



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

And so we enter the final few weeks of the academic session! If you are anything like me it's as if we have blinked and ended up here!

We are very busy in school with final assessments, reports, preparation of classes and planning for transitions at all stages but also for our new pupils joining us at Primary 1, and our P7 stars as they get ready to head to High School.

Our current configuration remains at 12 classes for next session, however, as always this is subject to change with enrolment numbers, placing requests etc still being finalised. We hope to let everyone know classes and staffing in June where children will have a 'Moving up' afternoon, meet their new teacher and classmates.

As the weather continues to improve the children will be outdoors with their learning as much as possible. Please ensure that suncream is applied before school and pop a wee hat in school bags!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Mrs Ally McGovern
Head Teacher



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 849 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

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

gw20townhilldht@glow.sch.uk

gw07neillyjennifer@glow.sch.uk

Office email



Mrs McGovern's email

Mrs Love's email

Miss Neilly's email

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Staffing updates



We still await final staffing news for next session but are very excited to welcome a new permanent member of teaching staff to our team. Mr Liam Garrett will join our team in August following a successful interview in March! I am sure you will join me in welcoming him into the Townhill family.

Mrs Valentine will return after the summer break for a short time as she prepares to have baby number 2 and a lovely sibling for Molly! Mrs Arnott will finish up at the end of June to go and have her new baby, a wee sister for Reagan! We cannot wait to hear your news!

Mrs Kennedy will return after the summer break following her maternity leave and will resume her acting Principal teacher post. Mrs Love's 1-day permanent DHT post has also been advertised and will be interviewed before we finish for the Summer break.

We hope to share further teaching staff news as we get it.



Mrs Beaton in our school office is retiring and finishes up on Friday 2nd June. Mrs Beaton has been an incredible support assistant, and everyone will miss her cheery face and friendly chatter. We will miss her so much- Happy retirement Mrs Beaton!

Many have noticed the recent absence of Mr Campbell, our beloved janitor. Mr Campbell will be off for a period of time as he undergoes some treatment. He came to visit us all last week and was looking like a million dollars! Fingers crossed he's back in no time- after all who else will fuss over chair placement for assemblies and shows?! We miss him very much and I know he has appreciated all of the well wishes and kind messages! Get well soon!



Transition

We have enjoyed two well attended online induction sessions for pupils starting in Primary 1. This allowed us to share key information about our school, and for parents to hear all about Nurture, Play and our Literacy curriculum. We are excited to welcome our new P1 pupils in to school on Thursday 1st June where we have a lovely afternoon planned for them!

Our P7 pupils have also been busy visiting their new High School with pupils moving on to Calderside Academy, Hamilton Grammar School, St John Ogilvie High and Strathaven Academy! It has been a joy meeting staff from the secondaries and sharing with them just how wonderful our young people are!

We are planning our 'Moving up' afternoon for Friday 23rd June. This will give all P1-P6 children the chance to move to their new classroom, meet their classmates and fingers crossed their teacher! #transitionsmatter



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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

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday 31st April at 7pm** in school. If you are interested in joining us then please drop Helen an email.

Our playground is looking wonderful and we cannot wait to make use of all of the lovely new paintings via our sponsored 'Run, Jump and Hop' event on the 9th June. Look out for photos on Twitter!



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.**

Unfortunately, we have continued to have issues with smart watches in school. These should be set to a 'school' mode where children are not disturbed during the day with messages and alerts. Please support us with this. Should you wish to get a message to your child then contact the school office. Similarly, children are **actively discouraged** from using their watch to communicate with others. This can be very distracting for staff and pupils.



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



Summer Weather

Summer has well and truly hit this week! Please ensure that your child has plenty of water with them and has had sun cream applied before coming to school. Children can also bring hats to wear at break and lunch. Please do continue to adhere to our uniform policy. Children can wear polo shirts and shorts to keep cool.

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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 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.



Upcoming Diary Dates

Holidays

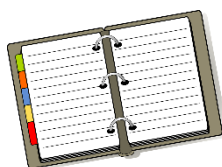
Summer

School closes at **1pm** on Tues, 27th June 2023



Diary Dates

P1 visit 1(new intake)	Thursday 1 st June at 1:30pm
Sports day	Tuesday 6 th June
P1 visit 2 (new intake)	Monday 12 th June at 1:30pm
New intake welcome assembly	Monday 19 th June at 9:30am
P7 Leaver Assembly	Tuesday 20 th June at 9:30am
P7 Leaver Party	Thursday 22 nd June at 6:30pm
'Moving up' afternoon	Friday 23 rd June
Reports to parents	Friday 23 rd June



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