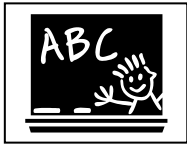


Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 5

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

5th October 2018

Diary Date	Activity
<p>Monday 8th October</p> 	<p>Yamaha Music Assembly - these are always really popular with the children and a great opportunity to hear live music performed by talented musicians. As an interactive assembly all of the children get to join in on instruments, percussion and singing along!</p>
<p>Tuesday 9th October</p> 	<p>Year 5 children have an opportunity to visit the Fire Station in Burton next week. Apologies for the technical hitch with the e-mail containing the information that was sent last week. We do hope everyone has now received it. If you are able to log in to Parent Pay to tick the permission consent and make a contribution towards travel costs, we would really appreciate it.</p>
<p>Thursday 11th October</p> 	<p>Mellors Smoothie Bike - each term we arrange various workshops, assemblies or experiences in partnership with Mellors, our catering suppliers. These help children learn about where food comes from, they learn skills such as bread and pastry making and also the benefits of healthy eating and lifestyle. These last two aspects are covered perfectly when children work in groups to select fruits for their smoothie, then blend the drink by pedalling an exercise bike! Always great fun!</p>
<p>Thurs 11th & Fri 12th Oct</p> 	<p>Year 3 are off on a visit to St James' Church for a Harvest Experience. Thursday 11th October - 1:05 - 3:30 - 3D Friday 12th October - 9:05 - 11:30 - 3M If there are any parents who are able to accompany the visit, then your support would be very welcome. Please pop a note to Mrs David or Miss Murfin, catch a member of staff on the gate, telephone the office or let us know via questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk</p>
<p>Monday 15th October</p> 	<p>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.</p>
<p>Friday 19th October</p> 	<p>Don't forget you are invited to our Harvest Festival at 2:00. Children not attending Choir or SoccerStars are able to leave after the event with their own parent / carer. If you wish to give permission for someone else to collect, please ensure this is done in writing before the day.</p>

<p>Tues 23rd & Th 25th Oct</p> 	<p>Parent Consultations 4pm - 7pm - Thank you to everyone who has signed up already for appointments at our Parent Consultation Evenings. More detailed information can be found on Newsletter 3. If you are yet to book, please do so by the deadline of Monday 15th October.</p> <p>Please log in to www.schoolinterviews.co.uk Enter code: q99kz</p>	
<p>Friday 26th October</p> 	<p>INSET Day - Children are not in school but staff are, please don't be confused when you see all the cars.</p> <p>HALF TERM - Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November</p>	
<p>Wednesday 31st October</p>	<p>Ensure Secondary / High School applications are completed by this date. https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-secondary-school-place</p>	
<p>Monday 5th November</p> 	<p>Back to School Please label up your winter warmers and make sure children have them in school each day. We will continue to go outside at break and lunch time for fresh air and a stretch on every day it is safe to do so. Coats with hoods are a real bonus, and wellies / umbrellas on a wet day are most welcome (please just send a carrier bag so they don't get the rest of your children's belongings wet in their locker.)</p>	
<p>Tuesday 6th November</p> 	<p>Bags2School collection Having a good tidy out over half term? Why not donate any old clothes / shoes etc to the Bags2School collection which raises much needed funds for the school. For full information on other items the company are able to collect, head to www.bags2school.com</p>	
<p>Tuesday 4th December</p> 	<p>This week we have sent home information on the NHS Flu vaccination programme. Please ensure that permission slips are returned a minimum of 2 weeks before the vaccination date to ensure enough vaccines are ordered. (Return by 19.11.18)</p>	 <p>School Age Immunisation Team Primary School Programme</p> <p>SEASONAL FLU VACCINATION PROGRAM</p> <p>This envelope contains important information regarding immunisations</p> <p>Please review the enclosed information and return the consent form to your child's school within one week of receiving it using this envelope.</p> <p>CHILD'S NAME: _____ <small>(Please complete before returning)</small></p>

Homework

Thank you... we have seen some of the most amazing homework over the last couple of weeks, from 3D skeletons with moving limbs, to stop motion animation of a child learning their spellings, to outstanding illuminated letters which children had clearly taken huge time and care over.

We have also been really pleased with the percentage of children who are doing all of their homework, going over and above expectations and the proactive approach some children are taking to learning spellings – writing them over and over as well as trying out other ways to learn them and getting parents to help with little tests. The new times tables books in lower school have raised great enthusiasm with some brilliant results in classes today too.

We know there is huge evidence to support the fact that children who are well supported at home, perform better in school. We really feel the level of parental support has been exceptional since returning to school this year, so thank you as always for your continued and consistent support.



A note about parking from the School Governors.

We have been made aware that some parents/carers are parking on the double yellow lines outside of the school gates and turning in the school gateway during pick up - both at 3.30pm and at 4.30pm. Please be reminded that the double yellow lines are there for the children's safety.

There are sometimes as many as 120 children leaving through the main school entrance/gateway at 4.30pm which makes this as an **extremely dangerous turning area** indeed. Please, for the sake of the children, do not continue to do this.

We would strongly recommend using the turning area (yellow criss-crossed spot) instead of the gateway, and not continuing along Gilmore Lane past the zebra crossing.

We will shortly be erecting new signs along Gilmore Lane and in the turning area as a reminder.

Thank you on behalf of the children.

In other Governor news, I must inform parents that Mrs Mandy Bant has stepped down as a parent governor with immediate effect due to a significant change in her working hours and commitments.

We would like to thank Mrs Bant for her work whilst serving on the Governing Body and in the role of Safeguarding Governor.

Mrs Bant's resignation leaves us with a vacancy for a parent governor. Due to another governor approaching the end of her term as a parent governor, we will then have two parent governor vacancies. Please have a think about whether this may be a role you would consider taking on and get in touch if you have any questions or would like to express an interest.



International Sporting Success

We have been delighted to hear that an ex-pupil from Thomas Russell Junior, Reeve Evitts, has been selected to represent England at Indoor Cricket. He has earned the prestigious role as Captain of the 13 and Under Boys team in New Zealand at the WICF Junior World Series.

Clubs next week - Yoga, Netball, the last Aerobics and Choir.

I am delighted to announce that, following our very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning, your kind contributions raised £366. Thank you again to everyone who gave their time and contributions to make is so successful.



I have received a message from Holland Sports Club asking me to highlight an issue to any parents and children who use the pathway adjacent to the fishpond alongside the Sport Club. As you may have noticed, recently the fence and gate have been replaced. They report that many children sit on the new fence, climb between the top and middle rails, or use it as equipment for gymnastic-style exercises. Many children also climb or swing on the adjacent gate. They have asked me to advise both parents and children to keep clear of the fence and to use the gate only in the proper manner and that the fence and gate are the private property of Holland Sports Club.



And last but not least...news hot off the press...

Following a great week of sporting success where our Table Tennis Team performed brilliantly at JTHS, a team have been invited to a County Final later in the year.

In football news, after an 8-3 win against John of Rolleston last night, we also won the Dove Valley 6-a-side tournament at Burton Albion's Pirelli Stadium today.

Children have been praised at all three events for their behaviour, sporting attitudes and team spirit.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe