

Totley Times



September 2019

FEATURE

Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome back to school for all of you and a special greeting to all of our new children and families who are coming to Totley Primary for the first time. We are so excited about getting to know you as the children begin their journeys with us and become part of our school community. It has been a much quieter summer at school than in recent years, with routine maintenance and cleaning being the main jobs being carried out. It couldn't have been more different to this time last year, when staff were frantically getting the new building ready to go!



Great outcomes for children!

School is about so much more than academic outcomes and SATS results. In fact, the wider development of children is a school priority this year as we aim to "nurture the personal growth of happy, well-rounded and balanced citizens." However we would like to share with you and celebrate another year of great results, with our best ever set of outcomes in FS2, Y1 phonics and in Y6 reading, writing and SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar). We are confident that the tremendous work put in by the children and staff, alongside strong support from parents and carers, means that Totley children are ready for the next stage of their education, no matter where they may be in their journey through school.

Please go to the next page for a more detailed run down of the results.

DIARY DATES

Wed 11th - House Team photos

Fri 13th - Class Information Packs sent home

Sat 14th - Totley Show Doors open 1.30pm

Mon 16th - Extra-curricular clubs begin

Tue 17th - Individual School Photographs

Wed 18th - PTA meeting, Cross Scythes Pub
7.30pm

Wed 25th - Fri 27th - Y6 Thornbridge
Residential



At the start of the summer holidays, Totley Primary sent two teams to compete in the UK Open section of the World Educational Robotics Contest. This took place at the Octagon building at Sheffield University and involved teams from as far away as China and Mexico!

All the boys and girls from Totley performed strongly and finished in the top half of the competition. What a brilliant effort! A huge thank you to Melissa for organising the competition and for her continued support with the STEM curriculum at Totley. Thanks also to Mr Cooper for his support at the event—he is very excited that the robotics equipment, funded largely by the PTA, should soon be on its way to school.

Well-being at Totley Primary

Following on from our well-being work last year, we have been awarded a place on the Healthy Minds project, run by the NHS and Sheffield Local Authority, for 2019-20. Healthy Minds is a school-based project which aims to support the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people. It puts emotional resilience at the heart of children's health and wellbeing and recognises its impact on their learning, attainment, behaviour and future employability.

As a school, we pride ourselves on offering much more than just academia. We also attend to children's social, emotional, developmental and health needs. We believe we are in a fantastic position, not just to teach about emotional wellbeing, but to help children experience it. By providing stable, nurturing and protective environments, we aim to help our children learn how to regulate their emotions and develop healthy relationships with other children and school staff. These abilities will have a huge impact on their emotional resilience and satisfaction with their lives.

In the upcoming weeks we will launch a Healthy Minds parents' survey—so keep an eye out for this!

2019 School Performance Outcomes

2019	Totley %	National %
Foundation Stage 'Good Level of Development'	87%	72%
Y1 Phonics Standard	90%	82%

KS1 children meeting expected standard	Totley %	National %
Reading	83%	75%
Writing	78%	69%
Maths	82%	76%

KS2 children meeting expected standard	Totley %	National %
Reading	100%	73%
Writing	100%	78%
Maths	97%	79%
SPAG	97%	78%
combined	97%	65%

School Council Update

Our new school councillors have been elected and have had their first meeting with Mrs Holmes and Mrs Taylor, our staff reps. Their plans for improvement this year include looking at how we can become more environmentally friendly as a school, as well as continuing to develop fun and active playtimes and lunchtimes. The display board outside the KS2 yard door shows all that they have achieved and are working on, so do take a look!

#TeamJack

Amazing fundraising efforts are still ongoing in support of Jack Faulkner, a former pupil, who passed away last year following a brave battle against cancer. #TeamJack Hoodies and T-shirts are for sale via the link below. Any support is greatly appreciated.

<https://maisycobi.wixsite.com/teamjack>

Recycling Update

Mrs Seccombe has kindly agreed to continue supporting our community in recycling certain items which cannot go in your burgundy bins.

Please note that, for practical reasons, we will need to limit this to **toothpaste tubes** and **toothbrushes** only. Please look out for the labelled box in the foyer.

Staffing Update

Miss Chloe Deakin, one of our Foundation Stage support staff, is leaving us later this month to pursue a course in Broadcast Journalism. I would like to thank her for all her hard work at Totlely and wish her all the very best for the future! I would also like to welcome Miss Naomi Vintin onto the team at The Nook. We are delighted to have her on board!

BULLETIN BOARD

Parent Forum Invitation

Mr Barnes will be leading our school priority of nurturing children's personal development. This will include the introduction of 'passports' for all children. If any parents or carers would like to be involved in this process, please contact Mr Barnes through emailing enquiries@totley.sheffield.sch.uk

Allergy Reminder

I would like to remind you that we do have children in school with allergies, some of them severe and potentially life-threatening nut allergies. As you would expect, our school kitchen is entirely nut-free. Please could we ask for your support in ensuring that no nut or nut-based products are brought to school in packed lunches, as playtime snacks or for celebrations such as parties. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



Message from Mr Paxman

The start of the school year is such an exciting time as children and staff embrace the challenges of the new term and aim to get off to a flying start! Totley Primary continues to expand and it is amazing to think that we now have around 340 children on roll! As we return into our term time routines, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of staying safe on the way to and from school. Please make every effort to park considerately around Totley Grange Road as well as on Main Avenue, Sunnyvale Road and Sunnyvale Avenue when dropping children off / picking up. This is everyone's responsibility! Please also avoid parking on the cul-de-sac up to the school drive. This way, no one needs to turn around or reverse and potentially cause harm to another person. We will continue to work closely with our local community police officer to monitor road safety around our school site. Thank you for supporting us to ensure the safety of ALL children at Totley.