



# SMITHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Horne

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Together We Grow

15.1.18

## Message from the Headteacher.

Happy New Year and welcome back to all our families. We started the new term with a visit from author and illustrator Tom McLaughlin. His book, *The Story Machine*, is our whole school focus for the next couple of weeks and his visit has inspired our children to produce excellent writing and illustrations.

## ATTENDANCE NEWS

Nursery am: 89%

Nursery pm: 77%

RLMc: 78%

RLK: 98%

Year 1 GH: 80%

Year 1SW: 59%

Year 2AG: 81%

Year 2 LA: 96%

Year 3: 95%

Year 4: 92%

Year 5: 84%

Year 6: 97%

**Well Done to  
RLK with 98%  
attendance.**

## School Uniform



Please remember to send your child to school in the correct uniform.

From Reception class upwards, all children should wear a school shirt (not a polo shirt) and a tie.

Footwear must be black school shoes (not trainers).

**Please remember, children should be in the line at 8.55am so that learning can begin at 9o'clock.**

## **Spanish Day 31.1.18**

As part of our Spanish language teaching, we are holding a Spanish Day on Wednesday 31.1.18 to learn about and the Spanish culture and way of life. We have lots of exciting activities planned but if you have any skills that could support the day please let us know— maybe you're a Flamenco dancer, play classical guitar, could cook some tapas for the children to try or are a fluent Spanish speaker who could support their Spanish conversation. If you can help, please speak to your child's class teacher.



### Dates for your diary:

15th January—Bully Busters working with all pupils.

16th January—EYFS Stay & Learn (Maths).

18th January—Positive Families course starting.

18th January—Parent/Carer Computing course resumes.

19th January—English conversation class starts.

22nd January—Year 4 to visit Liverpool Museum.

23rd January—100 word challenge launch in KS2.

24th January—Year 1 Computing with Liverpool Hope University.

26th January—Year 6 Class Assembly (Holocaust Memorial Day)

29th January—Year 6 Gymnastics competition

31st January—Smithdown Spanish Day

6th February—Safer Internet Day

6th February—Y3 Class Assembly.



## Tom McLaughlin

Last week, the author and illustrator, Tom McLaughlin visited Smithdown Primary. His first job was to open our amazing new library.



Throughout the day, he worked with every class from Nursery up to Year 6, sharing stories, illustrating children's ideas, talking about where he gets his ideas and how he writes his books.

I like his drawings.  
Najib (Y1)



He was great. He followed his dream and inspired me to do the same.  
Nour A (Y6)

I'd like to be an illustrator because I'm good at drawing.  
Hamza (Y1)

Tom also shared with the children that he has dyslexia and he never believed he could become a writer. However, with resilience and perseverance he has had over 10 books published around the world.



The story machine broke because it was old and he'd used it too much.  
Roisin (RLK)



### E-Safety Update

#### Have a Conversation



One of the best ways to help young people stay safe online is to talk to them about what they do. If you understand the situations they encounter you'll be better placed to offer them advice on how to deal with them. UK Safer Internet Centre advice centre for parents and carers: [saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers](http://saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers)