

# TEMPLEMOOR INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2021



## Happy Half-Term!

I can't quite believe that we have come to the end of the first half-term. It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming you all back to school! We have had a very strong start to the new academic year, with lots of exciting learning taking place in every class and much progress being made across the school. The children have been absolutely fantastic over the last few weeks and have been a real credit to you all. They have been busy settling in, making friends and getting to know the new routines in their new year group. The move away from a 'bubble' system has been a big change for our Year 1 and Year 2 children especially, but they have all adapted to it so well.

I would also like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring that we remain vigilant with regards to Covid. We have done so well with a very small number of positive cases in school and I do think that this is because of your co-operation to ensure PCR tests are taken when there are symptoms and that children are kept at home if they are unwell. After the last two years of interrupted education, it is so very important that

we continue to ensure that we all follow the latest Public Health advice and in doing so keep everyone safe and in school.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff for working so hard too. The whole team have worked tirelessly to ensure that all of the children are happy, secure and are learning.

As usual, this newsletter is packed with lots of very useful and important information, so please do take the time to read it fully.

School will close from today for the half-term holiday and children will return to school on Monday 1st November. I wish you all a very relaxing and happy half-term holiday and look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Best wishes,

Mr Hodgson - Headteacher





### We are Adventurers

Despite the rather rainy Manchester weather, our Year 1 and Year 2 children have thoroughly enjoyed their outdoor learning sessions with 'We are Adventurers'. The children have taken part in a wide range of outdoor activities such as archery, team games, making tree boggarts and magic wands and toasting marshmallows on a camp fire! The sessions certainly add another exciting dimension to our children's learning at Templemoor and aim to make learning even more delicious! Here is what some of our children thought of the sessions...

"I loved toasting marshmallows on the fire. They were very yummy!" *Jack - Year 1*

"I liked everything, especially playing 'Birds and Worms'. I was a bird and I had to chase the other children who were the worms!" *Isobel - Year 1*

"I played archery. We used a bow and arrow and I scored nine points". *Freddie - Year 2*



"We made wands. You had to peel off the outside of the stick using a sharp peeler. The wand turned people into frogs!" *Poppy - Year 2*

### Year 1 and Year 2 Pencil Cases

Over the half-term break, please can you restock your child's pencil case with pencils, felt pens, a rubber, sharpener and a glue-stick. Thank you.

### September 2022 Reception Intake

Trafford's on-line application system is now open and Trafford residents can apply online [here](#). The closing date for admissions is the 15th January 2022. Further information can be found on our school website under the tab 'Our School' and 'Admissions'.



### Parent Working Party

We will shortly be reviewing our school's Anti-Bullying Policy. If you would like to be a part of the parent working party who will help to review the policy, then please contact the school office.



### Templemoor Poppy Field

The photograph above was taken way back in 2019, when we created our very own Templemoor Poppy Field to mark Remembrance Day, a time to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. You should have received a letter from Mrs Berry our Art and Design Lead, inviting you to make a poppy over the half term holiday. It would be wonderful if our grassy area at the front of school was filled with lots of hand made poppies!



After the half-term holiday we will be supporting the Poppy Appeal by selling poppies, zip pulls, poppy reflectors and wrist bands. To purchase, simply pop a donation in the poppy appeal pot which will be placed at the front of school. Thank you in advance for your support (and creativity!).

### Nursery Places Available

We do have a limited number of places still available in Nursery. For further details please contact the school office.



### Christmas Gifts for Staff

2021 has continued to be difficult for lots of us as we slowly emerge from the pandemic. More than ever, we've been reminded how much we depend on each other for connection, hope and support, and of the importance of a safe, secure home. Sadly, this Christmas thousands of people will be alone with nowhere to call home - and many will be experiencing their first without a secure and safe home this Christmas. Last year the staff at Templemoor felt that it wouldn't be appropriate to accept thank you gifts from parents at Christmas when so many are struggling. Instead, we asked that parents donate to our chosen charity, 'Crisis at Christmas' ([crisis.org.uk](http://crisis.org.uk)). We were so overwhelmed by your response, that we have decided to ask you to do the same again this year. We would very much appreciate it and it would really make us all smile to know that your donation will provide warmth, companionship and vital services to people facing homelessness. If you decide to make a donation, then please do let us know. Thanks again for your understanding and generosity.

### Seesaw

All year groups are continuing to use Seesaw to send weekly messages which include links to homework tasks. If you have not yet been able to access Seesaw and require a new login, then please do contact the school office.



### Flu Immunisation Programme

Children in Reception up to and including Year 2 are having their flu immunisation on Tuesday 2nd November 2021. All this involves is a quick sniff and it's over and doesn't hurt at all. You should now have received a link to access an online form in order to accept or decline this year's vaccine. The link can be found [here](#) and closes on 24th October 2021. Further information about the vaccine can also be found via the following [link](#). Following flu immunisation, some children, and indeed adults, can experience a slightly raised temperature for a few days after. This is seen as a normal reaction to the immunisation, but given that we are all on the look out for raised temperatures at the moment, along with other symptoms, like a continuous cough and a loss of smell and taste, etc., if you are in any doubt, please seek medical advice via the known channels.



### Odd Socks Day 2021

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, we are going to take part in Odd Socks Day. The day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage everyone in school to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! All we ask is for the children to wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks Day will take place on Monday 15th November 2021 to help raise awareness of bullying.

### Winter Menu

After half-term we are delighted to launch our delicious Winter menu. Orders can now be placed online. Please try to order meals well in advance (preferably by the Friday for the whole of the following week) as this helps the kitchen staff to prepare quantities etc. Thank you for your understanding.

### Christmas 2021

At this time of year, the thoughts of the staff begin to drift towards Christmas! We are still hoping to welcome parents and carers into school for our performances. This year, we have decided that each year group will deliver their own Christmas show/ assembly. This will ensure that the audience sizes are reduced. Of course, we must follow the current advice from Trafford Public Health, so please do bear in mind that these performances are subject to change. Fingers crossed that you are able to join us live... as we so want you to be a part of our Christmas festivities this year. We have also planned the date for our infamous Christmas Dinner, as well as booked an exciting production of 'Snow White' for the last day of the Autumn Term! Our Christmas Fair will hopefully be back again on Saturday 4th December... so there is lots to look forward to!





### Success at school starts with attendance!

As a school we appreciate and have sympathy for families that have been unable to book holidays over the last couple of years due to financial or travel restrictions. We understand that time spent with family is important and can offer a wealth of new experiences. Unfortunately, following the disruption of Covid, the Government has stated that all children are expected to attend school as normal and holidays cannot be authorised during term time. There are exceptional cases that may lead to an absence being authorised which are detailed in our 'Attendance and Punctuality Policy'. This policy can be found on our school [website](#).

It is also important to note that there are 175 non-school days a year - that's 175 days to spend on family time, holidays, fun and everything else!

Given that we remain in a pandemic it has been fabulous to see how many children are in school and on time every day of the week. Attendance for this half-term currently stands at 97.5%, so well done! If your child is not in school, please let us know the reason by phone and/or email as usual before 9am. Thank you.

### Sale Food Bank

We would like to say a big thank you for all the food donations we have received for the Sale Food Bank. You have been extremely generous.

### Learning themes for next half-term

Our exciting learning themes for the next half-term are:

<b>Nursery</b>	Is it shiny?
<b>Reception</b>	Autumn
<b>Year 1</b>	The History of Me!
<b>Year 2</b>	Remember, Remember. What is important to remember in the UK?



### Halloween Competition

Over half-term the Friends of Templemoor are running a fun Halloween competition to win one of four hampers full of surprises and treats! A link to the competition can be found [here](#). The deadline to enter is Wednesday 3rd November so best get carving, drawing, colouring, dressing up and baking! Good luck!

### Year 2 Phonics Screening Check

Usually in the summer term, all Year 1 pupils are assessed on their ability to apply their phonetic knowledge to read words. This is carried out using the Phonic Screening Check, which consists of a mixture of 40 words; some real words and some made-up words. All the words are phonetically decodable. Due to lockdown in January to March 2021, the Department for Education decided to postpone the Check. Year 2 children are therefore now required to sit the Phonics Check during the second half of the Autumn term. At Templemoor,



we have decided that the Year 2 children will take part in the Check the week beginning the 29th November 2021. The Check is completed in a relaxed manner, and administered one to one with your child's own teacher in a comfortable and familiar place.

If you require any further advice, then please do not hesitate to contact the Year 2 team.

### A message from the Chair of Governors



As our first half term draws to a close, I hope that you and your families have settled back into life at Templemoor and that, moving forward, we experience a year with much less disruption.

Throughout the pandemic the Board of Governors has continued supporting Mr Hodgson and his team to adapt to the changing guidance issued by the Government as the Covid-19 pandemic has progressed.

This period of time has been extremely challenging for parents, families and pupils alike and I know that the staff at Templemoor have worked tirelessly to adapt to the changing situation and be creative with the educational provision at Templemoor to make it the very best it can be. As Governors, we are very proud and thankful that we have such a professional, dedicated and resilient staff team who have been

able to continue to deliver high quality provision whilst providing ongoing support to our families.

It is clear that the pandemic is not over yet but please rest assured that Templemoor will continue to follow the guidance provided by the Department for Education and Trafford Public Health to ensure that we keep the school as safe as we possibly can.

As Governors we always welcome any feedback from you, so if you have any comments at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch: [chair@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk](mailto:chair@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk).

Wishing you a safe and happy half term break.

Mrs Judith Davenport - Chair of Governors



### Templemoor Reading Competition

We know that everyone at Templemoor loves listening to stories and reading books, so we would love to find out about your favourite storybooks and authors. You can choose how you would like to do this. You could:

- draw or paint a picture from your favourite page in your book.
- make a model of your favourite character or setting from the book.
- write a book review telling us what you particularly liked about the book or anything that you disliked. You could give your book a rating

out of 10 or suggest who you would recommend it to.

- come up with a new character for your story.

These are just a few suggestions; we would love to see any of your creative ideas. We would like to see the title of the book and the author somewhere on your work, and don't forget to put your name and class on it too!

There will be one prize winner selected per class. Each winner will be announced at assembly and will receive a £10 book voucher. Please send all competition entries into school by Tuesday 2nd November.

We will look forward to seeing all of your amazing entries and finding out about all of your favourite stories. Happy reading!

### Allergies in School

Around 5 to 8% of children in the UK live with a food allergy. These young people are at risk of anaphylaxis, a potentially life-threatening reaction which requires an immediate emergency response. 20% of severe allergic reactions to food happen whilst a child is at school, and these reactions can occur in children with no prior history of food allergy. Due to some of our children living with allergies, at Templemoor we strive to ensure we work closely with pupils and parents to support needs accordingly. We are currently working on updating our whole school 'Allergy Policy' and would like to form a working group with parents. If you are interested in becoming involved then please contact the school office. We thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch. If you would like more information on allergies and advice/guidance please click on the following [link](#).



### World Children's Day 2021

On Friday 19th November we will be taking part in UNICEF's World Children's Day. Established by the United Nations in 1954, Children's Day is marked on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare. The UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child on 20th November, 1959, and then 30 years later it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child on that same day. The convention, which is the most widely ratified international human rights treaty, lays out a number of children's rights including the "right to life, to health, to education and to play, as well as the right to family life, to be protected from violence, to not be discriminated against, and to have their views heard". All of our children from Nursery through to Year 2 are asked to wear blue on this non-uniform day and will take part in a range of exciting activities in class to mark this important event.

### Covid Update

Our whole school community continues to pull together to ensure that our school is and remains 'Covid secure' to maximise the safety of everyone. Thank you to parents who have been proactive, by ensuring that you follow the recent guidance issued by Trafford Public Health. The prevalence of Covid in Trafford continues to be higher than the England average, therefore we do request that

parents and carers wear a face covering whilst on the school site and ensure that you remain vigilant with regards to your child's health.

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, they **must not** come to school and should remain at home. They must get a PCR test as soon as possible and isolate until the result is available. People who get a positive PCR test must continue to isolate as usual. Symptoms of Covid include:

**High temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature);

**New, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);

**Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child is identified as a contact of a case in school, please book them in to take a PCR test as soon as possible (unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days). Children aged 4 and under who are identified as a contact will not be advised to take a PCR test **unless the positive case was someone in their own household.**

We are continuing to ventilate our classrooms via open windows and sometimes the external doors. Please do send your child in with extra layers if needed.

### Some gentle reminders for everyone's safety

- We encourage children to ride bikes and scooters to school. When children arrive at the school gates they **must dismount** and **walk** their bike or scooter along through the pedestrian gate to the cycle racks. Children are not allowed to scoot or ride around the playground at the beginning or end of the day.

- Parking: Do not park on Nursery Close, or block residents' drives. We have contacted the PCSO and traffic wardens and asked them to increase their checks. It is incredibly dangerous for pedestrians and the safety of our pupils is our priority.
- Children are not allowed to use the large climbing frame at the beginning or end of the day. They have plenty of time to use it during breaks and at lunchtimes when they are supervised by a member of staff!
- Dogs are not permitted on the school grounds, including being tied to school gates.
- Smoking is not allowed in any area of the school grounds.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make our school a safe environment for everyone.

### And finally...

Thank you for your continued support. We could not be more proud of our wonderful school community. Enjoy the well deserved break!

Mr Hodgson and the Templemoor Team





### Dates for the Autumn Term 2021

Friday 22nd October 2021	School breaks up at 3:15pm for the half term holiday
Monday 1st November 2021	Back to school!
Tuesday 2nd November 2021	Reading Competition entries into school! Good luck! Nasal
Wednesday 3rd November 2021	Friends of Templemoor Halloween Competition closes
Thursday 11th November 2021	Remembrance Day - Last day for bringing hand made poppies into school for the remembrance garden.
Week beginning Monday 15th November 2021	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 15th November 2021	Odd Socks Day
Friday 19th November 2021	UNICEF World Children's Day - Wear blue!
Week Beginning Monday 29th November 2021	Year 2 Phonics Screening Check
Saturday 4th December 2021	The Christmas Fair
Tuesday 7th December 2021	Reception Christmas Show at 9:30am* (Bees)
Wednesday 8th December 2021	Reception Christmas Show at 9:30am* (Ladybirds)
Tuesday 14th December 2021	Year 2 Christmas Show at 9:30am* (Class 1)
Wednesday 15th December 2021	Year 2 Christmas Show at 9:30am* (Class 2)
Thursday 16th December 2021	Year 1 Christmas Assembly at 9:15am* (Class 3)
Friday 17th December 2021	Year 1 Christmas Assembly at 9:15am* (Class 4)
Monday 20th December 2021	Christmas Dinner Day
Tuesday 21st December 2021	Christmas Party Day - Pantomime 'Snow White'. School breaks up at 3:15pm for the Christmas holiday
Tuesday 4th January 2022	Back to school for the Spring Term

\*Please note that although we are aiming to invite a live audience to these events, this will be subject to guidance from Trafford Public Health. We may have to limit numbers, or cancel at the last minute. In the event that we are unable to invite a live audience, the shows will be recorded and shared with parents. Thank you for your understanding.

### Autumn Term 2021

<b>Opens</b>	Monday 6th September 2021
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 22nd October 2021
<b>Opens</b>	Monday 1st November 2021
<b>Closes</b>	Tuesday 21st December 2021

### Spring Term 2022

<b>Opens</b>	Tuesday 4th January 2022
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 11th February 2022
<b>Opens</b>	Monday 21st February 2022
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 8th April 2022

### Summer Term 2022

<b>Opens</b>	Monday 25th April 2022
<b>Bank Holiday Monday (School is closed)</b>	Monday 2nd May 2022
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 27th May 2022
<b>Opens</b>	Monday 13th June 2022
<b>Closes</b>	Thursday 21st July 2022

### Staff Training Days (School will be closed to children)

Thursday 2nd September 2021
Friday 3rd September 2021
Wednesday 22nd December 2021
Friday 10th June 2022
Friday 22nd July 2022