote an effective partnership between home and school.
- To encourage children as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to work on their own, preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.
- To ensure that all children and parents have a clear understanding about what is expected of them
- To ensure the needs of the individual children are considered.

Our Implementation:

- The creation of opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- The provision of homework tasks designed to consolidate classroom learning without the burden of formal written responses/returns, unless specified e.g., preparation for solo talks.
- The provision of homework designed to promote independent learning in the older children.

Types of homework:

All stakeholders agreed that reading, spelling and numeracy and maths were the most important types of homework. Homework for all stages will therefore be under these three subjects.

- **Reading**- either an allocated reading book/word wall with set pages to read for the week/night or reading for pleasure targets given, e.g., 10 minutes of reading per night.
- **Spelling**- a list of the spelling words/rules being used in class that week with an overview of activities that can be undertaken at home. In P1-3 this may take the form of phonological awareness (phonics) activities.
- **Numeracy and maths**- links to games/online activities that will consolidate the key learning in class. This may change weekly, fortnightly etc. depending on the length of the unit.

How much time should be spent on homework?

- **P1**- 15 minutes per night maximum
- **P2-4**- 20 minutes per night maximum
- **P5-7**- 20-30 minutes per night maximum

In line with stakeholder views there will be no formal written homework given out. All tasks are designed to be active, fun and completed orally. There is no expectation of tasks being handed in, and no tasks need marked.

All homework will be communicated via the usual ways- Google Classroom/homework diary/homework folder.

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WORKING TOGETHER...

Parental partnership is very important to us in Townhill and we work very hard to build positive relationships with all our parents/carers, in order that we can work together to support all our children to reach their potential and feel happy and safe in school.

We are here to help so, in the first instance, please contact your child's class teacher via the main school office with any queries or concerns. Please refrain from approaching staff at the end of the day as we aim to have a quick clearance of the playground to adhere to guidance around adults and social distancing. I would ask that in all instances you contact the school directly and avoid posting your concerns on social media, as in our experience, many worries can be easily resolved with a quick conversation.

Should you feel that more support is required you may wish to contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team. In order that we can resolve any issues as quickly as possible our Leadership Team have pastoral responsibility for different stages within the school.

Rooms 1-4	Mrs Siobhan Kennedy	(PT)
Room 6-8	Mrs Lorna Love	(DHT)
Rooms 9-11	Miss Jennifer Neilly	(DHT)
Rooms 13-14	Mrs Allyson McGovern	(HT)



However, if you would prefer to speak directly with me, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment or telephone conversation. Alternatively use any of the email addresses at the beginning of the newsletter to contact us.

Thank you for your support and cooperation with this.

ALLERGY INFORMATION



There are members of our school community who have severe allergies to some food items, therefore the following are not allowed in school:

- peanuts or products which may contain peanuts
- tree nuts – such as walnuts, brazil nuts, almonds and hazelnuts etc.

*** Please note that this includes most chocolate spreads, Nutella products and Kinder Bueno. I would urge all parents/carers to bear this in mind when providing your child with snack and/or packed lunches. Thank you for your support with this. This applies to all pupils, staff and visitors.**

We no longer take in and distribute birthday cakes/treats/sweets.

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Attendance at school

If your child is well and able then they should attend school every day. Regular school attendance is essential for all of our children to make good progress, achieve their academic potential and consequently have better chances in life. Our whole school attendance target is 95%. It is the responsibility of parents/carers and the school to achieve this. There are 190 school days across the school year, leaving 175 days to book holidays and attend non urgent appointments.

Days off school add up to lost learning					
190 days of education each year	10 days absence 180 days of education	4 weeks absence 171 days of education	5 1/2 weeks absence 161 days of education	7 1/2 weeks absence 152 days of education	9 1/2 weeks absence 141 days of education
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	

We appreciate that children are unwell from time to time and that there can be exceptional circumstances for absences, but we ask that you think carefully about keeping your child out of school. There is a strong connection between attendance and achievement at school. Absence is proven to have a significant negative impact upon a child's educational attainment. This year again Miss Neilly and I will be working closely to ensure attendance is high at Townhill PS and there will attendance updates throughout the session.

MOBILE PHONES/Smart watches

Pupils are discouraged from bringing any mobile devices, including phones, to school however, if they require them for after school, **they must be switched off and in school bags at all times.** This session more children are coming to school with smart watches. Unfortunately, these have not always been put in to 'School Mode' and have disturbed lessons. Please ensure that all smart watches are on school mode or equivalent for the duration of the day and encourage your child not to access messages etc. during playtimes and lunchtimes.



Fake nails

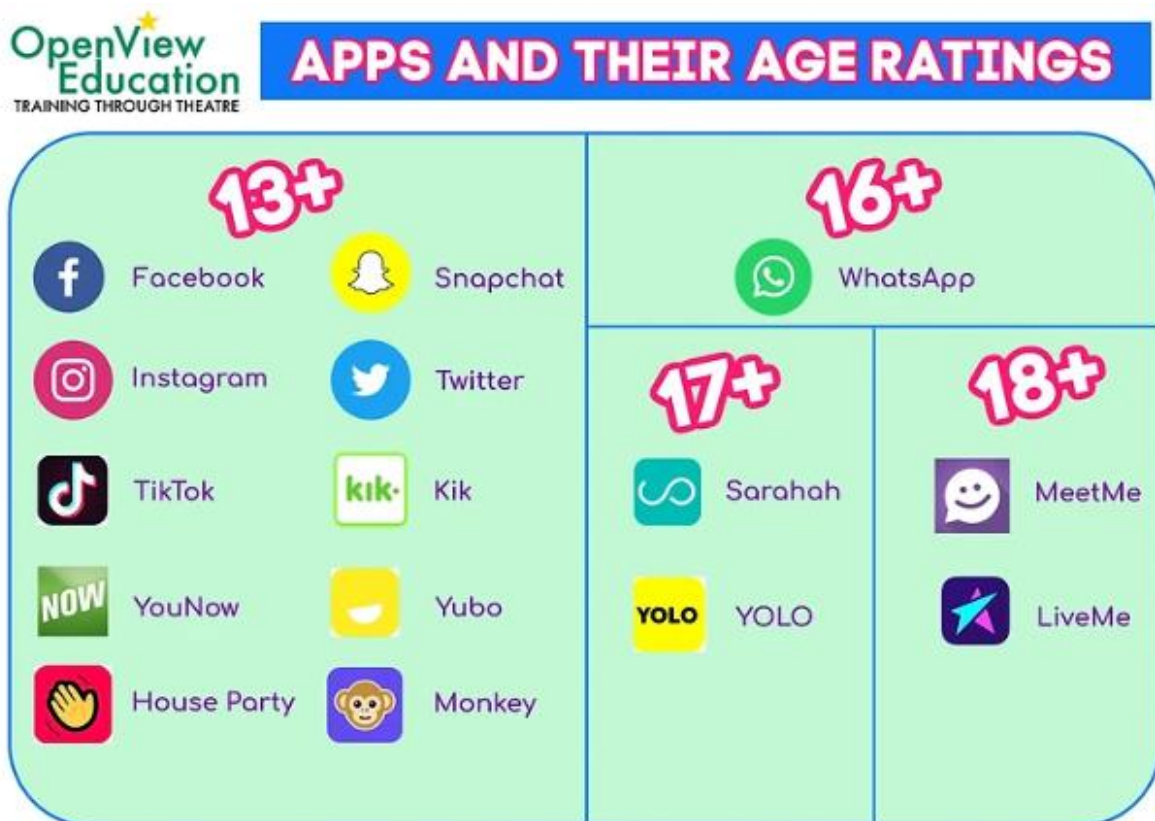
We have noticed a rise in pupils wearing false/acrylic nails to school. We must **actively discourage** this as it is a hazard in the gym hall when using PE equipment. We view this the same way as we do jewellery and children will not be permitted to take part in lessons where they could potentially hurt themselves. Please support us with this.

Safety- Indoor Shoes

Recently we have had an increase in the variation and suitability of indoor shoes being worn by pupils. Whilst we recognise the comfort and ease that footwear like crocs can provide, we must stress that these shoes are not suitable for any form of PE either indoor or out. They have no grip for the varying surfaces we have PE on and provide no foot/ankle support to the wearer. Please ensure that your child has suitable footwear in order to take part in PE activities at school.

Social media

As always, we ask **all parents** to be vigilant about the use of social media and communication apps. We have already been made aware of images of an inappropriate manner being shared within a P6 WhatsApp and ask that parents remind children about the rules and responsibilities surrounding the use of apps. We also draw your attention to the image showing age recommendations as a guide. Over the past few years it seems that children are accessing these apps younger and younger and so we ask for your support to monitor this and ensure your child is not exposed to inappropriate content for their age and stage.



There are some excellent web sites for us as adults to learn about the importance of keeping our young folk safe online and how to do this for different age groups. We recommend a browse on the following sites:

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Positive behaviour is actively promoted in Townhill Primary School. We do this in class, through our Health and Wellbeing Programme, House system, circle time, point charts, regular use of stickers and stampers, class jobs etc and through assemblies via talks and Star of the Week awards.

The school's promoting positive behaviour strategy centres around the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child** and our School Charter. At the start of the session each class creates their own Class Charter, which is agreed by both staff and pupils. The charters contain the rights to which all pupils are entitled and also detail the responsibilities of pupils and adults within the classroom. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on how their behaviour and actions affect the rights of those around them. By doing so positive behaviours are encouraged.



The whole school also follows playground and lunch hall charters, which ensure that all are clear on the expectations for behaviour in all areas of the school. The charters aim to foster an ethos of respect and responsibility and create a safe and happy learning environment for all.

To support our charter system in promoting positive behaviour, we ask all children to:

1. Follow instructions.
2. Work hard and always try your best.
3. Keep hands, feet and unkind words and actions to yourself.
4. Listen to the person who is meant to be talking.
5. Take care of your own, others and school property.



RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE/RELIGIOUS AND MORAL EDUCATION

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, parents / carers have the right to ask for their children to be withdrawn from religious observance and / or religious and moral education. If you have any concern about religious observance, please contact me to discuss your concerns. If a child is withdrawn we will make suitable arrangements, in consultation with parents/carers, for them to participate in a worthwhile activity. Parents may request that their children be permitted to be absent from school in order to celebrate recognised religious events. Advance notice should be provided to the school when children will be absent. Appropriate requests will be granted and the pupil noted as an authorised absentee in the register.

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Our chaplain is Rev Christopher Rankine, minister at Hillhouse Parish Church. Christopher usually leads a few assemblies in school throughout the year for all pupils and P4-7 would visit the church at Christmas and Easter for religious services. This session Christopher will be back in school supporting us with religious observance and we are very much looking forward to seeing him. Should you wish any more information, please contact me at school.

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The Townhill Parent and Teacher Team- The TPT- TEAM=Together Everyone Achieves More!

Helen Agnew, Chair of the TPT Team has a new email and can be contacted on:



Townhill.ptt.chair@gmail.com



Our Townhill Parent and Team had another very successful year in 2023-2024 and are looking to mark this year with a Summer Fair to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the school! A great year to get involved and help out!

Our first meeting of the session will be **Wednesday 28th August at 7pm** where we will also hold our Annual General Meeting. This meeting will be in person at the school. We would love to see as many faces as possible and there will also be tea and coffee!

If you are interested in coming along to the meeting then please drop Helen an email.



Period Poverty

South Lanarkshire Council in line with government policy have issued guidance to all schools, both primary and secondary, in supporting Period Poverty.

Stark figures show that as many as 140,000 girls can miss school annually due to not having access to the appropriate sanitary wear during their period. All schools in South Lanarkshire provide sanitary products to pupils and in Townhill Primary we have set up a specific toilet where girls can go to access/use these products. The toilet will be known as the **'Rest Room'** and will only be accessed by senior girls when they have their period. We hope to make it a calm and inviting place where girls can access what they need without the embarrassment of knowing there are other children in a cubicle next door. Please encourage your child to tell their teacher, a member of the office staff or Mrs McGovern, Mrs Love, Miss Neilly or Mrs Kennedy if they need to access the 'Rest Room'.

We also have packs of sanitary products that can come home for use at weekends and on holidays so please let us know if this is something you need.



Dogs

In line with SLC policy there should no dogs present on the school grounds, unless a certified guide dog. This includes beyond the first gate at the Luss Brae entrance. I would also ask that parents/carers are mindful of crowding the gate exits when with a dog on a lead as we do have some pupils, and adults, with a genuine fear of dogs and they can and have been finding leaving the school grounds at the end of the day a very frightening experience.

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The school day at Townhill PS.

- ✓ **Room 1 to Room 14**
- ✓ **Start:** 8:55am **Break:** 10:40-10:55am **Lunch:** 12:20-1:15pm
End: 3pm



Wet Weather Plans

In the event of inclement weather, we would bring the children into school before their morning bell. As always this is dependent on staff supervision. Children will now go straight to their classes in the event of a wet morning where they will be expected to change their shoes, then sit at their desk with a private reading book or chatting quietly until their teacher arrives. Each floor will be supervised. We ask that on these days where weather is an issue then please bring your child to school as close to their start time as possible and refrain from dangerous parking for drop off. We also ask that unless a child is late for school that they are not brought to or dropped off at the main office. A waterproof jacket and sensible footwear is advised in the event of any delay to the wet weather bell.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will be restarting on Monday 19th August.



- Breakfast Club will start at 8:15am with children being dismissed at 8:45am/when there is playground supervision in place.

There is no charge for this and children will be offered the choice of Weetabix/toast/fresh fruit and a cup of water/milk. Gates will open at 8:10am and children should make their way to the lunch hall doors.



ANOTHER Attachment award for Townhill!



Our third submission for **Pledge 3 'Hear their voice'** has been successful and we have been awarded another jigsaw piece! This pledge focuses on the importance of hearing the voices of our different stakeholder groups. It also focuses on ensuring health and wellbeing is prioritised for all and arrangements are in place for regular check ins to provide ongoing support. It has been recognised as a real strength at Townhill!

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SAY GOODBYE TO THE SCHOOL BAG RUN WITH PARENTSPORTAL.SCOT

From school payments to report cards, parents evenings to permission slips — do it all in one place at parentsportal.scot

Want to know more? Visit parentsportal.scot

MAKE SCHOOL PAYMENTS ONLINE WITH PARENTSPORTAL.SCOT

With parentsportal.scot you can make payments using your ParentPay account so everything is in one place.

To find out more, visit parentsportal.scot

As previously shared, Parentsportal is a one stop shop for **all** school communication and streamlines processes in the school office (parents can electronically submit annual data checks & consent forms, view school calendars, timetables, school reports and more). This also helps us cut down on paper use further supporting our Eco school focus. Over 22,000 accounts have already been created authority wide, join today!

URL: <https://parentsportal.scot> and not www.parentsportal.scot.



There is now a handy app available on apple and android too!

As you will be aware we a cashless school and we are in to our 5th successful year of using ParentPay. All children P2-P7 should already have their profile set up and information on how to set this up and use it is coming home with P1 in the coming weeks. If you require help with this then please contact the school office. ParentPay can be accessed directly via Parentsportal.

Please ensure you top up funds regularly if your child pays for their school meal. This will stop debts being incurred. Please also ensure that milk is ordered via ParentPay should your child wish to have this with their lunch. Milk is ordered as a separate item which needs to be selected in the drop-down menu. Please note that only children in receipt of a free meal do not need to pay for milk. This is not extended to free meals given to all children in P1-5.

Parents' Evening

Our upcoming appointments for Parents' Evening on Thursday 14th November will be bookable via ParentsPortal, similar to school cloud that we used last year. Please note this will rely on parents creating an account and linking with their child. If you require support with this then please contact the school office. Appointments will be bookable from early November.

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Important

Important

Childhood infectious diseases, especially measles, chicken pox, shingles

One of our pupils is receiving medical treatment that puts them at risk from measles, chicken pox and shingles. If they come in to contact with anyone suffering from these conditions the pupil requires in-patient treatment/medication in order to be given some protection against them.

We would therefore ask that if your child develops measles, chicken pox or shingles that you inform the school immediately so that the appropriate action can be taken.

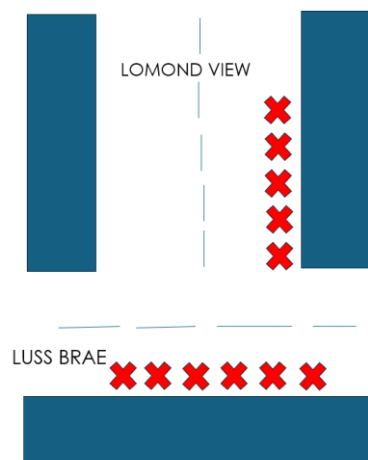
Your child is not at any risk from this situation; however, the health of our pupil does depend on your cooperation in this matter.



Parking



We are continually frustrated with the amount of inconsiderate parking around the Luss Brae entrance and on Lomond View. We continue to report our concerns to Police Scotland regarding these issues. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE AREA HIGHLIGHTED BELOW AS THEY CAUSE CONGESTION AND FORCE ONCOMING TRAFFIC ON TO THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD.**



Please DO NOT park on the zig zag lines! This is selfish and unsafe for our pupils trying to get safely in and out of school.

A reminder that the school carpark is for staff and visiting specialists only, please make alternative arrangements when dropping off and collecting your child. We have noticed that a few cars have been parking at the end of the carpark and also in the emergency vehicle corridor- **this is not permitted.** Please park outwith the grounds and in a sensible space, then walk to collect your child/ren.

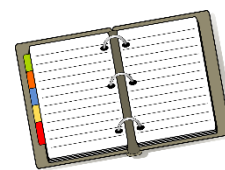
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Upcoming Diary Dates

Inset Days

1. Monday 12th August 2024
2. Tuesday 13th August 2024
3. Monday 11th November 204
4. Wednesday 19th February 2025
5. Thursday 1st May 2025



Holidays

September Weekend	Fri, 27 th and Mon, 30 th September '24
October Week	Mon, 14 th – Fri, 18 th October '24
Christmas	Close on Fri, 20 th December – re-open on Mon, 6 th January '25
February Break	Mon, 17 th and Tue, 18 th February '25
Spring Break	Close on Fri, 4 th April – Reopen on Mon, 21 st April '25
May Holiday	Mon, 5 th May '25
Local Holiday	Fri, 23 rd and Mon, 26 th May '25
Summer	School closes at 1pm on Wed, 25 th June 2025

Parents' Evenings

- Thursday 14th November 2024
Thursday 20th March 2025

Diary Dates

P7 Swimming	Thursday 22 nd August until Thursday 14 th November
Meet the Teacher	Friday 6 th September- P2-P7 only
Sponsored event/Health week	Week beginning 9 th September
Loose Parts Play Week	Week beginning 16 th September- more info to follow
P1 Saty and Play Session 1	Thursday 26 th September at 2pm.



**Please see our School Improvement Plan on a
Page below!**

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Townhill Primary School

School Improvement Plan 2024/25



Our Priorities for 2024-2025

Priority 1:

Provide a rich and stimulating curriculum that helps raise standards in literacy and numeracy

Priority 2:

Provide a rich and stimulating curriculum that helps raise standards in literacy and numeracy

Priority 3:

Provide a rich and stimulating curriculum that helps raise standards in literacy and numeracy

Priority 4:

Improve Health and Wellbeing to enable children and families to flourish

What do we want to achieve? (Outcomes)

To embed concept teaching and fluid groupings in numeracy throughout the school.

To use Numicon resources across all aspects of Numeracy and Mathematics to support teaching and learning.

To develop a school calendar including Learning for Sustainability events taking place over the course of the session.

To further develop the use of outdoor learning across the school in order to positively impact on the wellbeing of all, children's engagement and enthusiasm for learning across the curriculum.

To develop a consistent Learning Community approach to the teaching and learning of equalities and diversity.

To increase staff and pupil knowledge and understanding of equalities and diversity .

To develop an Equalities and Diversity Calendar with events to celebrate equalities and diversity across the school.

To link SLC skills framework to equalities and diversity as part of Learning Community moderation.

To train all staff in Emotion Coaching and implement across the school.

To raise awareness of Emotion Coaching with parents

To achieve SLC Attachment Accreditation for all 6 pledges.

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**How will we know?
(Measures)**



By June 2025, all classes/stages will have fully adopted a concept teaching/fluid groupings approach to Numeracy and Mathematics.

By June 2025, all classes/stages will consistently be using Number Talks and Maths recovery pedagogy to underpin learning and teaching in Numeracy and Mathematics.

By June 2025, all classes will consistently use Numicon resources across all aspects of Numeracy and Mathematics to support learning and teaching

By June 2025, the school calendar will be populated to include Learning for Sustainability Events taking place over the course of the session.

All P1-P7 pupils will engage in at least one outdoor learning experience every week and there will be a consistent approach to outdoor learning across all stages and classes.

All classes will develop pedagogical and assessment skills through practical-based STEM activities

By June 2025, there will be a consistent Learning Community approach to the teaching and learning of equalities and diversity.

By June 2025, all staff will have an increased knowledge and understanding of equalities and diversity.

By June 2025, an Equalities and Diversity Calendar will be created identifying events to celebrate equalities and diversity across the school.

By April 2025 staff will have the opportunity to link SLC skills framework to equalities and diversity as part of Learning Community moderation.

By June 2025, most pupils will have an increased knowledge and understanding of equalities and diversity.

By August 2024, all staff will be trained in Emotion Coaching.

By February 2025, at least 5% of children will show an improvement in their GWA scores.

By June 2025, parents will have an increased understanding of Emotion Coaching.

By June 2025, Emotion Coaching will be implemented consistently by all staff across the school.

By June 2025, there will be a reduction in playground incidents relating to distressed behaviours.

By June 2025, Townhill PS will have achieved SLC's Attachment Accreditation for all 6 pledges

Responsible Respectful Ambitious Independent Resilient



Townhill Primary School: Where Every child matters, and EVERY moment counts.

Responsible ● Respectful ● Ambitious ● Independent ● Resilient



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