

# GEORGE TOMLINSON NEWS

Dear parents and carers,

We've had a very successful and busy week here at GT!

On Monday we reviewed the latest news stories with children in their usual morning assembly. We encourage children to learn about what is happening in the world around them and to be inquisitive and question what they find. I had a really interesting debate with some children in Year 3 this week about Donald Trump's presidential win and love to hear children's opinions on the world they live in! Our middle leaders were trained this week on Philosophy 4 Children which fits into the idea of children questioning and debating. We can't wait to get started.

I have loved watching children's learning behaviours in their Destination Reader lessons. These guided reading sessions are superb for enabling children to enjoy quality texts and teaching them how listen, respond and explain their ideas clearly - vital life skills!

We have received many books donated by families for our library and book corners and I'd like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who has done this so far. Reading is a key priority for us at GT and we also want to raise funds to create an inspiring library for our children to enjoy in school.

You will have seen the PTFA information this week about our Christmas Fair on December 8<sup>th</sup>! Please do sign up if you'd like to volunteer and encourage as many people to attend as possible! All funds raised will go back into wonderful experiences for all pupils. Please note that children are your responsibility at the fair and must not be left unattended for health & safety reasons. Many thanks to everyone who has helped organise this, it really will be fantastic and we appreciate your support of the school greatly.

Staff also received training this week on Inspire Maths, our new maths programme, from the system used so successfully in Singapore. The methods taught are based on using the concrete-pictorial-abstract method, so by using resources to help develop understanding, then moving on to pictorial versions and then finally answering abstract questions in the form of sums. This should develop solid understanding of mathematical concepts and deepen children's understanding to gain mastery of the subject.

Thank you to everyone who came to the parent's evening on Thursday, it was great to see you here finding out about your child's progress. Please use the target leaflets at home regularly to help your child reach age expected. They should be able to talk to you about their targets. The leaflets will hopefully help you as parents to understand what is expected of your child each year and encourage them to talk about school work at home with you. It is by working together that we can achieve the very best for our pupils.

Ms Kaur in Year 6 has been working on developing our foundation curriculum so that it is diverse, broad and balanced! For example, in KS1 children will be learning about Famous Women in history and KS2 will learn of the Suffragettes. We want to encourage writing as much as possible through all subjects at school. In Dr Laban's history lessons with Year 6 they have been writing some outstanding pieces on the reign of Queen Anne. I must mention Ben in Year 6AS who wrote an amazing piece on the subject.

The highlight of my week, as ever, was the star of the week assembly where we celebrated our pupil's achievements! I love hearing the range of reasons why our pupils have been awarded star of the week and seeing children progress week on week in terms of behaviour, attitude and self-esteem as well as attainment. My tea with the Headteacher was great fun and we talked about ways in which we could work together to further improve as a school community as well as enjoying biscuits and cakes!

Please keep checking the website and newsletter for dates of Christmas musical events and for quick updates read out twitter feed. Year R to Year 3 parents I would encourage you to attend the Singalong Band sessions detailed below as they are wonderful!

Have a lovely weekend with your families!

Verity Carter

Headteacher



Verity Carter  
Headteacher



Matthew Laban  
Associate Head



Chloe Alder  
Deputy Headteacher

## Weekly Events

Whole school star of the week assembly -  
Every Friday at 9am

Head Teacher Drop in - Every Wednesday  
9:15am-11am

## Upcoming dates

Barney's Musical Christmas Treats!  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Year 1 - 6 please  
see Christmas calendar on page 3 for times

Early Years & Year 1 Nativity - Thursday  
8<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Jumper Day - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>  
December

PTFA Christmas Fair & Song performances  
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 3:30pm

Year 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas Concert -  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2pm - 4pm

End of Term Christmas Assembly -  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 9am

## Writers of the week & Reading Rocket Winners & Sports Stars!

### Congratulations and well done to this week's WRITER'S OF THE WEEK.

Jabril 3MJ, Oliver 4LC, Zeba 3MP, Abi 2NV, Rosario 4JT, Ela 6AS, Ali 6AK, Rhia 1MM, Adrian 2GB,  
Elisha 3NK, Will 4DN, Lorena 5SK, Amirah 5CT, Gabriel 5NH, Franciszek 6AC

### Congratulations and well done to this week's READING ROCKET WINNERS.

Dikra 3MJ, Ayaan 4LC, Casey 3MP, Noel 4JT, Ben 6AS, Gauri 6AS, Zara 6AS, Hayah 6AS, Sufian 6AK, Faatimah  
1MM, Charlie 2GB, Ariana 3NK, Junaet 4DN, Muhammad 5SK, Oscar 5CT, Isaam 5NH & Miroslav 6AC

## Stars of the Week!

### Congratulations and well done to this week's STARS OF THE WEEK!



Nawal 3MP, Leo 2NV, Sumayyah 4LC, Jumaima 3MJ, Arfan 4JT, Asher 1JK, Fahim 1CH, Eilidh 6AK, Sarina 2AK,  
Rafael 6AS, Collin 2GB, Adam 4DN, Daniel 3NK, Oscar 5CT, Qasim 5NH, Gerard 6AC & Marni 1MM

## Class Corner – 3MP

Y3MP have been working really hard! They have really impressed their teacher, Ms Porter.

The last week was national Anti-Bullying week and 3MP were sharing and discussing ideas about what bullying really is. We have learned that there is being mean, being rude and bullying and rather than jumping right to bullying, we have learned the differences between the three areas as well as strategies for how to deal with our issues.

In English, we have been making our writing even better. We have learned how to properly use *a* or *an* in our writing.

We have also learned about subordinate clauses. Our writing is becoming more interesting to read because we are using different sentence starters, adjectives and adverbs.

In Maths, we are really challenging ourselves and learning about fractions, both of shapes and amounts. We didn't give up on this even when it got tricky.

3MP are working really hard to be kind and inclusive. Not only our class, but to all pupils in our school. It is wonderful to see a change in attitude and behaviour within the class.

Ms Porter

## Notices

### Attendance Awards

Well done to the following classes for fabulous attendance this week!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place 3MJ 98.5%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 5SK 98.30%
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 3NK 97.9%

Our whole school target is **96%**. Our attendance for this week is **92.2%**

We are aware that at this time of the year children can often catch colds and feel a little run down. If your child has a minor cold, please ensure that they attend school. It is important that children are encouraged to be in and do not miss out on their learning.

### Last Day of Term - Early Finish

We break up for the Christmas Holiday on 21<sup>st</sup> December at **2pm**

### New SENDCo Appointed

Parisa Angeletos has been appointed as our school's SENCO



### Christmas Events Calendar

Event	Date
Barney's Musical Christmas Treats! Sing-along Band	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December <b>Year 1</b> 9am - 9:45am <b>Year 3</b> 10am - 10:45am <b>Year 2</b> 1:45pm - 2:30pm <b>Reception</b> 2:30pm - 3:15pm
Early Years & Year 1 Nativity	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December - Time TBC
PTFA Christmas Fair & ASC Carol Performance	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December - 3:30pm (Carol performance 4:15pm)
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December
Reindeer visiting the school!	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December
Years 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 Christmas Concert	<b>Date changed</b> - Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December - 2pm - 4pm
Christmas Lunch	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Father Christmas visiting Nursery & Reception	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Class Parties	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
End of term Christmas Assembly	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 9am

### Barney's Musical Christmas Treats! - Thursday 1st December 2016

The famous Sing-along Band will be running sessions in the hall at the following times for the stated year groups.

- 9am - 9.45am Year 1
- 10am - 10.45am Year 3
- 1.45pm - 2.30pm Year 2
- 2.30pm - 3.15pm Reception

Parents/Carers are encouraged to attend and take part in these sessions also. Information on what Sing-along Band do can be found on their website at [www.singalongsongs.co.uk](http://www.singalongsongs.co.uk)

### Christmas Fair - Thursday 8th December 2016

Children attending the Christmas Fair will be singing songs from 4.15pm as part of the event.

### Christmas Concert Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Thursday 15th December 2016

GT Christmas, St John the Baptist Church, E11 3BL Start 2pm. Finish 4pm

Parents & Carers please enter the church using the front entrance and fill the pews from the front filing back. All are encouraged to sing along with the children on the 2 last songs as will be indicated.

The children are very excited!



**How you can help us create some magic**

**Jolly Jars**

- Please make sure your jars can open so we can check the contents.
- All food must be nut-free and individually wrapped.
- There will be a prize for the best decorated in each year group.
- Give them to your class teacher by **Monday 5th December**.

**Donations children can buy to surprise their family and friends**

- Chocolates • candles • stationery • toiletries • books • dvds • homemade goodies
- Give them to your class teacher by **Thursday 1st December**.

**Cake stall**

- Bring your nut-free bakes to the school reception on 8th December.

**Help on the day**

- Run a game or craft • sell food or drinks • staff the gates • set up • clear up
- To volunteer, contact Anita at [georgetompta@googlemail.com](mailto:georgetompta@googlemail.com)

 **Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GeorgeTomPTFA](http://www.facebook.com/GeorgeTomPTFA)**



## Sports



### Sports hall athletics

Last week 17 children from year 5 and 6 went out of school to the Peter May centre to represent GT in an Athletics competition. The competition was over 4 days with a huge amount of teams and schools taking part. All our children gave it their all and performed fantastically.

We are awaiting the results.

Well done!!!

Scarlett, Harmony, Rachel, Franek, Emmanuel, Izac, Zara, Harry, Oscar, Laura, Finegan, Tayma, Anaya, Shannon, Safwan, Radosalv and Rajvinder.

**Jade Kilpatrick**  
**Sports Team**  
**George Tomlinson Primary School**

## E-Safety & Monitoring at home

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to you to express my concern about our pupils' use of social media applications such as WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram, usually on their mobile phones. As an example, it has been brought to my attention that some children are experiencing bullying and receiving abusive messages on WhatsApp. As a school we cannot police how children use their phones or computers at home.

I want to request that you speak to your children about the seriousness of sending unpleasant messages online and the effect that it can have on others. I'd also urge you to be aware of what is on your child's phone and make sure that they tell you if they receive anything that makes them feel upset.

At our school, we teach children about the importance of being safe online so that they will have the tools to know what is and isn't acceptable. The way that children use social media is changing quickly and we need to work together with parents to protect them.

As a school we take bullying incredibly seriously and want all children to feel safe and happy. My hope is that we can work together on this to make sure that social media is only used in a positive way and brings benefits to our pupils.

Please see below link for a recent Facebook page for Parents providing information on cyber bullying.

<https://www.facebook.com/safety/bullying/parents>

We would to thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

Kind regards,

Verity Carter  
Headteacher