

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 8

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

25th October 2019

We made it!

Huge congratulations to the children (and staff and parents!) who made it to the end of a really long and tiring half term. We have achieved so much in just 8 weeks ☺ Children have settled exceptionally well into their new school / year groups and classes, and as you will have seen at Parent Consultations, produced many pieces of work to be really proud of.

Our classrooms are all looking lovely and bright now with the new suspended ceilings. The pipework throughout school has all been replaced and connected to our new boilers, which were installed last winter, so hopefully we should be nice and cosy when children return after half term.

Our Harvest Assembly today was a wonderful celebration of the children's talents and also showed how many bright, articulate and well informed children we have here, who have a true desire to make a better future for themselves, others and the environment.

Have a wonderful half term and good rest and we will see you on Monday 4th November.
(Dare I say it...only 8½ weeks until Christmas!!)

Parent Forum

For many years now at Thomas Russell Junior, we have run a very effective and productive Parent Forum. Unfortunately, over recent years, numbers have dwindled. We would like to extend a warm invite to parents to form the new Parent Forum for this academic year; whether you are new to the school, a previous volunteer or just have some great suggestions that you think could help us to get even better, we would love you to join us.

The remit of the Parent Forum is to focus on whole school improvement and wider issues. It is an opportunity to gauge parental opinion on a range of aspects of school and to take feedback from members of the Forum and the wider parent body.

You can keep up to date with current topics and progress of the Parent Forum, via our noticeboard in the entrance hall and the Parent Forum section of the website. If you have an individual or personal issue / comment, we would still encourage you to come directly to us, either through your child's class teacher or to myself, in order that we may be able to discuss and address this as quickly as possible.

We are asking parents to e-mail an 'Expression of Interest' to [questions@](mailto:questions@trjs.org) if they would be interested in forming part of the Parent Forum. We hope to get at least two representatives from each class, to give a forum of sixteen parents plus governor and staff representation. We intend that the Parent Forum will meet three times during the year, once per term. These meetings will be during the school day, starting at 9:00am and lasting approximately 60 minutes. The dates have been set as Wednesday 20th November, Wednesday 26th February & Wednesday 17th June.

We would also welcome your input if you have an item that you would like discussed at the Parent Forum, but do not wish to be a representative. We already have a couple of topics for discussion, but the more the merrier! The deadline for expressing an interest is Thursday 14th November. Names of those parents attending the Parent Forum will go on the weekly Newsletter on Friday 15th November.

We really hope you will consider joining the Parent Forum and can assure you of a warm reception.



Early Birds runs daily between 8:00 and 8:45 and is based around a range of sports, team games, construction activities & ICT.
Breakfast is provided and includes toast, cereal, fruit, yoghurt and a drink of fruit juice, milk or water.
Early Birds costs £3.00 per session.

Early Bird Bookings for Autumn 2 can be made via
www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **jvw3v**

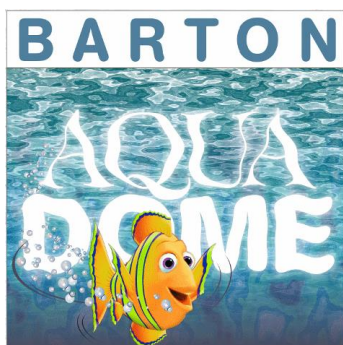
Night Owls runs daily from 3:30 until 5:45
(Except last day of term - Christmas, Easter & Summer.)
Activities provided include a range of free play, construction activities, art & crafts, outdoor games and toy sheds.
Children receive fruit and drink at the beginning of the session, then a light tea just before 5:00. Tea includes a selection of sandwiches, toast or hot dogs; fruit, yoghurt or cake and a drink.
Night Owls costs £8.00 per session.



Night Owls Bookings for Autumn 2 can be made via
www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **9hb9r**

Deadline for all bookings is SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2019

You do not have to be a regular user to take advantage of our childcare provision either before or after school. If you just want a one off session, or a couple of days per month, this is absolutely fine - you only book and pay for what you need, however much or little.
Perhaps you fancy a day Christmas shopping and will not be back for 3:30 pick up - why not try out Night Owls? Or have a breakfast meeting you need to attend - why not consider Early Birds?
For more details about T&Cs and paying by childcare vouchers, please see the Early Birds and Night Owls page on the website or e-mail patrick@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk



We are pleased to announce that Barton Aquadome will be open to the public during October half term.

**Tuesday 29th, Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st October
Public Sessions (10:30 – 12:00)**

Public sessions - £1.50 per person

Thursday 31st October

Under 5s Session (9:00 – 10:00)

Under 5 sessions - £2 with 1 child, £2.50 with 2 children.

Parent Governor Election

Finally, I am pleased to announce that we have received two nominations for our Parent Governor position. We will therefore be holding an election to allow parents to vote for their chosen representative. Please look out for the brightly coloured election papers, which will be circulated on the first day of next half term. You will have three weeks to return your voting papers to school.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe