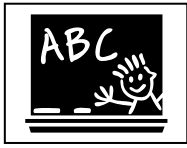


# Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 24

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

13<sup>th</sup> March 2015

# PLEASE READ ME!

*Each week we try to put lots of useful updates about what is going on in school, as well as dates for forthcoming events and information that parents should find useful for organisation. We are receiving an ever increasing number of questions when the answer has already been included in the newsletter. Please could we respectfully request that parents read the newsletter and keep it in a safe place for future reference? If, like at my house, you find that pieces of paper disappear, the Newsletter can be e-mailed to you, by sending a message SUBSCRIBE to questions@, or it can also be downloaded / referred to each week on the school website.*

### British Science Week 2015

Our Science week culminated today in an awesome 'Science is Magic' assembly, hosted by Miss Murfin!

We had a whole host of activities throughout school, designed to:

- inspire and enthuse the children about science learning;
- raise awareness of how science is closely linked to technology, engineering & maths
- enable children to have fun with science through practical, 'hands on' learning activities.

Poster Competition - children should have come home with a sheet of A4 paper to enter this year's British Science Week Poster Competition. The theme is 'Science on Your Doorstep' and provides children with an opportunity to create an original poster about a scientific, technological, medical or mathematical invention / innovation from the local area. Children can draw, collage, paint a poster, or use ICT skills to create a design on the computer / iPad.

*Rules: Posters should contain, on the front, a title, brief explanation of the science used and a description of how the topic chosen is linked to the local area. On the back: Name, age and class.*

*Work must be original and created by the children.*

Entries should be returned to Miss Murfin by next Friday (20<sup>th</sup> March). The best 10 entries from across the year groups will win a prize and be put forward on behalf of the school in the main competition. Good luck and get creative!



Thank you to Fiona, Katelyn, Amelia and Olivia for their work in organising the Red Nose Day 'Bake Sale'. Clearly they had fun making the cakes! We will let you know how much was raised in next week's newsletter.



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### Friends Family Quiz

So far we only have 9 entries for the quiz on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. We need at least 20 teams to make the event viable. Please ensure forms are returned by Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, and we will inform you next week via the Newsletter if we have enough to go ahead. Thank you.

### SPAG Workshop

Thank you to the 59 families who came to our SPAG workshop. We know from your feedback that you enjoyed the action packed workshop and took home some really useful ideas and resources, as well as your Alphabetti Spaghetti - a well-earned reward!

Your feedback is always appreciated to help us to identify where we got it right on the night and also to help us inform future workshops. We were delighted that nearly 40% of parents rated the workshop as outstanding, and over 91% rated it good or better. There was only one parent who rated the workshop overall as inadequate.

For any parents who were unable to attend, look out for information placed in the Parent Information of the website so you are able to follow up should you wish.

Parents indicated the new information and ideas they had acquired which were most useful were: the handwriting website, new games and ways to make spellings more fun as well as the importance of learning spelling rules. Suggestions on how to improve included having more time and less people. It is always a tricky balance to get these two right - we want to fit as much in as we can to give a whistle stop tour of the subject and let parents know where they can go to find more, but are also conscious of it being a very long day for children if we make the workshop longer than an hour. Parents have asked for a Maths workshop next. Other comments included: *"Great fun - thanks to all the staff"*, *"Enjoyed it - it put fun into learning"*, *"Very worthwhile and enjoyable"*, *"It was great, but at times hard to hear and keep up with activities as we were near the back"*, *"Thank you - lots of information to go over at home"*, *"Enjoyed the kinaesthetic activities"*, *"Amazing"*.

### London Marathon for Alzheimer's Society

Katie Rawlins (mum of Ben in yr 4) is running the London Marathon for Alzheimer's Society (her mum died from dementia 18 months ago) and the Red Carpet Cinema have very kindly offer to do a charity showing of Still Alice on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30. Tickets are £12.50 which includes a glass of fizz and nibbles. All proceeds will go to the Alzheimer's Society. To book tickets contact the Red Carpet Cinema on: 01283 716257

### If you notice this notice, you'll notice this notice IS worth noticing!

Thank you to Mr Harper (parent) for repairing the noticeboard that was vandalised earlier this year. Thank you also for organising the repair of our school gates after two separate delivery lorries reversed into them, the first one bending the gate out of shape and the second one knocking it off of its hinge completely! Thanks also to Mrs Da Rosa, Mrs Kabrich, Mrs Butler, Mrs Leyland and Mrs Wragg for your work organising the reading books. We really appreciate your help!

### Chasewater

Next week our Y5 children are off to Chasewater. Look out on Monday morning for children with their teddy bears and cases big enough to fit themselves in! Please could parents bring children in to the hall between 8:40 and 8:50, where they will need to hand in purses and any medication to a member of staff before going out to play. We anticipate the coach will arrive at approximately 9:15, parents are welcome to wave us off, but please could we ask that you do not park on Gilmour Lane (unless it is at the bottom or in the layby) as parked cars can make it difficult for the coaches to reverse.

*Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe*

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