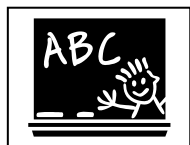


# Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 11

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

21<sup>st</sup> November 2014

### Christmas Cards

The children have designed Christmas Cards in school. These have been sent away and printed into an actual card. As part of a Friends fund raiser the cards and order forms have been sent home today. The deadline for ordering is WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER. Please note the really short deadline to ensure we can have the printed cards back asap for you to write and deliver.

Thank you for your support of the Friends.

### Christmas Carol Concert followed by Mince Pies and Hot Chocolate

This year we are doing something different for Christmas. We will be performing in the Church, but the songs will probably be a selection you have never heard before (bold claim, I know!) and we are working in Houses this year too, to bring you something excitingly new, but predictably wonderful!

After our service we would like to invite you to join us back at school. Please see the Friends Newsletter for more information.

We will be holding a raffle on this day, and already have a few prizes, but if you are able to donate a prize or experience, we would really appreciate it.

We know some companies offer match-funding or support charitable donations in some way, so if you work for a company either local or national, please do look into this as we really benefit from the additional support. Companies who have supported us recently through various charitable donations include Johnsons Controls, Co-op, B&Q, Nestle, Argos and National Grid, to name just a few.

If you're not sure, it is worth asking - you may get a pleasant surprise.

### Extra-curricular Clubs

Please see the table below which shows which clubs will be running in the lead up to Christmas.

		24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12
Monday	Dodgeball				
Tuesday	Multi-skills				
	Netball	x	x	x	x
Wednesday	Eco-Warriors		x	x	x
	Art Club				x
Thursday	Netball		x	x	X
	Dance	x	x	x	x
Friday	Choir				x
	SoccerStars				x

Eco-Warriors - if anyone has any pine cones, or a tree nearby that they are able to collect us a few from, we would really appreciate it for an activity next Wednesday at the last Eco club.

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

### Parent Governors

We received 6 nominations for parent Governors along with their election address. Earlier this week you should have received (on bright pink paper) the information you require to be able to vote in the election which closes on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Many thanks to all of the parents who put themselves forward and volunteered for the role. To stand publicly in front of one's peers can be a daunting experience, but we are really grateful for the support this act shows, not only for the school but most importantly for the children.

### Healthy Snacks and Drinks

Please could we remind parents that we only allow healthy snacks at breaktime? These should be fresh fruit, yoghurt, vegetable sticks, cheese, breadsticks, rice cakes or cereal bar. Please note that no chocolate, sweets or crisps are allowed at break times.

In a number of classes snacks are placed in a tray or basket so they can be accessed quickly at breaktime - it would be really helpful if you could label the snack as sometimes it can be difficult to identify whose is whose. If you're feeling imaginative, we have even had a comical note or two written on a banana which always makes us smile!

With regard to drinks, the children should have a water bottle in school with them every day which we encourage them to drink all day to keep hydrated. Children are allowed any juice cartons or bottles but no fizzy drinks in their lunchboxes and have the options of juice, milk or water with cooked dinners.

### Spring cleaners

This morning Mrs Kabrich, Mrs Ashton and Mrs Wood joined us to complete a huge tidy up project. Thank you to all of them for their fantastic work - very much appreciated.

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### Cold weather

It is really cold now and we must insist that children have a coat in school every day. They may also need hat, scarf and gloves - but please ensure these are labelled.

Our Games lessons and coaching will continue right up to the last week, so it is essential that children have a warm tracksuit for their lessons. It would also be helpful if parents could provide a spare carrier bag or boot bag inside kit bags for children to put their muddy footwear in.

### Grandparents / Visitors Lunch

On Wednesday this week 36 children hosted their visitors in school. They had a brilliant time. Our visitors enjoyed their lunch, but also had a fantastic time in the class where the children were really pleased and proud to share their work and all they had been learning about.

Some had travelled from as far afield as Shropshire and Stratford which is wonderful.

### Diary Dates

Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	12:00	Visitors Lunch – 3M
	7:00	PACT Meeting at JTHS
Thu 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	am	Open Morning for new Y3 parents
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Friends Christmas Disco
		Y3&4 – 6:00 – 7:30 Y5&6 – 8:00 – 9:30
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Y3 – Stone Age Outdoor Experience
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Christmas Dinner
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2:00	Carol Service at St. James' Church
	After church	Friends Mince Pies, Cakes and Hot Chocolate back at school
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	am	Red Carpet Cinema Visit – Christmas treat from the Friends ☺ Wear your Christmas jumper!
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3:30	Break up for Christmas
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8:50	Back to School

Further information about specific events will follow closer to the time.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Sharpe