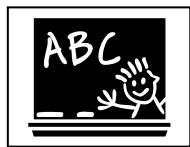


Thomas Russell Junior School

'Pupil's welfare and well-being are at the heart of the school's work' Ofsted March 2018.



Newsletter



Issue No. 35

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

8th June 2018



Summer 'Be activities wise' advice for parents

Reference: <https://www.staffscb.org.uk/ParentsCarers/Be-Activity-Wise-advice-for-parents/Extra-curricular-activity-advice-for-parents.aspx>

When we talk about safeguarding, lots of people think about schools being responsible for children while they're there. But the classroom isn't the only place it's important to make sure that children are safe and well-cared-for.

Ensuring your child's safety

With summer fast approaching, you'll be thinking about the activities your children could get involved in during the school holidays, whilst you work or so you can enjoy a few extra hours of freedom, but you'll also want to make sure your children are safe. There are lots of activities organised by other people, including volunteers, which children and young people can get involved in. These activities can really help with children's development, help them make new friends, gain confidence and learn new skills.

Most of the people leading these activities have children's best interests at heart, but it's not essential for all activity leaders to undergo safeguarding training to properly care for and be aware of any problems your child may have.

Questions to ask - Remember C.H.E.C.K

Abuse can take place in a variety of situations - it is important parents and carers are aware of some of the checks they may want to make before their child starts an activity, and that activity leaders know about their responsibilities.

Keep them safe in activities this summer. It's okay to **C.H.E.C.K** with the people leading the activity:

- C - Are you **confident** they have the right qualifications to lead the activity?
- H - Do they have a **history** of delivering activities?
- E - Are they **experienced** in running activities for children and young people?
- C - Have they undergone any necessary police **checks**?
- K - Do they have a good **knowledge** of their safeguarding responsibilities?

Remember, you can ask to see evidence if you are unsure.

Choosing summer activities

Please read [Tips to help you choose summer activities](#) page for further information.

It's My Money Week next week, the tenth anniversary and also an annual event for TRJS. As well as a week dedicated to learning more about Financial Education, we will be welcoming some volunteers from MoneySense to help deliver workshops to the children. Look out for some linked homework tasks for the children to share at home.



Thank you to Mrs Linda Kirke and Mr Mark Gahagan who came to our assembly on Thursday this week to take questions from the children about the role of the Citizen's Advice. This was part of a unit called 'It's Ok to Ask for Help' and helped the children to learn about where and how to access help relating to housing, employment, debt, etc.. Our visitors were impressed by the children's questions, interest and levels of understanding.

A reminder that it is **Parent Forum** on **Wednesday 13th June**, our last meeting of the academic year. Has the parking situation improved in Gilmour Lane since our last meeting? Let us have your feedback about this and any other issues you would like to bring to the fore. You can approach a member of the Parent Forum or email us directly: questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk Remember that minutes from these meetings are displayed in the Reception foyer and on our school website.

SPORTS DAY (Take 2!) should be on Friday 15th June, weather permitting. Timetables will run as planned for Friday 25th May. **Ski Club** will still be on after Sports Day.

Whole School and Group Photos will be taken on **Wednesday 20th June**.



The Donkey Sanctuary (by Alice R)



The Donkey Sanctuary liked the wellies that we took in. Almost as soon as Annabelle and I took them inside, the staff were really excited and they put some in their field quickly. We enjoyed seeing the donkeys.

Thank you for bringing in your old wellies!

If you want to find out more about the donkeys, you can go to: <https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/adopt> to adopt Cisco, Jimmy, Moses, Oscar and Shocks.



Or, you can visit them at Sutton Park. The times you can visit them are: 3pm-5pm (last admission at 4.30pm), Closed Wednesdays, 10am-3pm and on weekends and bank holidays (except for first Saturday of each month).



Friends Aquathlon

Please find attached with this Newsletter Entry Forms for the Aquathlon.

For those unfamiliar with the concept, this is an after school event in which pupils (mostly current, some past and some future) compete. There are two different lengths for the swimming and running event – Sprint (short) and Olympic (longer). Children can either compete individually – doing the swim then the run, or they can compete in a team – one child swims then another runs. Or, for less confident entries, the swim can be shared 5 lengths each on the sprint distance only.

Five competitors start in the swimming pool every 10 minutes and with a complex system of stop watches and lap counting, we compile overall results before announcing winners in 4 categories:

Sprint Individual, Sprint Team, Olympic Individual and Olympic Team.

This is an incredibly popular event and places will be filled really quickly, so do get your form completed and entry fees paid ASAP to secure your place. If your child intends to enter as part of a team and an individual, please indicate this on both entry forms so that the waves they compete in can be well separated.

If it all sounds a bit too much like hard work, then why not just come along on the evening and support the competitors? There'll be BBQ food, drinks, cakes and a bouncy castle to enjoy plus much more.

Forest School - for those children signed up to Forest School this half term, please remember to bring a change of clothes each Wednesday. The club runs from 3:30 - 4:45 (please note the slightly **later finish time** than normal clubs)

As you will have seen before the holiday, we now have our full complement of staff in place for September 2018. I can confirm the teaching teams will be as follows:

Year 6 - Miss Press, Miss Marston & Mrs Kerr-Delworth supported by Mrs Alcock

Year 5 - Mrs Jones, Miss Rounds (soon to be Mrs Clarke!) and Mrs Khalid supported by Mrs Cozens and Mrs Capper

Year 4 - Mrs Vardy, Mrs Preston and Mrs Rollins supported by Mrs King and Mrs Graves

Year 3 - Miss Murfin, Mrs David and Miss Branson (new Deputy Head) supported by Mrs Windsor

As always we will be working hard over the next few weeks to plan the new classes ensuring a good mix both academically and socially. In fairness to all of the children, we will take the individual needs of each and every one into account, please do not make personal requests as I am afraid we are unable to accommodate these.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe

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