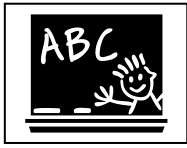


# Thomas Russell Junior School

'An expectation of excellence' ofsted June 2014.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 1

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

8<sup>th</sup> September 2017



We are really pleased to welcome all of our new children, families and staff to Thomas Russell Junior School. Each week you will receive a Newsletter which will help to keep you updated with what has happened and what is planned. Newsletters form a vital part of communication between home and school. The Newsletter can be e-mailed, downloaded from the website or a paper copy collected from the School Office.

Super start - Well done to the new Y3 children and to those joining us in other year groups this week who have settled so quickly! We know that respect, good behaviour and manners are essential for a positive and thriving school, we set high expectations and we have not been disappointed ☺ We have been pleased to see our older pupils settle quickly back to routines and stepping up to expectations in their new year groups, acting as good role models.

Parents, we understand there are lots of new routines for you too, so please don't be afraid to ask questions at any time – there are no silly questions.

If you think of a question, even if it's in the middle of the night, e-mail it in to [questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk) and we will do our best to answer.



**Open playground** Please remember that you are welcome and encouraged to come onto the playground to collect your children at the end of the day.

**It is really important that children are collected from the playground until parents are confident their child has the maturity and safety awareness to allow them to leave school unaccompanied.**



By coming onto the playground you can make the most of the informal opportunity to see your child's class teacher if you have anything to ask or just to chat about how your children are settling in to their new class. Younger children are most welcome onto the playground and may use the trim trail and adventure playground should they wish, but please make sure that they are closely supervised at all times and scooters/bikes are left in the scooter park by the gate.

### House and Vice Captains

On Tuesday, we held elections for the prestigious roles of House and Vice Captains for each of the four houses: Anson, Bassett, Clinton and Jervis. Children in Y6 delivered some excellent speeches about their reasons for wanting to take on the role, then others in their house were allowed to vote in the election.

	Captains		Vice-Captains	
<b>Anson</b>	Jack Church	Katie Church	Emily Thompson	Monty Cowgill
<b>Bassett</b>	Ronnie Horton	Ruby Welsford	Katie Brant	Josh Harrington
<b>Clinton</b>	Jade Barker	Will Castle	Harrison Jones	Jasmine Simmonite
<b>Jervis</b>	Polly Hudson	Lev Sherratt	Samuel Watson	Katy Butler

Congratulations to the children nominated, we look forward to seeing your positive impact in these roles and seeing you as role models in class and around school. Responsibilities of House and Vice Captains include setting up and running some aspects of Merit Assembly, collecting trophies, organising sports events and assemblies for their houses and representing the school at events such as the Remembrance Parade.

Receive Newsletters by e-mail, or ask a question: [questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk)

## Getting organised!

One of the hardest things about the new school year can be getting organised and ensuring children have the right equipment, on the right days, in the right bag! Below is a timetable which we hope will be helpful to parents **and children** to be clear about what is required in school on which day for each of the classes.

	Swimming	Indoor PE	Outdoor Sports	Clarinet
3M	Monday	Thursday	Wednesday	
3D	Monday	Thursday	Wednesday	
4V	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
4P	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
5S	Thursday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
5R	Thursday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
6P	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	
6M	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	

**Swimming kit** – swim suit or trunks, towel & hat in a waterproof bag. Brought in weekly.

**Indoor PE kit** – house colour t-shirt, black shorts & black pumps. Indoor PE kits are left in school.

**Outdoor Sports kit** – house colour t-shirt or school sports top, plain tracksuit & trainers. Outdoor kits can be brought in weekly or left in lockers if children have spare trainers.

**Please ensure all kit is clearly labelled.**

We like our children to look smart and appropriately dressed for their sports, so please save fashion wear for evenings and weekends. All jewellery must be removed every lesson, including watches. Those children with pierced ears will be expected to remove their own earrings. The school cannot accept responsibility for any items of jewellery brought into school.

### Individual Photographs

A couple of years ago, we moved our individual photographs to earlier in the year following a number of requests from parents who like to give these as Christmas presents and it proved a great success. These will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. All children and sibling groups will be taken in school throughout the morning. For those with siblings who do not attend TRJS but would like a group photo, you are invited to attend from 8:30am.



### Swimming



We are starting our swimming lessons on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September and once again are putting out a request for parents to act as 'Eyes'. The role of 'Eyes' is a simple yet vital one of keeping watch over the children whilst in the water. If you are able to offer an hour (or more) of your time each week, please email the school via 'questions@' indicating which session or sessions below that you could help. We would not be able to offer swimming lessons without the continued and valuable support of parents, so **thank you in advance.**

Monday 1:15 – 2:20	Monday 2:15 – 3:20	Tuesday 1:15 – 2:20	Tuesday 2:15 – 3:20	Wednesday 1:15 – 2:20	Wednesday 2:15 – 3:20	Thursday 1:15 – 2:20	Thursday 2:15 – 3:20
-----------------------	-----------------------	------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------

### Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



We will be holding a coffee morning at 10:30 on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September. For parents new to the school, this is a great opportunity to meet new faces and find out a name or two. We do not wish for children to miss out even if they do not have parents attending, so will be running a cake stall for them on the playground asking for a donation of 50p.

In order to make this event a success, we would like to ask for parental support through donations of cakes which should be sent to the office on the Friday morning. We also need a number of helpers for other jobs, please drop a line to Jayne Castle and Steph Cartwright (our joint Friends chairs) on [friends@trjs.co.uk](mailto:friends@trjs.co.uk) if you are available to help with shopping, setting up, cashing up and tidying away.

We look forward to seeing lots of new faces on our first Coffee Morning of the year.

Receive Newsletters by e-mail, or ask a question: [questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk)

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

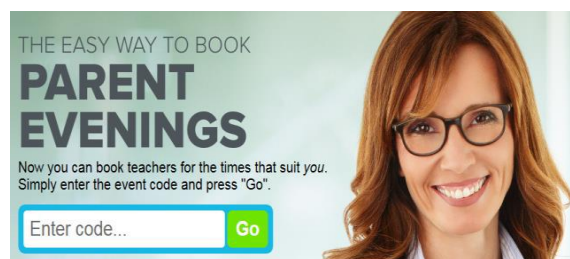
Our extra-curricular clubs are designed to give children access to something 'extra' that they might enjoy - they are designed to spark an interest in something new, to help them discover a new hobby or passion and to develop self-confidence mixing with a wider friendship group of children with similar interests. If you need childcare, please do not hesitate to book into Early Birds and Night Owls who offer an amazing 'home from home' experience every day from 8:00am to 5:45pm. Thank you to our super staff who are willing to give so freely of their time to provide such great extra-curricular clubs for the children. When a child signs up to a club we do expect them to attend for the full session EVERY week and will need a written note or telephone call from a parent before the club if they will be absent.

Day	Club	Staff running	Time	Year Groups	Dates running	Cost
Monday	Art Club 1	Mrs Sanders	3:30 - 4:30	All years	18/9 25/9 2/10 9/10 16/10	
Monday	Art Club 2	Mrs Sanders	3:30 - 4:30	All years	30/10 6/11 13/11 20/11 27/11	
Monday	Cookery Club	Mrs Gahagan	3:30 - 4:30	Upper School (Y5 and 6)	18/9 25/9 2/10 9/10 16/10	£10
Monday	Christmas Craft Club	Mrs Gahagan	3:30 - 4:30	All years	6/11 13/11 20/11 27/11 4/12	
Tuesday	Running Club	Mrs Rollins	12:45 - 1:15	All years	Weekly from 12/9	
Wednesday	Junior Jotters 1	Miss Murfin	3:30 - 4:30	All years	13/9 20/9 27/9 4/10 11/10 18/10	
Wednesday	Junior Jotters 2	Miss Murfin	3:30 - 4:30	All years	1/11 15/11 22/11 29/11 6/12	
Wednesday	Netball Club	Mrs David	3:30 - 4:30	Upper School (Y5 and 6)	13/9 20/9 27/9 4/10 11/10 18/10	
Thursday	Fun & Games	Mrs Kerr-Delworth	12:45 - 1:15	All years	Weekly from 9/10	
Thursday	Football Club / Team	Miss Marston	3:30 - 4:30	Upper School (Y5 and 6)	Dates tbc around fixtures	
Thursday	Inclusive Sports Club 1	Mrs Preston	3:30 - 4:30	Invitation	14/9 21/9 28/9 5/10 12/10	
Thursday	Inclusive Sports Club 2	Mrs Preston	3:30 - 4:30	Invitation	2/11 9/11 16/11 23/11 30/11 7/12	
Friday	Choir	Mrs Sharpe	3:30 - 4:30	All years	15/9 22/9 29/9 6/10 13/10 3/11 10/11 17/11 24/11 1/12 15/12	

Our extra-curricular clubs are always exceptionally popular and places are given on a first come first served basis. Previously we found some children were managing to get booked on to 4 or 5 clubs and doing something every single night, whereas others were missing out. In an attempt to create a fairer system, you will only be able to book TWO clubs this weekend. On Monday we will open up any additional availability to all children. We hope parents will support this decision and appreciate this attempt to create a fairer system for all.

### Electronic Booking for Clubs

- 1) Log on to [www.schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk)
- 2) Enter **Extra-Curricular code: qp7fx**
- 3) Enter e-mail, child(ren)'s first AND surname.
- 4) Choose child's year group and clubs they would like to attend.
- 5) Receive instant e-mail confirmation of booking.



And finally...the newsletter is not always this long, so well done if you read right to the end! We do try to keep to one page where possible but on some occasions we have lots of important information to share and we know parents find it more useful to have it all in one place rather than lots of shorter notes.

*Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe*

Receive Newsletters by e-mail, or ask a question: [questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk)