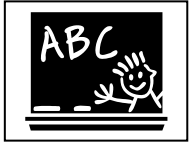


# Thomas Russell Junior School

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



## Newsletter



Issue No. 40

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

### Standon Bowers

Huge congratulations have to go to our Y6 children who attended Standon Bowers from Wednesday to Friday last week. The children had an absolutely amazing time! Their behaviour was exceptional. They threw themselves into every single activity, ate brilliantly and slept well too!

The whole staff team felt the behaviour, attitude and approach from the whole year group was the best we have seen at a Y6 residential and we were thoroughly proud of each and every one of them.

Early dates for your diary - next year's residential visits:

Y4 to Laches Wood - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Y5 to Laches Wood - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Y6 to Standon Bowers - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

### Open Morning

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, we welcomed 63 new pupils and their parents/carers to the school. Twenty of our Y5 children made absolutely brilliant 'tour guides', showing the children around school, talking about rules and routines of junior school and generally helping the new pupils and parents feel welcome and comfortable. We received some stunning feedback about the children and the job they had done. We look forward to these children moving up into Y6 and to welcoming the new families to Thomas Russell Junior School.

### Action against Bullying

Thank you very much to the 84 parents who took the time to complete the Action Against Bullying questionnaire which was circulated last week. The questionnaire feedback (which we took from parents, staff, pupils and governors) gave a really positive picture of the school, as well as giving us areas to continue to work on, which form part of our new action plan.

We undertook our assessment this morning, which looked at our previous action plan, impact of the work over the last 3 year, questionnaire responses and our action plan moving forward. Gill Venables, the assessor, was particularly impressed by the attitudes of the children and our work through assemblies, visitors and PHSE to address anti-bullying. She noted the national difficulty identifying the differences between bullying and falling out, and commended the school's work so far to address this, which will continue.

We are delighted to announce our successful re-accreditation today.

### Academic Reports to Parents

Academic Reports were sent home on Friday. Please ensure your reply slip is returned to school during this week. Hopefully the jigsaws and the Move Up Targets will provide some ideas to keep children's brains ticking over during the long summer holiday.

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



### Early Birds and Night Owls

If you wish to book Early Birds or Night Owls, please log in to [www.schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk) and use the following codes:  
**For Early Birds: e7w6f**  
**For Night Owls: j7g6f**



Please log on to our website to view terms and conditions of Early Birds and Night Owls booking. For parents new to the school, you do not need to wait until your children have moved to TRJS to make bookings. The electronic booking system will close on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**. Please note the change to terms and conditions this year meaning electronically booked sessions cost £3 for Early Birds and £8 for Night Owls. Ad-hoc bookings made via e-mail will be charged at £3.50 for Early Birds and £8.50 for Night Owls.

### Parent Pay

Please ensure that the balance of your account is settled by **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July** to enable us to perform the end of year procedures and move all children up to their new year groups and classes. It is not possible for any parents to log in and make payments in preparation for next year whilst we still have parents with debts on their accounts for this year.

### Athletics

Over the past few weeks two athletics competitions have taken place.

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June Vinnie A, Jessica Ad, Katie B, Katy B, Lottie W, Levison S, Callum SB and Jack C from Year 5 and 6 competed in an Athletics competition at Shobnall Leisure Centre. The activities they competed in were standing long jump, howler throw, 400m sprint and 75m sprint. It was a very hot afternoon but the success of these pupils led them to an overall placing of 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 16 teams.

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July children from Year 4, 5 and 6 represented the school at Rykneld Primary School in the Dove Valley Athletics Competition. The team competed in sprint, sack and obstacle heats. After the heats there was a final. At the end of the evening we had relay races. Again it was very hot. Many medals (gold, silver and bronze) were taken home by the children and their overall placing was 4<sup>th</sup> out of 7 teams

Well done to all the children who competed in either competition.

By Katie Br 6P

### Don't forget Leavers' dates

**Leavers' Disco** - at Barton Bowls Club - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July - 6pm - 8pm  
Organised by the Friends - you should already have received information.  
Please e-mail any questions to [friends@trjs.co.uk](mailto:friends@trjs.co.uk)

**Leavers' Assembly** - at TRJS - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July - 10am  
Bring tissues and dress cool - the hall will be VERY hot!

**Leavers' Parade** - at TRJS - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July - 3:15pm  
A final opportunity to celebrate the children's departure from Junior School and an early start to the Summer Holiday. Please remember there is no Night Owls on this day.

## Term dates for next year

### Autumn Term 2018

School opens	Tuesday 4th September to Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
Half-term	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November
School opens	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> November
School closes	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December
Christmas Holiday	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> December to Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January

### Spring Term 2019

School opens	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February
Half-term	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February to Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February
School opens	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February
School closes	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April
Easter Holiday	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April

### Summer Term 2019

School opens	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May (Sports Day 2019)
School closed	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May (Bank holiday)
Half-term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May
School opens	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
School closes	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July
Summer Holiday	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August

School is closed to pupils for the following Staff In-service Training Days.

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

## SATs Results

We were really pleased with the announcement of SATs Results last Tuesday and again the positive picture of achievement at Thomas Russell Junior School in comparison to National attainment.

Thomas Russell Junior School is about so much more than data and results, this is demonstrated in our range of extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, the comments and feedback we receive from visitors and the children's understanding of the role they play in modern society. However, it is also vitally important to ensure that our children are prepared academically for the next stage in their education.

Expected standard in Reading, Writing + Maths **combined** - 64% National, 83% at TRJS = 19% above National and maintaining the 16% increase from last year.

### Key stage 2 comparative report

This information allows you to compare your child's performance at the end of Key Stage 2 with the attainment of other Year 6 pupils in our school and across England.

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: school	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: nationally <sup>1</sup>	Average scaled score: school <sup>2</sup>	Average scaled score: nationally <sup>3</sup>
English reading	94%	75%	109	105
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	94%	78%	110	106
Mathematics	88%	76%	106	104
English writing (teacher assessment)	95%	78%	N/A	N/A
Science (teacher assessment)	95%	82% (2017 data) <sup>4</sup>	N/A	N/A

Those considered to be working at 'greater depth', have achieved a scaled score of 110 or higher.

**Combined** R, W & M at 'greater depth' = **22% at TRJS** (9% Nationally last year) and 61% of our children achieved GDS in at least one subject.

Reading - **44% at TRJS** (National last year was 25%)

SPAG - **52% at TRJS** (National last year was 31%)

Maths - **33% at TRJS** (National last year was 23%)

Writing - **53% at TRJS** (National last year was 18%)

This year we had 6 children at 120 in Reading, 9 at 120 in SPAG and 2 at 120 in Maths - bearing in mind only about two in a thousand children achieve this top mark - we think that is pretty impressive.

Our writing was not formally moderated this year, but last year the moderators said:

*"Your staff really know their subject! They clearly challenge and push the children to achieve their best. A good range of evidence seen including cross curricular. Assessment systems are embedded and children are also clearly using them to promote their own learning. A wonderful morning - thank you!"*

Overall, I am sure you will agree these are excellent headline results. Clearly Reading has been our focus this year and pleasingly we have increased percentages at 'expected' and 'greater depth'. Writing results have also improved slightly. SPAG results remain the same. Maths will no doubt be our focus for the coming year. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these results throughout the children's time at Junior School.

*Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe*

<sup>1</sup> Percentages for English reading, English grammar, punctuation and spelling, mathematics, and English writing teacher assessment (TA) are based on provisional headline information on the 2018 national curriculum assessments:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2018-interim/key-stage-2-2018-interim-results-text](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2018-interim/key-stage-2-2018-interim-results-text)

<sup>2</sup> Scaled scores guidance: [www.gov.uk/guidance/scaled-scores-at-key-stage-2](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/scaled-scores-at-key-stage-2)

<sup>3</sup> Average scaled scores for English reading, English grammar, punctuation and spelling and mathematics are based on provisional headline information on the 2018 national curriculum assessments:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2018-interim/key-stage-2-2018-interim-results-text](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2018-interim/key-stage-2-2018-interim-results-text)

<sup>4</sup> Science TA is based on revised information relating to the 2017 national curriculum assessments:

[www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2017-revised](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2017-revised)