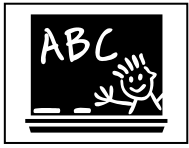


Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



Newsletter



Issue No. 28

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

24th April 2015

After a super Easter break it was great to come back to school and hear about all of the lovely things that children have been up to over the holidays.

It was equally pleasing to see their commitment to learning has continued with some very diligent revision in Y6 and some wonderful Chasewater presentations from Y5. Y4 children have continued to improve their spelling knowledge with games and Y3 have almost all managed to cultivate their mystery seed and produce some brilliantly detailed plant diaries!

Chasewater by Izzy

The journey on the bus
created such a fuss.
We were all in a rush
we started to push.

The journey seemed to take forever
we thought we would arrive...er...never!

At night when the moon was out
we went for a walk out and about.

It was the dark of the night
our torches let out a little light.

To show us the way
back for another day.

The day of the climbing wall
people were scared in case they would fall.
Those who reached the top of the tower
were filled with a mighty power.

Feeling rather proud
before the waiting crowd.

The thing I liked the best
because I was impressed,
was singing songs around the fire
ask anyone - I'm not a liar!
By now we had begun to tire
we were singing like a choir.

After restless nights and lots of snoring
another day would soon be dawning.

Our very last
our time went flash.
Back on the bus, we didn't rush
we didn't push.

All the way back to school
Chasewater was really COOL!

Spring Term - Reading Challenge winners

We always say 'you've got to be in it to win it!' and that is definitely the case for this term's winners of the reading challenge. We give a raffle ticket each week to all children reading 5 times or more.

Our House and Vice Captains drew these winners:

3G - Katie B & Gabriel L
3M - Megan D & Oliver D
4E - Aidan J & Evie S
4M - Ewan R & Imogen S
5M - Dan C & Charlotte R
5B - Jack T & Natalia A
6S - Millie W & Myles T
6D - Sophie E & Robert R

Grandparents' Lunches

Wed 6th May - 5B, Wed 20th May - 5M,

Wed 17th June - 6D, Wed 24th June - 6S.

Lunchtimes

Your children may have told you that we have made some changes to lunchtimes to reduce the number of children moving around in school. This means lunchbox trolleys are now being taken into the hall for all classes. This has had a massively positive impact on improvement of supervision throughout the lunch hour; however it has caused a technical hitch as we discover many of our children have identical sandwich boxes! Please could parents ensure lunchboxes are clearly labelled so children can accurately identify their own to avoid the accidental munching of someone else's sarnies!

Reports

You should have received your child's Termly Report for the Spring Term today. Please ensure the reply slip is returned to school in the next couple of weeks.

Extra-Curricular Activities

You should also receive today a letter informing you of which clubs your child has been offered a place. Again I would stress how important it is that children attend every week please.

Summer Sun

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the beautiful sunshine we have seen over the last few weeks could continue? This dry spell has meant we have been able to get out onto the field earlier than usual this year. It does also mean that children would benefit from having a sun hat in school on brighter days. **A labelled water bottle EVERY single day is an absolute must too, please.** We have drinking water in every classroom so children are welcome to refill these throughout the day. Please could we also remind parents again about ensuring jumpers and cardigans are labelled? It is not enough for a child to be able to 'recognise' their own. When 240 children are out playing and lunchtime and 95% take off their cardigans and jumpers that task gets a lot more difficult.

Friends of TRJS

Some of you may be aware that following the EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) held on Tuesday 21st April our Friends of Thomas Russell Junior School (FTRJS) disbanded in its current format. This is due to the fact that we did not secure enough parent volunteers to take the roles of all four officers. At the meeting, one parent Mrs Trinh offered to take on the role of Treasurer and, to maintain the charity status and to avoid the children missing out altogether, school staff have stepped in to take the roles of the remaining officers:
Chair - Mrs Alcock; Vice-Chair - Mrs Sharpe; Secretary - Mrs Gahagan.

The new arrangements will see a number of changes to how events are organised and how funds are raised for our pupils in schools and indeed, the possible loss of some longstanding events. However, we do hope that the changes will also bring about some exciting new opportunities, which we will be sharing with you in due course. In the meantime, if you have any ideas you would like to share as to how we can move forward to continue raising vital funds for the pupils 'extra' learning materials and experiences, please do let us know, either in person or by email: questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk With an ever-decreasing budget, it is vital that we keep fundraising to provide the extras that our children deserve.

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to the outgoing officers - Fiona Bavester as Chair, Leisl Stewart as Secretary and Jo Dalby as Treasurer - you have all done sterling jobs and we appreciate the support and commitment that you have been able to offer. Sadly, we are also looking for someone to take over running the second hand uniform stall as the Kabrich's will be leaving us in the not too distant future to return to America. Please look out for returned cheques / cash from the Friends Family Quiz which had to be cancelled.

Competition time!

Look out for our Friends of TRJS Competition launched today to design a new logo for **Friends of TRJS**, which will be used in all of our communication. Prizes include family days out and art equipment.



Finally I'd like to say a huge thank you to Mrs David for organising our visit from the **Police Helicopter** today. The children were really surprised as we lined up on the playground and could hear it circling overhead, and then shocked when it made its decent onto our school field! All of the children had the chance to look around the helicopter and ask questions to the policemen and pilot before gathering again on the playground to watch it depart to attend an emergency.



Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe

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