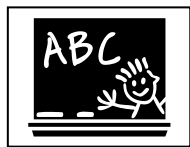


Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 2

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

14th September 2018



I am really pleased to announce the nominations to the School Council this year. Children within each class voted for a boy and a girl to represent their collective views at School Council meetings. School Council is run by Mrs Cowgill and Mrs Watling, two of our School Governors, alongside Mrs Sharpe. We had our first meeting on Wednesday and it seems already they have some great ideas of things we might improve, but also ways in which the School Council could help. The representatives are:

6M - Harry M and Lois A	6P - Finley C and Jessica A
5K - Bella R & Daniel C	5C - Oliver F and Grace G
4P - Siân G and Oliver H	4V - Issy R and Solomon E
3D - Amelia H and Josh T	3M - Harry E and Evie N

Y6 parents and children meeting

Mrs K Cochrane, Head of School at John Taylor High School, would like to offer an opportunity for Y6 children and parents to meet with her at Thomas Russell Junior on Monday 24th September at 3:45. The session will include a talk by Mrs Cochrane on JTHS and an opportunity to ask questions. Please confirm your attendance with a little note in homework diaries, just so we know how many to set up the hall for. Thank you.



Walk to School – 10 minute zone

At TRJS we are passionate about children leading healthy and active lives. We offer three hours of PE every week, a wide variety of clubs and sporting fixtures as well as active break and lunchtimes. We would really appreciate your help and support with encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle out of school. A good way to start each day with activity is to walk from home to school. Not only does this offer an active start to the day, but it also greatly reduces the amount of traffic around the school area. Less traffic around our children means less pollution and greater safety.

If you are unable to walk to school, you can still get involved! Today, your child(ren) will have come home with a 10 minute walk zone map. We would like to encourage all families who travel by car to park outside of the PURPLE zone and walk the last ten minutes of the journey into school. Barton Marina is just one example of a fantastic area outside of our PURPLE zone due to the large amount of parking available and the well-lit path directly from the carpark into school.

Road Closure

Please also note that Station Road (the entrance to the village by the telephone exchange) will be closed for 5 days from Monday 17th September so it is vital to plan ahead and use an alternative route to access the school. Expect Efflinch Lane to be much busier with traffic using the Catholme exit off of the A38 then driving past the school to access TRIS / JTHS and get through the village. Closures and diversions can be viewed on the following website:

<https://roadworks.org/>

Future dates:

Harvest – Parents are warmly invited to our **Harvest Assembly on Friday 19th October** at 2pm in school. Those attending will be able to take their children home after the event, but Choir and SoccerStars will still be on.

While you're adding dates to your diary... we also have our **Christmas Concert at St. James' Church on Thursday 20th December** at 2pm and again we will be finished in time for parents to take their children and collect from the Infants' School.

And the final dates... look out next week on the Newsletter for booking information for our **Parent Consultation** meetings which will take place on **Tuesday 23rd and Thursday 25th October**. Teachers will be able to give a really clear picture about how your child is settling in to their new class, initial progress and any areas where further support may be required. If you would like to discuss anything before then, please do get in touch and we will be happy to talk to you. Support Plan reviews will be held separately.

Swimming



Huge thanks to those who have been able to offer their time to act as Eyes for our swimming lessons. Unfortunately, we only have five parents who have come forward and we have eight classes to cover. It is also preferable for the younger children to have two sets of Eyes. If you feel you may be able to commit, even just for a half term, then we would appreciate if you could get in touch. If you have a couple of friends and you would be able to commit on a rota basis, then this would also be really helpful. As I said last week this is a simple yet vital role and we really do require parental support. Thanks.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We had a great uptake on our clubs with 175 of our children signing up to at least one club and some being able to enjoy as many as 4 or 5. Please remember children are expected to attend every week if they have signed up and we require advanced notice if they will not be attending. The table below indicated the dates which clubs are running to ensure children are collected at correct times.

All clubs finish at 4:30 with the exception of Hiit which is 4:15.

Club	W/C	17/9	24/9	1/10	8/10	15/10	22/10	Half term	5/11	12/11	19/11	26/11	3/12	10/12	17/12	
Golf	M	x	x	x	x											
Interval Training	M								x	x		x	x			x
Board Games	M								x	x	x	x	x	x		
Yoga 1	T	x	x	x	x	x										
Yoga 2	T								x	x	x	x	x			
Netball Club	W	x	x	x	x	x										
Aerobics US	Th	x	x	x	x											
Aerobics LS	Th								x	x	x	x	x			
Choir	F	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x			

Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning

We will be holding a coffee morning at 10:30 on Friday 28th September.

For parents new to the school, this is a great opportunity to meet new faces and find out a name or two.

We do not wish for children to miss out even if they do not have parents attending, so we will be running a cake stall for them on the playground asking for a donation of 50p.

In order to make this event a success, we would like to ask for parental support through donations of cakes which should be sent to the office on the Friday morning. Home baked or shop bought are both very welcome.



We don't currently have a Chair of our Friends Committee, but I know we always have loads of happy helpers at this event, so if you are willing to help with shopping, setting up, cashing up and tidying away, please drop us a line to 'questions@'. Thank you in advance. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces on our first Coffee Morning of the year.

School dinners and payments

We hope all parents will now have received a code for their Parent Pay account. If not, please call in and see Mrs Jackson in the office. We ask parents to log in and set up their account which can be used to pay for school dinners, Early Birds, Night Owls, trip contributions and residential visits when applicable. Please can we request dinner money, Early Birds and Night Owls are paid in advance, with the exception of those families using childcare voucher to pay for EB and NO in which case, please do not pay for these and you will receive an invoice at the end of the half term. We also request that parents select the days children are having school dinner and stick to the same pattern rather than chopping and changing on a daily basis.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe