

Townhill PS News

May 2022



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

We are nearing the end of what can only be described as one of the most challenging school years ever experienced! But I am happy to say we have made it through, and we find ourselves in a really strong position to build upon come August.

Our pupils, as always, have been a constant reminder of just how lucky we are at Townhill PS. They have enjoyed a year that has crept closer to being 'normal' as the months have passed and have been here ready to learn with a smile on their faces. They really are all a credit to you!

We continue to ensure all sensible mitigations remain in place to help protect our children, families and staff from COVID 19. We continue to ask that families remain vigilant for signs of COVID and adopt a cautious and sensible approach to school attendance. Please don't hesitate to call us at school if you have any queries or worries.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Mrs Ally McGovern
Head Teacher



Our school vision:

Together at Townhill we **n**urture, **e**ncourage and **i**nspire the development of **s**kills for **l**ifelong learning and **s**uccess. We embrace **e**quality and **d**iversity to promote a **h**appy and **h**ealthy life.

Our school website:

www.townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Please follow us on



Twitter:

@townhillps

We now have 681 followers!

Please continue to look after yourselves and your families. 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

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Star of the Week



Enjoying Star of the Week in May have been:

Room 1: Alayana Rooney, Jason Haggerty, Charlie Sim

Room 2: James Douglas, Evie McDonald, Angus Gordon, Ethan Muir

Room 3: Sophie Scott, Kashi Rahul

Room 4: Rory Wood, Ruby Coventry, Fraser Lees

Room 5: Lucy Edwards, Tyler Kelly, Ryan McCafferty

Room 6: Fraser McGown, Ava Malley, Ajay Lindsay, Olivia McDermott

Room 8: Zac Moody, Eva O'Donnell

Room 9: Sophie Hunter, Niamh Smith, Rory McDowall, Callum Richardson,
Lucie Dick

Room 10: Nathan Rahman, Louis Todd

Room 11: Sam Dickson, Kyle Clements, Lucas Sexton, Isabella Tennant

Room 13: Zoe Muir, Alfie Anderson, Aiden Allan, Harlee Wilkie

Room 14: Evie Magilton, Katie Dickson, Sophia Lamont, Willow Jamieson,
Nyah Cortes



A huge well done to you all!

School Trips

As you know we have been desperately trying to organise a trip/outing for each class since covid restrictions were lifted. At our last TPTT meeting I spoke about balancing this with the Cost of School Day given the massive rise in bus costs. Unfortunately, as all schools clamber to arrange days out we are unable to fulfil bus needs. We simply cannot get buses booked and any that were available were costing around £15 per child before any entry/activities were booked. I know this is very disappointing as some classes have been able to go on an outing but we this is not something we would have been able to foresee. All classes will have something fun before the end of term, either something local, a visitor or a fun activity. Next session we hope to have our trips and outings following a more 'normal' course.

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Parking/Road Safety.

We urge all parents/carers to ensure they embrace our safety guidelines around parking near the school and to share this with grandparents/aunts/uncles etc. that might be collecting the children. **It is everyone's responsibility to keep our children and families safe.** Please ensure you park safely in order to be able to get out of your car and ensure your child is safely on the correct side of the road to get to the playground gates.

A reminder also that the school car park should not be used to park and then walk up the lane to collect your child, unless a prior arrangement has been made with the school. The entrance to the school, including inside the gates, **must** be kept clear in the event of emergency vehicles requiring access to the grounds. Unfortunately there continue to be cars parking just inside the gates- please park out with the school grounds in a safe place. This also applies to the 'Drop Off' bay at Melfort Road. Please do not park in this to escort your child to school or collect them as we have had complaints from cars then trapped in the bay unable to leave.

Engine idling also remains a concern. Please familiarise yourself with the 30 Reasons campaign that South Lanarkshire publicise. You will see new signage which has been erected at both school exits to remind all adults collecting their child.

We successfully launched our School Travel Plan with SLV last week and officially opened our new bike/scooter shelter. A huge well done to Mrs Kelly and the Junior Road Safety team!

There was a recent accident on Wellhall Road involving a pupil from our school. Fortunately, it was not as serious as it could've been but it has highlighted a few safety points. Please ensure that if your child is coming to school either on a bike or a scooter that they wear a helmet. Children do not need to be travelling at pace for a head injury to have serious consequences. We also ask that if your child leaves via the Luss Brae entrance and cross on to Wellhall Road that they **MUST** use the Lollipop man.

A gentle reminder that the school carpark is for staff and visiting specialists ONLY, please make alternative arrangements when dropping off and collecting your child.



School Events

Following last week's Shorts and Shades Disco I need to remind everyone of the expected conduct of all adults in and around the school estate. Unfortunately, a number of children arrived at the disco visibly upset due to a situation that arose within the car park. Our children have the right to come to a school event without being frightened and I would therefore encourage everyone to ensure that they maintain our expected high standards of behaviour and language in and around the school at all times. Luckily the incident dispersed quickly but in future Police Scotland will be called as a matter of urgency. Please support us with this, our children deserve it.



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Staffing Update

A few bits of staffing information- Mrs Winton will sadly retire at the end of June. Mrs Winton has taught at Townhill for the past 24 years and will be greatly missed by everyone! We wish you a long and happy retiral Mrs Winton!!

I am also happy to share that in Mrs Kennedy's absence as she goes off to have her new baby that Miss Fiona Mackenzie will take on the Acting Principal Teacher role after a very successful interview! Well done Miss Mackenzie!

We will also welcome two newly qualified teachers to our staffing compliment next session, Miss Demi Glen and Miss Rachael Welsh. I hope to be in the position to share classes and staffing in the coming weeks! Our children will meet their new teacher and classmates on Monday 20th June during our 'Moving on up' afternoon.

COVID-19

If your child develops any of the recognised symptoms of COVID-19 then they should not attend school.

The symptom to be particularly cautious with is:

- ✓ a fever or high temperature

We appreciate your understanding in keeping the school as safe as possible. Should your child become unwell at school then they will be isolated within a designated safe space in school until the arrival of an adult to collect them.

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.**

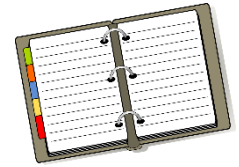
Days off school add up to lost learning					
190 days of education each year	10 days absence 180 days of education	4 weeks absence 171 days of education	5 1/2 weeks absence 161 days of education	7 1/2 weeks absence 152 days of education	9 1/2 weeks absence 141 days of education
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
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 Miss Neilly and I continue to work closely to ensure attendance is high at Townhill PS. Some families may have already received our attendance letters, these are being issued in line with SLC policy and will hopefully instigate positive conversations about your child's attendance at school. Please remember we are here to help.

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Upcoming Diary Dates



Holidays

P1 school visits	June 6 th at 1:30pm, June 13 th at 1:30pm
School Sport's Day	Thursday 9 th June- More information to follow
P7 Activity Week	Week beginning Monday 13 th June '22
P7 Party	Thursday 16 th June
P1 Welcome Assembly	Monday 20 th June '22 at 9:30am
Moving on up afternoon	Monday 20 th June at 2pm- children will move to new classes and meet their teacher
P7 Leavers' Assembly	Tuesday 21 st June '22 at 9:30am- More information to follow
Summer	School closes at 1pm on Fri, 24 th June 2022



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 next meeting will be **8th June at 7pm**. We would love to see as many faces as possible and given that it will still be online please feel free to pop on and see what we do.

If you are interested in coming along to the meeting then please drop Helen an email, we would love to have you on board.

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