

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter

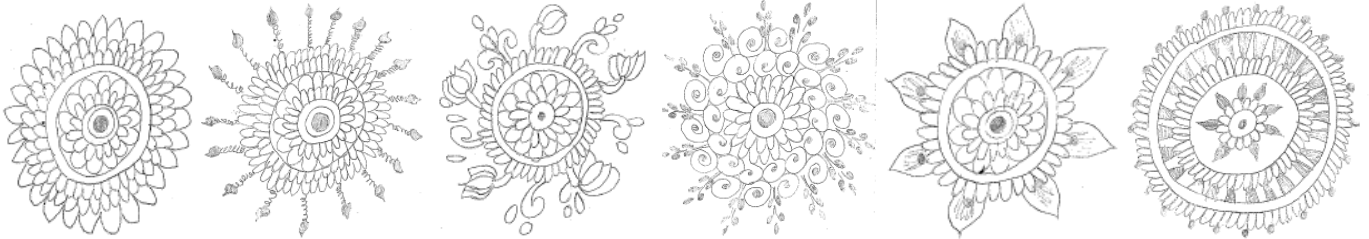


Issue No. 11

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

22nd November 2019

Henna



In Henna Club, we have been learning to make some beautiful mandala designs. Over the next few coming weeks we will make henna design strips and henna paisley designs. We have started to make our own cones to fill with henna paste next week. First we will trial out the designs on paper, then if we are allowed we will apply henna to our hands.

These designs were by Elisa M.

Remembrance

This year we have been pleased to take part in a number of remembrance events during the month of November. Our first was a visit with a small group to the National Memorial Arboretum, where our children attended a service to mark the opening of the Field of Remembrance. This was a very moving event which offered the children the opportunity to meet veterans and families and to see thousands of crosses in the Field of Remembrance. You may have seen us on BBC News when Abi and Riley were interviewed. All of the children were complemented on their behaviour being the youngest group there. One lady was particularly impressed as our children gave up their seats to members of the public and went to stand together at the back of the service.

Our next event was when Chloe, Ebony, Leandro and Lucy spoke on Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial in Barton, reading aloud the names of lost soldiers. Again, they were praised for their behaviour and maturity - a veteran told me he was very moved to see the respectful manner in which they conducted themselves.

Finally, whilst children in school marked a 2-minute silence in an assembly, the House Captains accompanied me to the War Memorial where a short service was held. Again their behaviour was impeccable. Bill and Bella laid the wreath on behalf of TRJS.

Thank you also to all of the Y6 children who collected donations for poppies, badges, wristbands and snap bands - we will inform you in due course how much the school raised, but your contributions towards the collection are appreciated.



Assemblies

Last week we had a series of Anti-Bullying assemblies

Anti-Bullying Week happens in schools across England each November. We have been thinking about this year's theme 'Change Starts With Us' in our assemblies this week. The week is co-ordinated across the country by the Anti-Bullying Alliance (<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>). Their theme aims were :

Small change. Big difference.

Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood. By making small, simple changes, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Because together, we can challenge bullying. Change starts with a conversation. It starts with checking in. It starts with work together.

Change starts here. Change starts now. Change starts with us.

It takes a collective responsibility to stop bullying. We want to create empowering, positive messages addressing the fact that when it comes to bullying **CHANGE STARTS WITH US!**

Childline also some have useful guidance and support for children who are being bullied, seeing bullying going on, or are doing the bullying themselves, and can be found at <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/types-bullying/bullying-cyberbullying/>.



Mindfulness and Positivity

We had two slightly different assemblies this week: one focusing on mindfulness and the other looking at how having a positive mental attitude can help us lead happier lives.



The children watched videos that our 'Mindful Mentors' had created showing different activities such as: Star Breathe and Shark Fin and then had a go at trying some of them. (Watch out for these videos on the website so you can also practise mindfulness at home).

We also created some actions to help us remember what we need to be focusing on:



POSITIVE



MENTAL



ATTITUDE

and...



FOCUS



ON



YOUR



STRENGTHS

We are looking forward to incorporating more mindfulness into daily life at TRJS and the Year 6s are excited about teaching the younger children about 'Mind Mates' in the new year.



Helping Hands - Anxiety

Don't forget to sign up to this workshop, taking place on Thursday 5th December 9.30-11.00am. See below for booking code. If you can't make it, but feel your child would benefit from it then please let us know.

Aldi Sports Kit and Sun Books

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who brought in stickers collected from Aldi, I am delighted to tell you that we filled the poster with time to spare so it has now been sent off to be entered into the prize draw. Fingers crossed!

Our next collection is Sun Books, so with your help, I hope we can collect tokens from The Sun and The Sun on Sunday between Saturday 23rd November and Saturday 18th January. We are aiming for a total of 3500, which we are confident we can reach with the brilliant support of parents, families and neighbours. If we can reach the target then we will receive over 100 free Collins Big Cat books, which the children really enjoy, as well as a David Walliams picture book - There's a Snake in my School!

Parent Helpers

As you know we are always on the look out for helpers in school. We currently have some children who could do with a little more support in Reading, so wondered if there is anyone who has an hour a week that they could offer to support in school. Please give us a call or catch me on the gate.






Brownies is for girls aged between 7 and 10 years old. I am the Leader of 1st Barton Brownies and we meet on a Thursday evening at St James Hall from 5pm - 6.15pm. We have a large number of girls moving up to Guides at Christmas so have a number of spare spaces from January and we would very much welcome new Brownies. We have lots of fun doing crafts, games and outdoor activities as well as trips and Pack holidays.

If you are interested please call or text me on 07775684665. Catherine

Parent Forum

We had a lovely Parent Forum Meeting on Wednesday and it was great to welcome some new faces along, so thank you very much to those who came and contributed to the discussions. Parents will be able to find out more about it next week.

Coming up in the next week...

Date	Event	Times	Description
Mon 25 th Nov 	Parent Governor Election	9:30	Deadline to have submitted election papers to vote for Parent Gov.
Thurs 5 th Dec 	Helping Hands Coffee Morning 9:30 - 11:00		Our focus for this term's helping Hands meeting is ' Dealing with Anxiety '. Come along to find out different strategies to help you or your child with this. Then work alongside your child(ren) to make a 'Worry Monster Box' together. Book your place via: www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using code: d29gn
Fri 6 th Dec  (If your name's not down, you're not coming in!)	1) Deadline to buy a ticket for the School Christmas Disco. Tickets cost £5 and are non-refundable. 2) Deadline to buy a ticket for Red Carpet Cinema Treat. Tickets cost £4 and are non-refundable. 3) Deadline to pay £2.39 for Christmas Dinner.		



Eddie Jones Comes to Barton

The England Rugby coach will be visiting Barton Under Needwood Rugby Club on the **26th November**
He will be at Holland Sports club from **6:30pm** overseeing training sessions and meeting the players.



Come along and join our training session.

**On the evening we will be running Training sessions for ages 4 – 11
6:15 pm – 7:15pm**



If you wish to join in come down at 6pm dressed appropriately to train outside

Ages 4-7 to wear trainers and meet on the MUGA pitch adjacent the club

Ages 8-11 to wear football boots and to meet on the main grass pitch adjacent the tennis courts

We would love you to come along and support this wonderful community event.

Food & refreshments are available in the Marquee.

If you enjoyed the training session and would like to play rugby for Barton please see our fixtures secretary who will be located in the sports club conservatory.

Tippers
LUXURY KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

RAFFLE IN AID OF St Giles Hospice Care

10:30, 12:30 & 14:30 COOKERY DEMOS ★★★★★

KIDS XMAS TREASURE HUNT!

WIN A KITCHEN AID

DAY ONLY DEALS IN STORE ★★★★★

OVER 30 CRAFT STALLS

TEMPLE SPA DEMOS

FREE MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE
*Donation to St Giles

EUROPA WAY, LICHFIELD, WS14 9TZ
01543 440 020 | TIPPERS.COM

*Best wishes,
Mrs Sharpe*