

Thomas Russell Junior School

'Ambitious culture, strong team ethos, outstanding academic achievement, high expectations, exemplary behaviour' Ofsted 2019.



Newsletter



Issue No. 23

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

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Learning to Ride a Bike?

With the weather improving (!) and the lighter nights around the corner, you may be wanting to go out on your bike. Year 5 have just completed their Bikeability Level 2 course and Year 4 will be undertaking their Level 1 training in May.

If you are still learning to ride your bike or want to build your confidence, there are some fantastic free online resources that you may find very useful. HSBC's UK Ready Set Ride can be found at www.readysetride.co.uk and offers parents a free learn to ride guide to help you teach your kids how to ride a bike, from British Cycling and HSBC UK.

TRJS Sporting Selfies

We would like to celebrate all of the wonderful sporting activities that our children engage in outside of school. If you have a recent photo then please send them in to Mrs Vardy along with a brief explanation of where the activity took place. We will be displaying them in the corridors at school and will hopefully your pictures will inspire others to try your sport!

British Science Week

The theme for British Science Week 2019 is 'journeys'. This theme encouraged children at Thomas Russell Junior School, to think about the journeys made to make discoveries, the journeys involved in everyday items and the journeys we make ourselves.



On Tuesday, Mr Heath from John Taylor High School began the children's journey into Science Week by delivering a very practical and informative assembly all about chemical reactions. There were lots of exciting experiments which showed how solids, liquids and gases can change. Following this, Mr Heath then worked with the 16 Science Ambassadors and delivered a masterclass, which investigated 'dissolving' using jelly cubes. A

super afternoon. All the children were very engaged and enjoyed this experience. A big thank you goes to Mr Heath for organising and delivering a super assembly and master class for the Science Ambassadors.

In addition to this, on Friday, children worked in their houses and took part in a morning of science activities, which again focused on the theme of 'journeys'. Children got to investigate: forces by making paper aeroplanes; static electricity with help from the character Matilda by Roald Dahl; the best ways to stop microbes travelling and spreading diseases; the way in which our brain controls our bodies by making a neuron; they had the chance to design their own space rover, which could travel over Mars and, they also got the chance to



think about how animals are adapted to their environment by being able to create their own animal and explained why it would survive in its chosen environment.



An action-packed morning, one that we know the children enjoyed. Thank you to all the staff for their hard work and enthusiasm and to the children for their enthusiasm and engagement during British Science Week.



Laches Wood Assembly and DVD

Huge congratulations to our Y5 children and staff who put on a wonderful celebration assembly this morning to show off the skills and talents they developed on their residential visit. It was great to see such enthusiasm and confidence from the children in their performances and singing. Thank you to Elliott's dad for filming the assembly and to Oliver's mum who has offered to burn the DVDs for us. As I explained during the assembly, the DVD will include the assembly and a copy of the photographs taken during our visit. The DVD is now available to purchase via Parent Pay at a cost of £5. The closing date for purchases is Monday 1st April (you'd be a fool to miss it!!)

Double yellow lines

Unfortunately, I need to take another opportunity to remind parents that they should not be parking on the double yellow lines anywhere on Gilmour Lane. They are there for a reason – **to keep all of our children safe.**

If you ignore the double yellow lines, you are putting our children in danger and causing difficulties for other drivers who are trying to drive and park safely.



Fond Farewell



Today we wave goodbye to Mrs Jackson, who is off to pastures new... we would all like to say a huge thank you for everything she has done for the school and the children over the last 15 years.

We will welcome Laura Patrick to our admin team from Monday 1st April. Please bear with us during the period of handover and if you have any queries, just let us know. Mrs Jackson's e-mail will remain active and will be checked each day, so please continue to send messages about Dinner Money, Early Birds and Night Owls bookings in the same way until you are informed otherwise.

Goodbye and good luck Mrs Jackson.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe