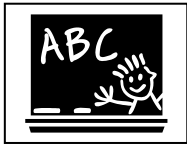


Thomas Russell Junior School

'An expectation of excellence' ofsted June 2014.



Newsletter



Issue No. 7

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

20th October 2017



At Thomas Russell Junior School we are passionate about providing the best possible educational opportunities for your children, in a safe and caring environment, as well as nurturing the whole child because we all know that happy children are successful children.

Academic excellence is incredibly important to us and our commitment to placing the children in small classes, with the highest quality teaching and focussed support is rewarded with excellent outcomes.

National comparisons show we have come in the top 2% of the country in Writing and top 4% in Maths for Average Scaled Scores.

We also came in the **top 8%** for the proportion of children achieving the **Expected Standard or above in Reading, Writing and Maths.**

These are outstanding results of which we are understandably proud.

We describe the 21st century 3Rs as: **Resilience, Resourcefulness and Respect**
Our curriculum is designed to equip the children with all the skills they need to thrive.

I am pleased to announce that we received one nomination for a parent governor, so Mrs Rosie Whiteford will now join the Governing Board. Mrs Whiteford offered the following information in her election address:

Our family has lived in Barton for 7 years. Most of you will know me as "Amelia's Mummy" from Year 5. TRJS is an excellent school, with a highly motivated team that delivers quality learning opportunities for all of our children.

For the last 20 years I have worked in the world of food innovation. I believe that now is the right time to use my skills and join a dedicated team. I truly believe that I can bring a fresh perspective and make a positive contribution to the continued success of TRJS.

I have no problem with asking any difficult questions. I promise to listen to any of your concerns, opinions and represent you with the best of intentions.

We do still have one more vacancy open to parents. I know there were some parents who expressed that they may be interested, so if you would like to reconsider, or even just meet up with some current governors to find out more details, you can contact governors directly on:

governors@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk



Don't forget our Halloween Menu - Tuesday 31st October
Sausages or Quorn sausages, curly fries, baked beans or corn on the cob.
Jacket Potatoes with a choice of two fillings
Ghoulish ghost biscuits and custard

If you would like your child to have school dinners on this day, please pay on ParentPay and message kjackson@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk

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

Yamaha Electric Guitar workshop - On Wednesday we had an awesome (very loud) assembly by Yamaha Music Centre, showcasing the electric guitar. Looking through the window, I'm not sure if it was the children or Miss Marston who enjoyed it the most!

This week in school we have been designing Christmas Cards as part of a Friends' fund-raiser, so please don't buy too many cards over the holiday as you will receive a print out of your child's card and order form shortly after we return to school.

Photographs were also taken this week for the Friends' Calendar - thank you to the parents who coordinated that. We received really lovely positive comments about how well behaved the children were and how much fun was had, so I look forward to seeing the finished design.

These will also be for sale during the next half term and will make excellent Christmas presents.

Early Birds and Night Owls - booking for Autumn 2



Please log on to:

www.schoolinterviews.co.uk

to book for Autumn 2 - Early Birds and Night Owls using the codes below. Please note additional charges applied for early drop off and late pick up.

Early Birds - ssmcf

Night Owls - fjtck

There will be no Night Owls on the last day of term (i.e. 19th December)



Christmas dates

We are now able to confirm that our Christmas Carol Concert at St James' Church will take place on

Monday 18th December at 1:45.

This year, children will be allowed to go straight home from the church with parents, should they wish. Night Owls, or those not being collected until 3:30 will be walked safely back to school by staff.

I am also excited to announce that the Friends are organising an optional outing for the children on the morning of Tuesday 19th December to the Red Carpet Cinema to see Paddington 2. We think this will be a really nice Christmassy ending to the term.

Please look out for further information next half term if you would like your child to be included.



We are inviting the children to wear Christmas jumpers on these last two days of term (along with their normal uniform). Friends will also be running a second hand Christmas jumper sale in December. If you have any donations of jumpers they will be gratefully received in the school office from mid-November.

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Finally, we will be holding our Christmas Disco at school on Friday 1st December. This does mean there will be no choir on this evening, which had previously been planned.

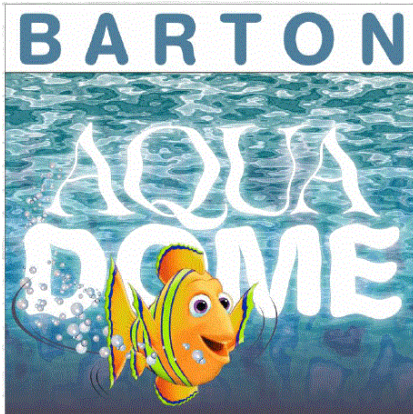
Tickets for the disco will go on sale when we return to school for £5.

4:30 - 6:00 - Lower School (Y3 & 4)

6:00 - 7:30 - Upper School (Y5 & 6)

Price includes a hot dog, drink and sweets.

Please, no coats and no mobile phones at the disco.



October Holiday Opening Hours
Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October
Every day – Public Sessions (10:30 – 12:00)

Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th October
Under 5s Session (9:00 – 10:00)

Public sessions - £1.50 per person
Under 5 sessions - £2 with 1 child,
£2.50 with 2 children.

Parent Forum

For many years now at Thomas Russell Junior, we have run a very effective and productive Parent Forum. We would now like to extend a warm invite to parents to form the new Parent Forum for this academic year; whether you are new to the school, a previous volunteer or just have some great suggestions that you think could help us to get even better.

The remit of the Parent Forum is to focus on whole school improvement and wider issues. It is an opportunity to gauge parental opinion on a range of aspects of school and to take feedback from both members and the wider parent body.

You can keep up to date with current topics and progress of the Parent Forum, via our noticeboard in the entrance hall and the Parent Forum section of the website. If you have an individual or personal issue / comment, we would still encourage you to come directly to us, either through your child's class teacher or to myself, in order that we may be able to discuss and address this as quickly as possible.

We are asking parents to e-mail an 'Expression of Interest' to [questions@](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk) if they would be interested in forming part of the Parent Forum. We hope to get at least two representatives from each class, to give a forum of sixteen parents plus governor and staff representation. We intend that the Parent Forum will meet 3 times during the year, once per term. These meetings will be during the school day, starting at 9:00am and lasting approximately 60 minutes. The dates have been set as Wednesday 22nd November, Wednesday 31st January and Wednesday 13th June.

We would also welcome your input if you have an item that you would like discussed at the Parent Forum, but do not wish to be a representative. We already have a couple of topics for discussion that have been raised, but the more the merrier!

The deadline for expressing an interest is Wednesday 15th November. Names of those parents attending the Parent Forum will go on the weekly Newsletter on Friday 17th November.

We really hope you will consider joining the Parent Forum and can assure you of a warm reception.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe

Please read on for community events...

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DECORATE A PUMPKIN COMPETITION



- Carve or decorate your pumpkin at home
- Bring down to the library during the week beginning 23rd October
- Last entries by 11am Saturday 28th October
- Prize for the winning entry in each category:
 - a) up to 7 years
 - b) 8 years and upwards.



**Tuesday 24th &
Wednesday 25th
October**

9.30am – 12.30pm

**1 Day £12 – 2 Days
£20**

**Make new friends &
learn new skills**

BARTON TENNIS CLUB

**SPOOKTACULAR HALF TERM FUN
5YRS – TEENS**

**ACTION PACKED FUN FILLED LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT WITH LTA COACHES**

Book Online www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/zoeedwardscoaching
Contact: Zoe 07971898645 – Email: zedwards837@gmail.com



**BARTON TENNIS CLUB
HOLLAND SPORTS CLUB**

DE13 8ET

Facebook.com/tennisallstars
Twitter @tennisall_stars

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