

# Townhill PS News

## February 2023



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

What a lovely feeling as the lighter nights are starting to creep in! We have had some frosty starts though so please continue to be vigilant for any weather warnings etc and ensure your child is dressed appropriately for school with a warm jacket and sensible footwear. Please help yourself to our array of jackets and coats on our 'Rake and Take' rail, these are new/gently used and have been laundered ready for wearing. There is also a small selection of footwear but please do let us know if you require any support with clothing etc.

The school will be closed to pupils on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> of February and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March due to planned industrial action. We will continue to update everyone of any future dates.

The school will reopen to pupils on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March where we have a whole day of exciting events planned as part of Word Book Day!

Please read over the recently added diary dates at the end of the Newsletter. These will be added to each month.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Mrs Ally McGovern  
Head Teacher



### Our school vision:

**T**ogether 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 801 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](mailto:office@townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

[headteacher@townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@townhill-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

[gw20townhilldht@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw20townhilldht@glow.sch.uk)

[gw07neillyjennifer@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07neillyjennifer@glow.sch.uk)

Office email



Mrs McGovern's email

Mrs Love's email

Miss Neilly's email

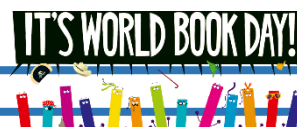
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## Reading Schools- World Book Day!

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March! A recent letter was sent out via ParentPay, a reminder that there is no expectation for children to dress up. Children can come dressed down or dressed up and Mrs Fagan has organised an action packed day of activities and events! We are all so excited! Look out for pictures on Twitter!

We have so many more exciting plans- watch this space or better still **please give us a follow @readingatTPS** This account is central to our 'Going for Gold' application and will help us showcase just how committed we are to further developing our reading culture!



## Snapshot: Numeracy

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March all pupils will bring home their Numeracy Snapshot folders. This is slightly later than originally planned but will be a great way for you to see what your child/ren has been working on in school. Please take the time to go through the jotter/work with your child and add a comment on the return sheet. All folders and contents should be returned to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

## Sporting Success

Our incredibly talented children have been busy representing our school at recent football and Netball tournaments! We could not be prouder of the teams! The sportsmanship on display, the exemplary behaviour and the team spirit has been inspirational! Well done boys and girls!



## Bridgeton Burns Competition

Last week Mrs Love and I were honoured to attend the Bridgeton Burns competition in Hamilton with two of our talented pupils! We were so proud to see them up there competing with children from different schools, and boy did they do us proud! A massive well done to Mya Ramsay and Lauren Gray who recited two difficult poems with understanding and drama! Lauren will now move forward into the next round to represent Hamilton!

We are so proud girls!



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

Helen Agnew, Chair of the TPT Team can be contacted on: [Townhill.ptt.chair@gmail.com](mailto:Townhill.ptt.chair@gmail.com)

Our next meeting will be **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm** in school. If you are interested in joining us then please drop Helen an email.

As the better weather approaches our exciting plans for the playground will begin to come to life! We cannot wait!



**Parking**

Please help support sensible parking and sharing our message with all parents/carers and members of the local community. Please ensure that you reiterate our message with all family members that collect or drop off at our school to ensure the safety of our children is paramount.

Following success a few years back we would very much like to reinstate our walking bus, supporting families with school drop off/collection and reinforcing road safety messages. If this is something you think you could help with then please contact Mrs Love. #townhillwalks

**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.**



**MOBILE PHONES**

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.**

**Scooters/bikes in school**



Many of our children cycle or scoot to school and we can now encourage this. **Anyone bringing a bike or scooter to school should make sure they wear a suitable helmet and reflective clothing and must get off their bike/scooter in the playground and push it to the bike shelter.** The school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to bikes/scooters while on school property

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## ALLERGY INFORMATION

There has been an increase recently of nut-based snacks being brought in to school. Can we please remind all parents/carers that these are not allowed and an alternative should be given instead.

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.**

A reminder we are no longer able to take in and distribute birthday cakes/treats.

## 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.

All pupils will have brought home their up to date attendance overview. Please read this through carefully. Remember we are here to help support good attendance for our children and if there is anything we can do to assist you then please let us know. If you need a further discussion around your child's attendance data, then please contact Miss Neilly.

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## Upcoming Diary Dates

### Inset Days

- 4. Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023- Staff wellbeing day
- 5. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

### Holidays

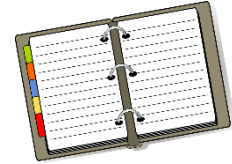
- Spring Break Close on Fri, 31<sup>st</sup> March – Reopen on Mon, 17<sup>th</sup> April '23
- May Holiday Mon, 1<sup>st</sup> May '23
- Coronation Mon, 8<sup>th</sup> May '23
- Local Holiday Fri, 26<sup>th</sup> and Mon, 29<sup>th</sup> May '23
- Summer School closes at 1pm on Tues, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Parents' Evenings

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

### Diary Dates

- Fairtrade Fortnight Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Feb.- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March
- World Book Day Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Snapshot: Numeracy Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March- Return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March
- Fairtrade dress down day Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March
- P1 Stay and Play session Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm
- Parents' Evening Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 3-9pm
- Easter service P1-3 Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 9:30am
- Easter Service P4-7 Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 10am- Hillhouse Church
- Lockerbie Manor/Activity Wek Mon 24<sup>th</sup> April- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April
- P1 Online Induction Session 1 Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 9:30am
- P1 Online Induction Session 2 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 1:30pm
- P7 Calderside Day Visit 1 Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May
- P7 Calderside Day Visit 2 Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May
- P1 visit 1(new intake) Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 1:30pm
- Sports day Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June
- P1 visit 2 (new intake) Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 1:30pm
- New intake welcome assembly Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 9:30am
- P7 Leaver Assembly Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 9:30am
- P7 Leaver Party Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 6:30pm



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