



WILLIAM TORBITT NEWS

Welcome to our March Newsletter.

This month we have been pleased to have more parents/carers in school for a whole variety of activities. Greater parental involvement and inclusion is one of the school's priorities, so it has been great to have seen parents/carers in for the following over the last few weeks:

- PTA planning meetings (events are being planned for the summer term)
- Pancake making on Shrove Tuesday
- Reading, maths and phonic workshops (particularly for parents of our younger pupils)
- Parent information meetings about good attendance (with the school nurse)
- Parent coffee events (gathering views about our new website and the Home Learning policy)
- Individual class assembly performances

More is planned for the coming term.

Parent Views

I would also like to thank all those parents/carers that returned their questionnaires - we had 123 responses. These have been analysed, and the results already shared with governors and staff. Please see attached for your information.

Homework was identified, through our own monitoring and evaluation last year, as an area that we wanted to review, hence it being included on our School Improvement Plan. We had a well attended parent/carer coffee morning where views on homework and home learning were shared. We are very aware that many parents/carers cannot attend such events, therefore we will be sending out a short questionnaire to specifically gather views on homework/home learning.

I would like to remind parents/carers that we also have a suggestion box in the school reception area, where any ideas or comments can also be placed for the school's consideration.

Mrs Hinds, Headteacher

Staffing News

After nearly 19 years at William Torbitt, our ICT technician, **Mr Harris**, will be leaving us. We also say farewell to another of our longstanding members of staff, **Mrs Clifford**, who has supported children at William Torbitt for 15 years. We wish them both all the best for the future, and thank them for the support they have shown to the pupils and staff over the years.



As a result of Mr Harris' departure, we have appointed **Mr Heer**, as the new ICT technician.



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GOVERNORS' UPDATE

Governors

Parent Governor Elections

We were pleased to receive 4 nominations for the Parent Governor vacancy on our governing body, so an election will take place. Letters and ballot papers will be sent out shortly.

New Chair of Governors

We have a new Chair of Governors, **Stuart Phillips**. He is one of our newer governors, and has a wealth of experience in education. He will be visiting the school regularly (every 2/3 weeks) to get to know the school really well.

Stuart Phillips replaces Michael Borrott, who still remains as a governor. We would like to thank Mr Borrott for all the support and commitment he has shown during his time as Chair, and have no doubt that he will continue to be a real asset to the governing body.

New Policies

The governing body have approved the following policies, which can now be found on the school website:

- Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs
- Educational Visits Policy

Redbridge Singing Festival

We wish our school choir and dance group all the best as they perform at the Redbridge Singing Festival in South Woodford.

Many thanks to Mrs Roberts and Mrs Tannian for giving up their time and preparing the children so well.



Miss Johnstone is running the London Marathon!

One of our teachers, Miss Johnstone, is running in the London Marathon in April (26.2 miles!). She has been training hard in the evenings and at weekends - an excellent example of a growth mindset! Through her participation in this event she is raising money for Children's Hospice South West - <http://www.chsw.org.uk>.



To support her in this, we have a non-uniform day on the last day of term, Friday 31st March, where anyone can come dressed in sporting gear and make a donation to the charity.

Good Attendance

Well done to **Class 2W** who achieved the best overall attendance during March, so far.

A special well done to **Classes 2W, 2P and 2S** who each achieved 100% attendance in March. Overall **Class 2T** and **Class 4P** have the best attendance so far this year, with 97% and 97.1% respectively.

We continue to monitor the attendance of pupils whose attendance is below 95%. The whole school's overall attendance so far this year stands at 94.6%, which is below national averages. **Every day counts!**

Miss Brandao, Attendance Officer

Diary Dates

28 Mar	Class Assembly in Upper Hall: 1W at 9.15am / 1P at 2.45pm
29 Mar	Class Assembly in Upper Hall: 1T at 9.15am / 1S at 2.45pm
31 Mar	Non Uniform Day (in support of Miss Johnstone's London Marathon charity)
3—17 Apr	Easter Holiday
18 Apr	First day of Summer Term 2017 - pupils return to school 5W Swimming (every Tuesday to 18th July)
19 Apr	5T & 5P Swimming (every Wednesday to 19th July)
21 Apr	Stay 'n' Play - 9.15am—11.00am (more details to follow)
26 Apr	Home Learning Working Party - 9.30am Community Room
28 Apr	PTA Sponsored Fundraising Event (all day)
1 May	Bank Holiday
3 May	Reception - Hearing and Vision
8-12 May	Y5 residential trip to Norfolk Y5 Special Project week Y6 SATs tests
23 May	Redbridge Recorder Festival at St Mary's Church, High Road Ilford (Recorder group attending rehearsal in the afternoon)
25 May	Parent coffee morning - 9.15am Community Room
30 May—3 June	Half Term
5 June	Inset Day - school closed to pupils
6 June	Pupils return to school
7 June	Y6 sailing at Fairlop Waters begins - details to follow
15 June	Class Photographs
22 June	AM Sports Day, KS2 & Nursery AM - details to follow PM Sports Day, KS1, Reception & Nursery PM - details to follow
6 July	Governors' Day
10 July	Reports to parents
11 July	2.00pm Year 2 concert to parents
12 July	Parents' Evening - no appointments necessary
18 July	2.00pm Year 6 concert to parents
19 July	Year 6 Leavers' Party (time to be confirmed)
20 July	International Friendship Picnic on school field - after school
21 July	Last day of summer term
4 Sept	First day of new academic year 2017/2018 <i>INSET Days 4 & 5 Sept</i>

Football News

The year 6 football team won a tough battle against Wells Primary School winning 3-2. Goals from **Robert Beta (6W)** and **Dejaun Rodney (6W)** secured the win. Man of the match was **Theo Warner (6T)** for his workrate throughout. With two more wins the Redbridge League Cup is within our grasp. Well done to all involved.



Mr Westlake, PE Leader

Comic Relief 2017

The William Torbitt school community showed great generosity again; this time for Comic Relief. The school raised the fantastic amount of **£765.00**

Thank you to all parents and staff for donating cakes for the cake sale.



Mrs Chapman

Charitable Events Co-Ordinator

Junior Librarian

We now have a direct link to the Junior Librarian website on our school website (children's home learning page). From this children can access a whole range of reading related information, resources and activities. Please take a look.

Mrs Hennessy, Librarian



BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Breakfast Club
7.30am-8.50am

£4.50 per child per session

After-School Club

3.20pm-5.45pm

£9.50 per child per session

All sessions paid monthly
in advance

Fees can be paid by cash, bank transfer or childcare vouchers.

For registration forms, please call

07934 887986

or email

fataha@simplyoutofschool.co.uk

www.simplyoutofschool.co.uk

Discounted spaces for children currently entitled to pupil premium.