

# Thomas Russell Junior School

'Ambitious culture, strong team ethos, outstanding academic achievement, high expectations, exemplary behaviour' Ofsted 2019.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 41

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Teacher at the beginning  
of the school year



Teacher at the end  
of the school year



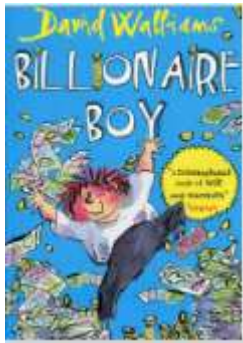
And now, the end is near...

I came across two things this week that made me smile and I thought felt very appropriate. The first was this picture - I know I have certainly been feeling much more like the second owl when my alarm clock has gone off the last couple of weeks!

Also, last week Year 5 were writing limericks as part of their English lessons on the Daily Doodle.

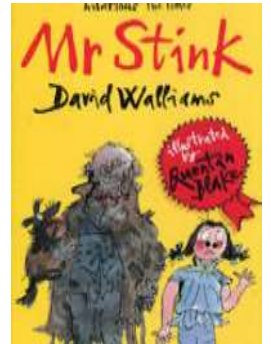
This one by Zoe B in 5K struck a chord a bit like the picture...

There once was a tired old mummy,  
She didn't think home schooling was funny.  
She'd rather be a hermit,  
But didn't have a permit,  
The poor old home schooling mummy.



I am delighted to say that in response to our cheeky request for donations last week, we've received quite a few copies of Mr Stink and Billionaire Boy. We've even had 2 new copies of each delivered from Amazon – thank you to whoever bought those for us, and to everyone who has donated 😊.

We're well on our way towards a class reader set of these ready for next year, but any more would still be gratefully received.



### Autumn Term 2020

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September - INSET  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - Children back (YIPPEE!!)  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - INSET  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October - Half Term  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Children back  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Break up for Christmas

### Spring Term 2021

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January - INSET  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Children back  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Break up  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February - Children back  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April - Break up for Easter





### Summer Term 2021

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April - Children back

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May - INSET

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Half Term

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - INSET

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July - Break up for Summer

We return for the following academic year on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021, but will have INSET and Twilight sessions so children will return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Please note: These term dates and INSET Days are the same for TRJS and TRIS, but JTHS may plan their INSET slightly differently. These are correct at time of publication, however based on the current situation may be subject to change.

### Memorialising our Lockdown experiences

As we take the next step on the road to recovery, we want to create a permanent memorial at school. We want this to be a peaceful place that children can go to reflect on their experiences, to talk, to celebrate achievements and to remember 'Storms don't last forever'.

This will be centred primarily around a collection of painted stones.

Please bring in any stones that you have made, found or been given that you would be happy for us to place permanently into the memorial. These can be placed through the gates if they're closed or if they're open, please bring them inside and place them outside Mrs Sharpe's office window.



### September

We have set up a new folder on the website with all of the information you might need over the Summer holiday: the class move up activities, some learning jigsaws and also information on September arrangements as we know many parents will want to re-read thoroughly when it gets closer to the time for return.

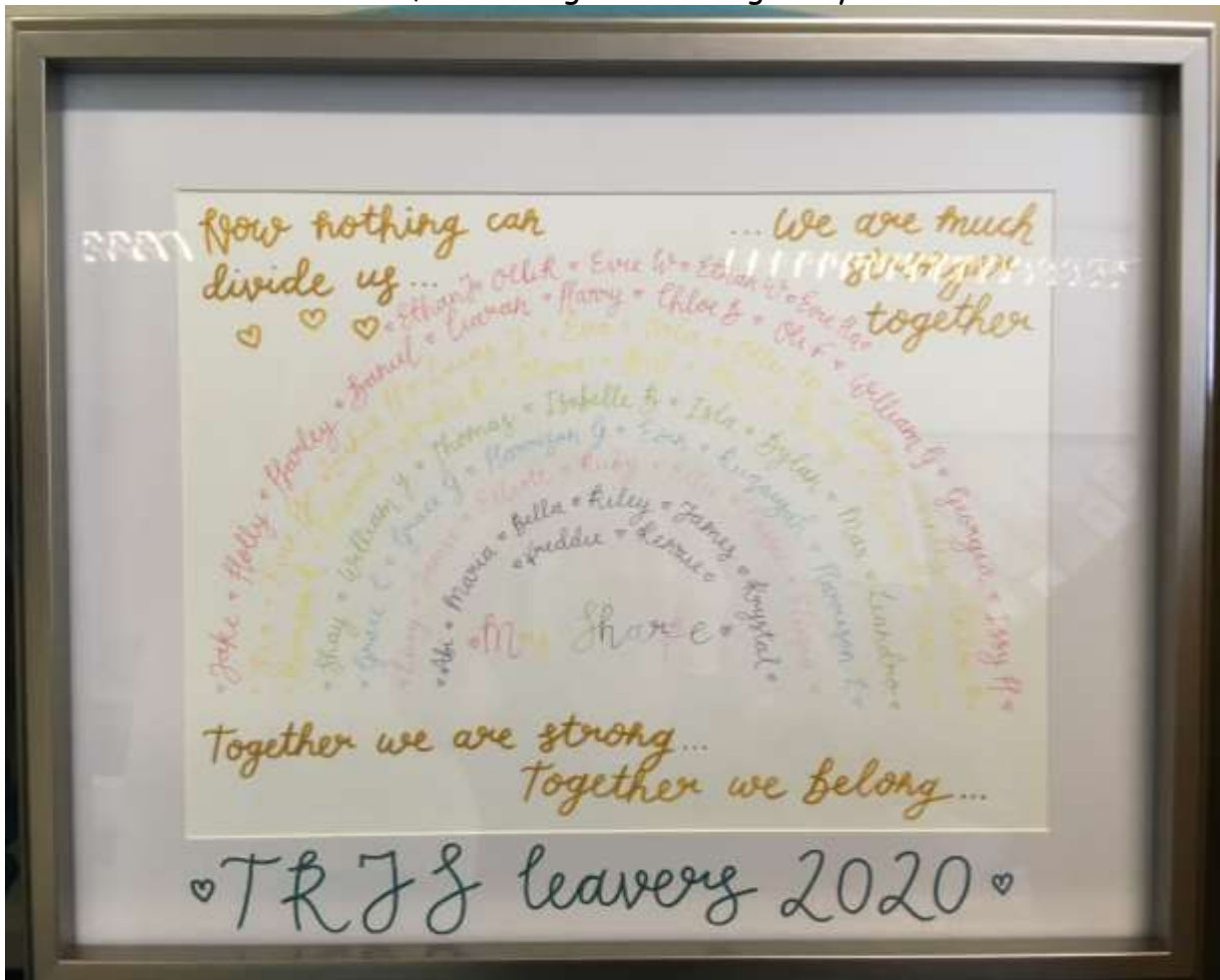
Please also watch out for a Microsoft Forms link which will be sent at the end of the Summer holiday to gather information from parents regarding Covid-19 and school procedures.

IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO COMPLETE THIS BEFORE YOUR CHILD RETURNS TO SCHOOL.

Children will be required to bring their own water bottle, they will also be asked to have a packet of tissues in their pocket and may bring a small hand gel in their pocket too if desired.



And so, that brings us to our goodbyes ...



We could not be more proud of our amazing Year 6 children who have endured a last term in Junior School unlike any other, with so much uncertainty and difference. They have watched and waited as year groups above them have counted off the milestones. SATs Week with treats every afternoon and Circus Skills Day on the Friday, Y6 Residential visit - a chance to kick back and relax, High School transition days to meet their new teachers and look around their new school, Awards Assembly - a chance to celebrate achievements in front of the whole school and to inspire younger pupils to follow in their footsteps, preparing for Leavers' Assembly and then their Leavers' day at the end of the year.

We were so pleased to be able to give this year group the Leavers' Parade they so thoroughly deserved, they will be sadly missed and for many families it is the end of an era.

We have been overwhelmed with parents' generosity this week and would like to say a huge thank you for your kindness with gifts, cards, treats and so many wonderful messages. I was so touched by the gifts I received, and now my 2020 Y6s will be forever remembered in my office as well as in my heart - what a truly special year group. Thank you.

My final message is a fond farewell to Mrs Capper who retires after 4 years at TRJS. She has made so many true friends in her time here and is one of the most generous, kind, caring, thoughtful and humble people you could every wish to meet. We all wish her a thoroughly enjoyable and restful retirement.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Sharpe