



Together Everyone Achieves More

Dear families,

As we approach the Christmas holidays, I want to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic achievements of Term 2 so far:



We have been very proud of the efforts of the Tollgate Football Team in their recent series of games. Miss Trevett has enjoyed many cold/wet evenings with the children and their families, and is proud to report the following results:

- 2-0 win at The Haven (goals from Miller and Louie)
- 3-2 win at Pevensey & Westham, (goals from Oliver – a hatrick!)
- 6-0 win against Willingdon, (goals- Louis x3, Miller x2, Finlay)
- 0-1 loss against Cavendish
- 1-0 win against Stone Cross (goal by Cengiz)



Hot off the press - Tollgate won their Football Mixed League group and are now through to the League semi-finals v West Rise

The children have shown great team spirit – despite a few tough games, they have managed to hold it together and show their very best. We are proud to be working with such promising young footballers.

Over Term 2, Mrs Pollard very kindly gave up her lunchtimes to run the *Tollgate Christmas Tree Club*, where children had the opportunity to create a music themed 'Jingle Bell Rock' tree. Excitingly, Tollgate's Christmas Tree was voted as winner at this year's festival of trees at St Andrew's Church. Well done to all the children who contributed to this team effort!



Our *Pupil Leadership Team* were appointed and started their roles this term, with great enthusiasm and excitement for the work they will be doing across the school for the remainder of the year. This new leadership group will be working closely with myself and Mr Berhane to ensure our school improvement is driven by the voices of our children and their views of our school. I look forward to sharing their projects and work with you in coming newsletters.

Over the next few weeks, I hope you all find time to enjoy the festive season with your loved ones. Wishing you a safe, happy Christmas.

I look forward to seeing you all again in 2026 – returning on **Tuesday 6th January** (Inset Day on Monday 5th January, school closed to children).

Best wishes,

Mr Getty

Head of School



Christmas at Tollgate



We've been full of Christmas spirit at Tollgate!



Thank you for the positive feedback about the tweaks to Christmas Dinner this year - it was a buzzing atmosphere and we're thrilled the children enjoyed it so much.

Our Year Fours (with the logistical support of our committed staff team and practical help from some very responsible Year Six friends!) did a tremendous job of running their Christmas Fair event last week. The confidence they showed in running their stalls, explaining their activities and handling payments was impressive, as was their dedication to all the preparation the afternoon took.

Throughout this term, we have set in motion plans to supersize Christmas at Tollgate for the years to come. *Future plans include:*

PTFA Christmas Fair

A whole community event run out of school hours with a range of stalls and festive activities for all to enjoy to kick-off the festive season, coordinated by the wonderful PTFA team. This will replace the existing Year 4 Fair.

Christmas Concert

Each year group will perform their own Christmas song, as well as some sung as a school, in a special Christmas Carol Concert taking place in school in the build-up to the Christmas holidays. This will give all children chance to perform to their families at this special time of year.

We will continue to do a festive end of day sing-song in the playground in the run-up to Christmas, as well as finding opportunities for singing and spreading festive cheer within the local community. Thank you to those who supported and encouraged the children with this informal singing over the week.

Performance at Tollgate

We are extremely passionate about performance and music opportunities at Tollgate, and have a number of exciting plans in the pipeline.



Coming in... Summer 2026

We are launching the revival of the Tollgate 'whole school production' with performances of a well-known musical with children from all year groups taking part in acting, dance and singing. Information regarding dates, auditions, rehearsals and tickets will all follow in Spring.

Coming in... Autumn 2026

We will be launching a 'Young Voices' club, preparing children to join the 'Young Voices Schools Choir' at a fantastic event performing at London's O2 Arena.



Additional Clubs

As well as the clubs communicated last week for Term 3, we are excited to announce the following additional clubs at Tollgate.

Musical Theatre Club

A small team of staff will be running a weekly Musical Theatre Club throughout Term 3, providing opportunities to learn and perform some well-known musical numbers.



Lunchtime Sports Club

On three lunchtimes each week we will have a playground Sports Club running, with a range of activities targeted at different age groups over the week, led by a Skiltek coach (link).

Safeguarding

After the Christmas holidays we will be using our new End of Day Clipboards to support a more robust end-of-day collection system.

On the whole, Class Teachers will know most of their children's families and will not need to refer to the clipboards for the majority. However, if there are new adults or a change to collections, the clipboard will act as a means of checking that children are only leaving the site with the expected adults who have been given permission by those with parental responsibility.

If there are any delays in the first few days of using this, or by supply teachers when they are covering classes, please be patient and allow staff to follow this new system properly.

During the Christmas holidays, please ensure you are aware of the relevant contacts for cases of emergency or concerns about the safety of a child or young person.

East Sussex 'Single Point of Advice SPOA' can be contacted about concerns on: **01323 464222**. Out of hours, call the Emergency Duty Service on **01273 335905**.

Remember: if someone is in immediate danger, please call emergency services on '999'.



SAFETY OFFICERS 

 **MR GETTY**  **MR BERHANE**  **MRS ALLEN**  **MISS BRODIGAN**

 **MRS WILLGRASS**

 **MRS WALLER**

 **MISS BROCKMAN**

IF YOU DO NOT FEEL SAFE OR YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE, YOU MUST TELL AN ADULT YOU TRUST

IF YOU HAVE ANY WORRIES, YOU CAN ALWAYS SPEAK TO ANY ADULT IN SCHOOL!

YOU CAN ALSO LEAVE WORRIES IN THE WORRY BOX 

PE Reminder

In January when we return to school, PE days will be as follows:

3I Monday & Thursday
3LT Tuesday & Friday
3T Tuesday & Thursday
4B Monday & Friday
4G Monday & Thursday
4T Thursday & Friday
5E Tuesday & Wednesday
5F Wednesday & Friday
5L Monday & Wednesday
6CW Tuesday & Friday
6P Tuesday & Wednesday
6S Tuesday & Wednesday

A gentle reminder that children should be wearing a royal blue plain/school logo hoody, white crew neck plain/school logo t-shirt and blue or black joggers/school short for all PE sessions.

Thank you

SEND Coffee Morning

A reminder that our next SEND Coffee Morning that will take place is hosted by Me and My Mind, the Mental Health Support Team on **Friday 6th February** from **9 - 10.30am**

Please do consider joining this if you feel you could benefit from support with your child(ren) on the theme of 'Exploring the relationship between neurodivergence and mental health and Wellbeing'.

Miss Brodigan



Please see the link below:

[Family Feedback \(SEND\) – Fill in form](#)



Attendance Focus

At Tollgate, we are committed to improving our school attendance and ensuring that every school day counts for our children.

In Term 3, we will be launching a new exciting project:

The Attendance Lottery

To be entered into this lottery, children need to demonstrate either:

IMPROVED ATTENDANCE

Regardless of their starting point, if the child's attendance is improving significantly.

E.g. a child with 90% previously who is now at 94%;
a child with 70% previously who is now at 80%.

EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

For those who are consistently attending regularly and have an overall attendance of 98% or above.

The children entered into the lottery at the end of Term 3 will be eligible to win...



Fundraising Update

Thank you to everyone who has supported the efforts with our attempt to get our school moving whilst raising important funds for our newly established PTFA.

So far, we have raised a total of: **£96**

This has been achieved whilst our children and team have cumulatively either walked, run, cycled or swum a distance of: **1297.36 miles**

We are still accepting donations, thank you!



CHRISTMAS GIFT AMNESTY

Unwanted Gifts

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If you receive any unwanted gifts this Christmas please consider donating them to our new PTFA so that they can be used to raise funds for our lovely school.

Suitable donations:

Unused, undamaged and unopened items that could be sold or used as prizes.

How to donate:

Please leave donations with the school office for collection by the PTFA team.



Team Tollgate's
THOUSAND MILE TRIAL
To support the launch of...

400+ MEMBERS OF A SCHOOL COMMUNITY.
1 CHALLENGE.
1,000 MILES.

Help the staff team in their fundraising efforts to give the new PTFA the kick-start needed to enable them to enrich the children's lives! Sponsor us as we try to run, walk, swim and cycle 1,000 miles in Term Two (with a little help from the children!) to raise money to cover the costs of set-up for our PTFA.

**WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR 1,000 MILE GOAL?
KEEP TRACK OF ANY MILES WALKED, RUN, CYCLED OR SWUM AND
SHARE WITH YOUR CLASS TEACHER!**

Donate via Arbor

Or donations of cash via the office should family members/friends without access to Arbor wish to donate to this cause.

Introductions...



From this term, Marcus Pelham has joined the Tollgate team as our assigned Senior Mental Health Practitioner from the East Sussex 'Me and My Mind' team.

Marcus is working on site at Tollgate weekly on Monday mornings, supporting the school in our wider pastoral and mental health priorities but also working closely to support individual children or small groups using evidence-based CBT intervention.

We are delighted to be working alongside Marcus and his team.



Diary Dates

- **Friday 18th December- End of Term 2**
- **Monday 5th January-Term 3 Inset day**
- **Tuesday 6th January - Term 3 First Day**
- **Monday 9th and Wednesday 11th February- Parents Eve**
- **Friday 13th February- Last Day of Term**

