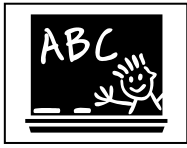


# Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 6

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

16<sup>th</sup> October 2015

### Mrs Cuthbert's Maternity Leave

I am pleased to announce that following our advert for a maternity cover teacher for 5C, we have appointed Mrs Kate Jones.

Many of you will know Mrs Jones, either as a parent or a governor of the school, and more recently as music teacher in Y6 and Y4.

We are very happy and confident in our appointment, especially having seen Mrs Jones teaching across all year groups over the last couple of weeks and we warmly welcome her to our team.

### Halloween Dinner

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October the kitchen will be cooking a special Halloween lunch. Choices include an all-day breakfast (sausages, hash browns, scrambled egg, baked beans or sweetcorn) or Quorn sausages (V) or jacket potato with choice of filling. For dessert there will be: Spooky biscuits, yogurt or fruit.

There is no additional cost to children who already stay dinners: £2.10. For anyone wishing to have a meal, please make payment via Parent Pay.

You can also inform the school office via parent pay of any changes to the days on which your child has dinners.

This can be done by selecting '**I want to**' from the home screen, then '**View Communication**' then '**Contact School**'.



We have 48 families signed up to attend our MyMaths workshop on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 3:45 – 4:45.

We have sent home tickets today, so don't forget to bring them along to claim your free drink and packet of crisps and goody bag.

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



Apologies for the delay, but I am really pleased to announce the winner of our Friends of TRJS logo competition.

**Niamh J in 5C.**

The logo has been professionally draw up as a very close replica of her original design.

Thank you to all of the children who took part. We raised over £50 which has gone into the pot to fund the new climbing frame.

Work begins next week on resurfacing the playground. We ask that parents and children are aware there is a significant amount of work that will go into this job. We will be resurfacing and also improving the drainage, particularly around the mobile and adjacent to the field. This will hopefully eliminate the muddy puddles and flooding that we suffer from each time it rains. Please be careful during the times where certain areas of the playground are inaccessible.

### Harvest Experience - St James Church

On 13<sup>th</sup> October, Year 3 children visited St. James' Church in Barton under Needwood to learn about traditions of Harvest. They were treated to some superb activities and really enjoyed their visits.

Here's what the children thought:

Clay pots - Daniel W: "I enjoyed making the bowl out of clay. It was to represent JOY and encourage giving and respecting."

Plants - Jay: "We planted bulbs to grow daffodils and we were learning about waiting. Our word was PATIENCE."

Paper boats - Harley G: "We learned about the Harvest of the Ocean. We said a prayer for fishermen and prayed for PEACE."

Weaving - Emelia: "I enjoyed weaving. Our word was HUMILITY and the weaving represented that we are all the same."

Bread making - George M: "We learned about the Harvest of the grain and GENEROSITY. We felt the flour and the grain. Then we got to knead the bread and taste it."

### Parent Forum

The deadline for names of parents wishing to join Parent Forum is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October. We have a very small number of volunteers (eight) and are happy to go ahead as a small group, but the more members we have the more ideas we have (no offence to the 8!) and the more representative the views are across the whole parent body. All you need is an hour free once a term to enjoy a relaxed chat about school and its routines so that you can offer your thoughts, suggestions and questions.

If you're interested in finding out more, please speak to last year's Parent Forum members or pop in to read the Parent Forum board in the entrance hall.

### Parent Consultations

It was super to see so many parents at our consultations over the last couple of weeks. We have received some really positive feedback from home about how well children have settled into their new classes. We have been particularly pleased with how quickly children have settled, reflecting the super work completed in transition, not just with the Infant school, but also moving up through the rest of school.

Thank you to those who respected the ten minute time frame. Remember staff are always available for quick chats before and after school on the gate.

### Harvest Get Together

2pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.  
'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.*

#### *Breakfast cereals*

*pasta, rice, savoury rice, noodles, pot noodles  
biscuits, cream crackers, savoury biscuits, crisps  
500 ml (not 1 litre) cartons of UHT milk (not dried  
milk) - urgent, regular need for these - YMCA like to  
put one in every food parcel so they 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 find out more about the work of 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!

*Best wishes,*

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*Mrs S Sharpe*