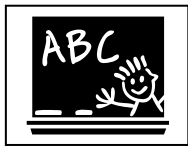


Thomas Russell Junior School

'An expectation of excellence' ofsted June 2014.



Newsletter



Issue No. 11

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

24th November 2017

Questionnaires and Parent Election Forms

Thank you very much, parents who have returned their pink Y2-3 Transition questionnaire, the green Y6-7 questionnaire and the yellow Parent Governor Election forms.

The deadline for pink Y2-3 questionnaires was today, but we will more than happily accept completed forms early next week if it has slipped your mind. We currently have less than 50% back. The deadline for Parent Governor Election forms is 9:30 am on Thursday 30th November. This deadline is fixed and the count takes place on that day - we will inform parents next week in the Newsletter of the successful candidate. The deadline for Y6-7 questionnaires is Monday 4th December - if you see parents who are no longer linked to the school, please do encourage them to return their questionnaires so we can continue to improve our transition procedures.



Parent Forum

We had a really lively and interesting Parent Forum meeting on Wednesday and were pleased to welcome a slightly larger group than we have seen in the past.

Items up for discussion included: Curriculum Timetabling, Swimming Eyes, Parking, Parent Consultations, ParentPay, Newsletters, Parent Workshop suggestions including Internet Safety for parents and Children's Wellbeing (part 2) with children, SATs results, School Website and Building works for the new classroom amongst other things. Please watch out for the full minutes from the meeting in the next week or so, but for now...

Mrs Cowgill brought a question from School Council to see if it would be possible to get the raised beds and quad growing area back in full use again as the children love growing (and eating!) their own produce at lunchtimes.

We have lots of equipment and willing children but are missing someone to oversee the running of such an initiative. Mrs Pick has bravely volunteered to lead the task of getting both areas back into a usable condition but she would very much welcome some extra help.

Do you have the skills to help reinforce the sleepers in the raised bed? Do you have a contact for some free top soil? Are you able to donate some fruit bushes / vegetable plants, etc.? Could you spare some time (once or on a regular basis) to help the children learn more about gardening and growing?

We would very much like to hear from you if you can help. Thank you!

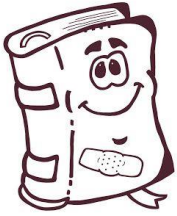
We also took photographs of all of our new Parent Forum members for this year, so will be updating the website and Parent Forum display in the entrance hall soon. It's not too late if you feel like you'd be interested in having your say on some of the things listed above or any other aspect of school.

Our next meeting will be Friday 31st January.

Newsletter

Our Newsletter is now distributed via an electronic system which does not have the facility to receive replies. If you wish to communicate with us, please ensure you use the address below, or office@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk or kjackson@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk

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

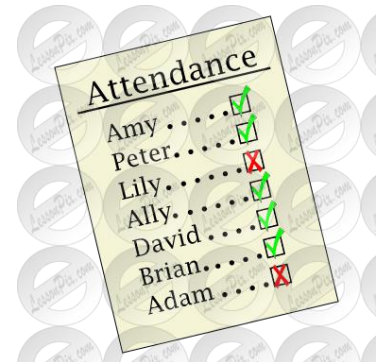


Spring Cleaning (in November!)

Don't forget our Reading Book Spring Clean on Thursday (30th November) we would really appreciate your help. Please drop a line to questions@ or let Mrs Sharpe know if you are able to join us. Thank you.

Absence around Christmas time

As you will know the Friends already have plans underway for our trip to Paddington 2 on the last day of term and we are also beginning to plan for our Christmas Service at St James' Church on Monday 18th December. We know we have a number of families who intend taking children out of school for the last two days of term (Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th) but would please request you to inform us of this absence as soon as possible. We have a number of individual roles and speaking parts to give out for the service and would like to ensure these go to children who will be in school to allow them proper time to prepare, rather than having to substitute children in at the last minute. As you'll know, we are unable to authorise leave unless in exceptional circumstances, however we really appreciate you keeping us informed. Thank you.



Diary Dates for Autumn 2017

Wed 29 th Nov	9:00	Rev. Andrew Ridley visiting for assembly
Thur 30 th Nov	am	Selected Y5 @ JTHS Maths Masterclass
	am	Reading Scheme Spring Clean
Fri 1 st Dec	Y3&4: 4:30 – 6:00	Christmas Disco Includes: hot dog, drink, sweets and lots of dancing! Please no coats or mobile phones.
	Y5&6: 6:00 – 7:30	
Fri 8 th Dec	pm and eve	Christmas Concert at Lichfield Cathedral with choir.
Tues 12 th Dec	By 9:00	Bags 2 School collection

Wed 13 th Dec	lunch	Christmas Dinner
Mon 18 th Dec	9:30	Big Awards
	1:45	Christmas Service at St. James' Church Children can be taken straight from service (2:45ish)
Tue 19 th Dec	Y5&6 - 8:55	Friends trip to Paddington 2
	Y3&4 - 10:40	
End of Term Reports NO NIGHT OWLS		
Thur 4 th Jan	8:50	Back to School

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe