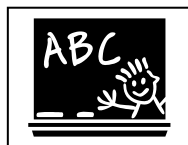


Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



Newsletter



Issue No. 2

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

18th September 2015

School Council

I am pleased to inform you that the following children have been selected as School Councillors for this year:

	Representatives	
6P	Natalia A	Jamie B
6M	Callum W	Katie S
5D	Amber C-D	Freddie K
5C	Hugo T-J	Ruby W
4V	Emily T	George C
4S	Samuel W	Tessa A
3M	Laney S	Isaac M-B
3M	Cameron W	Bonnie D

I have already had a couple of great suggestions from the children and look forward to our first meeting on Wednesday 23rd September at 9am.

Eco Warriors

We are really lucky at Thomas Russell Junior to be surrounded by such superb grounds. Our Eco Warriors play a key role in helping to keep our environment looking beautiful with flowers and plants, growing their own fruit and vegetables as well as promoting recycling, energy conservation and all things eco!

	Eco Warriors this year are:	
3E	Lois A	George M
3M	Harvey L	Holly H
4S	Polly H	Max Y
4V	Ronnie H	Jade B
5C	Níamh J	Ewan R
5D	Aidan J	Fern L
6M	Leah P	Callum T
6P	Codie S	Annalise A



We need you!

At TRJS, we are always welcoming of parent help. There are many forms this can take: listening to readers, photocopying, filing, mounting work and creating displays, acting as 'Eyes' in swimming sessions, supporting group work in the classroom, joining the Friends of Thomas Russell group, etc. We have a number of slots supporting in the classroom waiting to be filled by willing volunteers and we warmly invite you to pop in to talk to Mrs Chaddock about how you can best support the school community, either on a regular or intermittent basis. We very much appreciate your support and hope you will find it rewarding.

Advance Notice – Diary Dates

Fri 25 th Sept	10:30	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Wed 30 th Sept	8:30	Individual and Family Photographs
Thurs 8 th Oct / Tue 13 th Oct	4:00 - 7:00	Parent Consultations
Fri 23 rd Oct	3:30	Last day of term
Mon 2 nd Nov	8:50	Back to school
Fri 27 th Nov		INSET Day – School Closed
Fri 18 th Dec	3:30	Break up for Christmas
Mon 4 th Jan	8:50	Back to School

More information will follow closer to the time.

5C - Mrs Cuthbert – Maternity Leave

As many of you will know Mrs Cuthbert is expecting a baby in November. She currently intends to take two terms of Maternity Leave and we are therefore advertising for an enthusiastic and skilled teacher who will be able to cover this period from October Half term to May Half term. Mrs Cuthbert has already begun to put systems and procedures in place to ensure smooth transition and minimise the impact on the children's learning and progress. We will keep you updated. Congratulations and best wishes to Mr & Mrs Cuthbert.

Receive Newsletters by e-mail, or ask a question: questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk

Swimming

Thank you very much to the parents who have been able to offer their time in school to support with swimming. We have managed to cover all of the sessions which means we can start swimming lessons on Monday 21st September. There is just one session, as indicated (XXX), where it would be helpful to have more cover. If you find your session has too many helpers, you may wish to organise a rota between yourselves.

The timetable is as follows:

	1:15 – 2:25	2:20 – 3:25
Mon	Ruth England Catherine Lindsay	Karen Leyland Catherine Lindsay
Tues	Sarah Thomas Nicola Johnson Anne Smith Jill Ayre	Rachel Chambers Sam Cowgill Kerrie Spooner Anne Smith
Wed	Lorna Sherratt Lindsay Butler	Lorna Sherratt (XXX)
Thur	Rachel Young Sarah Thomas	Rachel Chambers Rachel Young

We also have a list of parents who can't give up their time every week, but are happy to be called in an emergency. Having lots of Eyes to help ensures lessons can run really smoothly, so thank you again for all of your support.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We have had over ~~170~~ children reply to be involved in our programme of Extra-curricular activities – a superb response! This means 3/4 of the children in school are attending at least one club (some will be attending many more!) Unfortunately the deadline has now passed and we cannot accommodate any more requests.

These activities are a great chance for children to develop wider interests and hobbies, as well as mixing with different groups of children, developing self-confidence and strengthening friendships.

If your child has the time, but doesn't yet get involved, why not encourage them to just try something new – they might discover a real passion!

You should have received a letter informing you of the information specific to your own child. Please read it carefully and keep in a safe place so you know the dates which the clubs are running.

Parent Pay – please can I remind parents to log on to their accounts and pay Dinner Money for the half term as soon as possible? We still have nearly 50% of the children who stay for dinners who haven't paid.

Questions please!

As you know, we have an e-mail address for parents to contact school, but did you know you can use it to ask questions about ANYTHING? (to do with school - not the meaning of life!) questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk

Question: Do the children need to leave wellies in school?

Answer: We don't expect children to leave wellies in school; however it is really helpful on wet and snowy days if parents send children wearing wellies with their shoes in a carrier bag.

We pride ourselves on having a friendly and approachable team of staff who all have the best interests of the children at heart. If you do have any worries or concerns, these are always better shared with us to give us the opportunity to address them, rather than left (or worse posted on social media!)

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning at 10:30 on Friday 25th September. We are looking for your support in fund raising for this life-changing charity.

We would be really grateful if cake donations could be brought in to school first thing on the Friday.

We have a happy shopper ☺ and some volunteers for helping to set up from 9:30, but a few more would be great. We also have a few volunteers for serving but as this is normally a well-attended event, a few more would be really great. If you're a new parent, why not come along and get to know a few new faces and names. Thank you for your support.

The children will come into the hall at 11am for an extended break time, remember we are also selling cakes on the playground for those who wish to join in with supporting the coffee morning, but don't have parents attending.

We have sent home a 50/50 Club letter for parents to sign up and support our school fundraising. Please look out in your child's bag for an entry form.

The more names in the draw, the bigger the prizes!

Best wishes, Mrs S Sharpe

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