Toner Avenue Newsletter 23rd October 2026

Thank you for your support at the start of our year together. I was really pleased to see so many of you join us at St John's church for our Y1,2 and 3 Harvest festival. Thanks for all of your kind donations for 'Hebburn Helps'. Please remember if you need any support to come in and speak to the team - we are always happy to help.



Parent event week

Thanks so much for the huge numbers who joined us for the parent events week. We moved it to earlier in the year based on parent feedback and it worked really well. We had an amazing 64% of parents from y1-y6. We love to welcome you all into school to see first hand what goes on in school. The focus was on oracy this time and I know from the feedback that you all had a great time developing talk strategies together and demonstrating excellent proof of listening. We are going to start posting on our Facebook page some 'talk' activities for you to do at home as it really does help the children if they can articulate their thoughts, ideas and feelings, and listen carefully.

Children in Need



This year Children in Need is on **Friday 13th November**. We will allow children to come into school dressed in their own clothes or 'Pudsey' merchandise for a donation which you will be able to make directly to the Children in Need fund using a link we will send you.

New gate

Some of you may have noticed we now have a new entrance into the school and a lovely new pathway leading from the corner of the playground (near Mrs Cutting's 'snug') to the fence and new gate. We are still waiting for this to be completed on the outside of the school but hopefully this will support many of you when arriving and leaving the site. This has been completed by the council after I spoke to them about your concerns linked to congestion around the school at drop off and pick up times. Please also continue to park a bit further away and walk, ride or scoot to school to help reduce traffic and keep our children safe.

Key dates for the year ahead

Date	Event	How it will work
26th Oct - 30th Oct 26	School closed	Half term - school reopens 2nd November
Wednesday 4th November	Early years (Nursery and Reception) open evening	Prospective parents for Nursery and Reception Sept 2027 intake invited for a visit 3.30 - 5pm
Thursday 5th November	Sibling photos	8:15-8:55 for external siblings (see office email for more details) Toner siblings during school hours.
10th - 12th November 26	Parents evening	You will be asked to choose a suitable time after school to speak to your child's class teacher.
10th December 26	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day	
16th December 26	Christmas assemblies at church - times and year groups will be confirmed at a later date	Parents invited to Church to join the celebration
21st Dec - 1st January 2027	School closed	Christmas break - school reopens Monday 4th January 27
25th Jan - 28th Jan 2027	Parent event	Parents will be invited to choose a day to come into school from 8.45 - 10 to watch our

		approach to teaching - subject still to be decided
15th - 19th Feb 27	School closed	Half term - school reopens Monday 22nd Feb
4th March 27	World Book Day	Plans TBC
9th - 11th March 27	Parents evening	You will be asked to choose a suitable time after school to speak to your child's class teacher.
30th March - 9th April 27	School closed	Easter break - school reopens Monday 12th April
Week beginning 10th May 27	Year 6 SAT's tests	Statutory Year 6 assessments
31st May - 4th June 27	School closed	Half term - school reopens Tues 8th June
7th June 27	INSET day	School reopens Tuesday 8th June
Week beginning 8th June 27	Y4 multiplication check	Times table test (check) for all year 4 children
Week beginning 14th June 27	Y1 phonics check	Phonics test (check) for all year 1 pupils
21st - 25th June 27	STEM week	Parents will be invited to choose a day to come into school to see our approach to STEM and careers
28th June - 2nd July 27	Awards assemblies	Dates and times TBC closer to the event

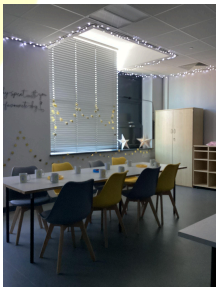
9th July 27	Reports to parents/carers	Class teachers send your reports out
19th July - 3rd September 2027	School closed	7 weeks holidays

Steve Cram



Mrs Mckenna and I attended the Schools North East conference earlier this month and the keynote speaker was Steve Cram, CBE. During his speech he mentioned being from Jarrow and Hebburn and actually gave a shout out to Toner Avenue Primary as he had attended here as a pupil. In front of an audience of over 500 school leaders, we cheered for our school, which he acknowledged!! As a result of this we have been in contact with him and are hoping he will return to his old school to speak to the children about his career and how he achieved well in his field through resilience and determination. We did hope he could come to our sports day in the summer but this is a busy time for him with the athletics season in full swing. We are still hopeful for a visit soon - I will keep you posted.

Starlight lounge



Since the introduction of 'Treat Tuesday' last September we have welcomed 76% of the children in school to join Mrs McKenna and myself for hot chocolate, ice cream, milk shakes etc. Some children return more than once!!! They have all signed the wall of fame! It is amazing to be able to recognise and reward the fabulous children we have in Toner, celebrating those who come to school every day with a positive attitude, always try their best and are a real credit to the school. Tuesday is fast becoming my favourite day of the week (excluding the weekends!)

Xmas tree We will be having a whole school Christmas tree again this year. It was amazing last year to see every child adding their own decoration to the tree. We have some from last year but if you want to make a new one over the holidays that would be amazing - get your glitter out!!!

Donations If anyone has any toys or games (scooters) that need to be recycled we would happily take them to use in our nurture room, OPAL and for breakfast club too.

Finally, a huge thank you to the parents who completed the OFSTED survey or chatted to the inspectors during their visit earlier this term. I was thrilled with the feedback from inspectors and the positive comments you all gave about Toner. It is really heart warming to know that you appreciate the hard work that goes into making Toner the best place it can be for our lovely children. The ofsted report will be shared with you all once it is published.

Together we will continue to strive to create independent, tolerant, resilient pupils who achieve well and care - values we demonstrate in school every day.

Have a great half term holiday. Take care Mrs Fullard and all Toner staff.