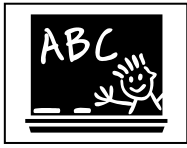


Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



Newsletter



Issue No. 5

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

9th October 2015

Parent Workshop

Tuesday 20th October

3:45 - 4:45pm



Objective:

- Learn how to access MyMaths

Outcomes:

- ✓ Be clear about how to support maths homework.
- ✓ Help my child enjoy maths at home as well as at school.
- ✓ Be more aware of methods and processes used in schools today.
- ✓ Enjoy maths more myself!

We already have 28 families signed up to attend our Workshop following Consultations this week. If you are hoping to come along, please do sign up to secure your place and your free goody bag!

Water bottles in classrooms

I would like to remind parents who are unsure that the children's water bottles in classrooms are only allowed to contain water. We adopted this initiative a number of years ago alongside the majority of schools in England.

The reasons behind it are as follows:

- good concentration is promoted by regularly drinking water,
- it is healthier for children's teeth to be drinking water rather than having a constant exposure to sugary drinks,
- there is a proven negative impact on children's behaviour from sugary drinks and the additives that are often hidden within them,
- water can be more easily cleared up should there be any accidents or spillages and
- the risk of attracting wasps and ants into the classroom is much greater if sugary drinks and bottles are kept there.

However, we do encourage the children to drink at break times and dinner times too. These drinks can be any type (often fruit juice cartons are very popular). Certainly only having a couple of sips in a day is not enough. We are more than happy to keep encouraging children to drink if parents can send water for during lessons and a couple of other drinks such as milkshake / squash or juice too then we can remind them to drink more regularly. I have known children to bring flasks of soup or even tea for drinking during lunchtime, or if children stay for school dinners then they have the options of water, fruit juice and milk.

Please do speak to individual teachers if there are concerns regarding what the children are eating or drinking during the school day.

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

Dove Valley Football Tournament

On Saturday 3rd October Thomas Russell Junior School entered two teams into the Dove Valley Football Tournament. The first game was TRJS A vs Forest Federation B and TRJS won 1-0! Afterwards, TRJS B played William Shrewsbury D and TRJS B won 2-0. As soon as that had finished TRJS B played again against William Shrewsbury C and drew 0-0. Later on, TRJS B played Forest Federation A and they were able to take the win by two goals to one. At the same time TRJS A played William Shrewsbury A and TRJS won 1-0, what a result! Thomas Russell B then played John of Rolleston B and unfortunately lost 3-0. Finally, TRJS A played Shobnall B and they won 2-0.

After all the drama of the group stages, Thomas Russell A made it to the semi-final but unfortunately, Thomas Russell B didn't, however, they played extremely well and were very close to qualifying. In the semi-final, Thomas Russell A played John of Rolleston A and sadly lost 1-0. The final was won by John of Rolleston A. Everyone played really well and had an amazing morning. WELL DONE TRJS!

By Sam J and Noah O'B

Year 6 Rugby Trip

On Tuesday 6th October, six lucky year 6 pupils got the chance to go to St George's Park and meet the Argentinean Rugby team, who are currently playing for their country in the Rugby World Cup. The six fortunate pupils were: Ellie S, Archie C, Reeve E, Shayden T, Jack W and Callum W.

First we got a photo in front of the Argentinean team bus. Next we got to see the team training for their upcoming match which we really enjoyed and were able to take photographs until they asked us to stop (so we couldn't learn any of their tactics for the next game!) Afterwards the team came to join us and we had photos with them and asked them for autographs. Finally we teamed up with children from other schools and played a series of Tag Rugby matches whilst being coached by members of the RFU.

As we made our way back from an exciting but tiring experience, we had big smiley faces knowing we had been on the trip of a lifetime.

By Ellie S and Callum W

Uniform

A number of adults in school have noticed, since returning to school, that we have a growing number of children who are not wearing appropriate uniform or footwear. I have to say well done to the boys, because they seem to be managing to follow the guidelines much more closely.

Guidance for girls is that skirts, trousers or tailored shorts should be GREY. Skirts also need to be of a reasonable length (Please let's keep our children as children.) and as the weather gets much colder, skirts would be far more sensibly worn with tights. It is a myth that girls in Y6 are allowed to wear black skirts so please don't let them try to convince you otherwise!

Footwear should be appropriate to the weather. If children are wearing ballet pumps or cotton/suede shoes, then an alternative such as wellies to keep their feet dry whilst walking in the rain would be much appreciated and more importantly will help keep your children comfortable and well throughout the day.

It is essential that every child comes in to school wearing a coat every single day. The dash from a warm house to a warm car may make a coat seem unnecessary, but I can promise you that 15 minutes stood on a cold playground will make the children feel differently. We do always try to get outside at break and dinner time even if it is drizzling so your support to make this possible is appreciated. Thank you.

Harvest Get Together

We will be holding our Harvest Get Together in the hall at school at 2pm on Friday 23rd October.

We are collecting for the YMCA Food Bank in Burton. Donations would be very much appreciated. The types of items they are looking for include:

Tinned Goods

Vegetables e.g. potatoes, carrots, etc.

Soup, spaghetti, beans, tinned tomatoes, etc.

Corned beef, ham, other cold meats, tuna, sardines, etc.

'Meals' i.e. stew, curries, chilli con carne, stewing steak, mince beef & onion, casseroles, hot dogs and meatballs, etc.

Milk puddings, fruit, custard (or instant packet to be mixed with water) etc.

Cereals

Breakfast cereals

Pasta, rice, savoury rice, noodles, pot noodles

Biscuits, cream crackers, savoury biscuits, crisps

Drinks

500 ml (not 1 litre) cartons of UHT milk (not dried milk) - Urgent, regular need for these - we like to put one in every food parcel so need at least 90-110 each month, small screw top bottles of UHT milk also urgently

required for the Rough Sleepers bags

Instant coffee, tea, cuppa-soups, etc.

Come and join us for a sing song and to find out a little more about the work the YMCA Food bank.

It is also a lovely way to finish the half term. Children can be taken home as soon as the assembly has finished (approx. 2:45) We really look forward to seeing you there. Please be prepared to squish in like sardines - it is always a busy one!

Parent Forum

I would like to remind parents that we are still looking for nominations for parents to join us on our Parent Forum this year. So far we have a small number of names, but it would be great to see as many people as possible in order to gain a broader view on parental opinions, ideas and suggestions.

Best wishes, Mrs S Sharpe