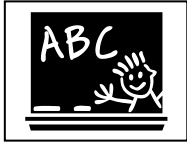


Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 4

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

28th September 2018



We would like to offer parents and children in Y6 an opportunity to meet with Mrs Plant, Headteacher from the new John Taylor Free School on Monday 15th October at 3:45. I am aware there were lots of questions at the JTHS meeting about the Free School. Mrs Plant will be able to talk to parents about the how the school is structured, the curriculum, teaching staff and their plans for how the school will grow and develop. Please come to the school hall after collecting your child(ren) from the gate.

Please remember all applications for Secondary / High School places must be submitted by Wednesday 31st October and can be completed online at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-secondary-school-place>



On Tuesday, Year 4 took a trip to the Amazon Fulfilment Centre at Rugeley to take a look around and learn how an order is processed. They saw where the products enter the building, learned how they are stored, collated, packed and then sent out to the customer. The children then wrote an explanation text about it in their English lesson. They had a fabulous morning getting an insight into the business, how it has grown to such an enormous scale and how it runs.



John Waterhouse

At TRJS we are constantly striving to improve and to provide new opportunities for our children. As part of this, our staff pursue a range of professional development opportunities. This week we were lucky enough to welcome local artist, John Waterhouse, to our staff meeting.

John spent an hour and a half working with the teachers and explaining some of the techniques that he found particularly useful when creating his paintings. We certainly had a lot of fun trying them out!



On Wednesday afternoon, Y4 had the opportunity to use one of these techniques. They created viewfinders to help them look carefully at the leaves they were sketching. This technique encourages the artist to break down the larger, more challenging object, into smaller sections.



Here is what the children thought:

“It really helped to give me a clear view.” Ben L

“It was hard for me, because I prefer drawing the whole leaf!” Charlotte C

“I think it was really helpful and it was quite easy. I’m not very good at drawing the shape of the leaf, but this made it easier.” Joshua R

“I found it easier to draw the veins on the leaf, but I still found it challenging to draw the edges.” Issy

Walk to School Month

October is WALK TO SCHOOL month. We are again encouraging the children to either walk to school, or for parents to park a 10 minute walk away from school. Not only does this reduce the traffic congestion and improve pupil safety, it also provides 10 minutes of your daily activity!

The children will be bringing home a booklet today that they can use to record their daily walking to school achievements. All children who successfully complete the month of October and return the booklet to Mrs Vardy will be awarded with a certificate.

Computer game violence

Call of Duty and Fortnite – please can we respectfully remind parents to pay attention to the age limit restrictions applied to computer games. We wrote a little while ago to raise our concerns about the rise in levels of aggression in children’s playground games as a result of exposure to aggression, strong language and violence through computer games. Whilst we have not witnessed any further incidents of this on the playground, we are still very concerned to hear children talking freely about playing such games at home.



Parent Consultations – Autumn 2018

Consultation evenings this term will be held on Tuesday 23rd October and Thursday 25th October between 4.00 and 7.00 p.m. Bookings are going really well, but we still have a group of parents yet to book an appointment. Electronic booking can be completed following the steps below:



- 1) Log on to www.schoolinterviews.co.uk,
- 2) Enter code: **q99kz**
- 3) Enter e-mail, child(ren)’s first AND surname.
- 4) Choose the exact date and time(s) to suit you.
- 5) Receive instant e-mail confirmation of booking.

Bookings close on Monday 15th October. Please see Newsletter 3 for more information.



As you may know, Morgan (one of our Y6 pupils) has been diagnosed with diabetes for 8 years now. She copes tremendously well with it, and thanks to the ever developing advancements in treatments and technology, Morgan and many more children are able to manage and live well with this condition. However,

all of these amazing advancements would not be possible without the support and much needed fundraising events that are carried out every year.

Morgan and her sister Brodie will be doing to JDRF 5k Midlands One Walk on 30th September. Her family are hoping that parents and friends would support either just by spreading awareness or by donating on her page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/michelle-horler4 or search under Morgan Horler JDRF page.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

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	Next week	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											
Interval Training (Hiit)	M						x	x		x	x			x
Board Games	M						x	x	x	x	x	x		
Yoga 1	T	x	x	x										
Yoga 2	T						x	x	x	x	x			
Netball Club	W	x	x	x										
Aerobics US	Th	x	x											
Aerobics LS	Th						x	x	x	x	x			
Choir	F	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x			

Donations – do you have any spare (good condition) plastic toys / animals / people, dressing up clothes, cars or construction toys such as KNEX or Lego? If so, we would be most grateful to receive these and could make excellent use of them at ‘Fun and Games’ club and also during wet break times and lunchtimes. Any donations are always gratefully received – please send them in to Mrs Kerr-Delworth. Thank you.



Huge thanks to our merry band who arrived this morning, cakes in hand, to set up for our very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning. Also thank you if you were able to donate cakes, attend our coffee morning or send your child with a contribution towards this very worthwhile charity.

We will let you know next week how much you raised altogether. Thank you.

Don't forget Friday 26th October is an INSET Day. Staff will be in school but not pupils. Thank you.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe