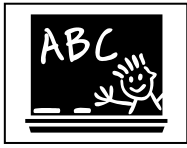


Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



Newsletter



Issue No. 8

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

6th November 2015

Exciting technological developments!

Year 5 had a huge treat this week when they returned to school to see brand new 70" Clevertouch boards in their classrooms. These new touch screen interactive boards bring us the latest in educational technology to ensure our children are able to stay ahead of the game. Interesting studies in recent years have made claims about how many of our children currently in primary education will go on to be employed in jobs that don't yet exist, using technology that has yet to be invented! We feel it is hugely important to give our children a competitive edge in this ever changing society and access to such equipment is just one way we can work towards achieving that. Governors are committed to a rolling programme of replacement which will mean we continuously build and improve on this vision.



Children in Need - Friday 13th November

This year for Children in Need, the School Council has decided to have a non-uniform day. You can dress as a superhero or in pyjamas if you like. If you are coming in non-uniform, please bring a donation of 50p or more. All of the money that we raise will go to charity and hopefully we will help a child in need. Many thanks, Freddie, Amber, Ruby and Tessa.

On Friday 13th November we will be holding a bake sale, as part of Children in Need. Amelia, Courtney, Fiona, Katie, Chloe and Olivia are going to be selling cakes at 3:30 outside the school gates.

All money goes to children in need. Cakes will cost 20p - £1.00.

We would love your support to help those children who really need it. Thank you!

3rd Barton Brownies are opening a cafe and shop to raise money for Children in Need 2015

Saturday 21st November from 10am to 1pm at St. James' Church Hall, Barton under Needwood.



Christmas Cards

This project helps to raise much-valued funds which benefit all the children.

You should have received your child's Christmas card design

and order form this week.

Please make cheques payable to FTRJS.

Dinner Money

We are having increasing problems with late payment of dinner money. We are obliged to pass debts of more than £25 over to SCC but try to avoid this, if at all possible, however more and more parents are simply not making payment despite written and text reminders. Sadly, we have reached the point where we are no longer able to continue on this basis. Any outstanding dinner monies not paid by Monday 9th November will require those children to bring sandwiches until such time as the debt is cleared.

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

New Playground

Over the last three weeks, a significant amount of work has been completed to install new drainage underneath and alongside our playground and resurface the whole area. This has been a significant investment of over £20,000 from the Governors and one which has been funded entirely from the school budget despite ever decreasing capital funding.

I must say huge congratulations to all of the children who have coped incredibly well in some very challenging circumstances. I am sure some parents can imagine that the logistics of getting 240 children changed from shoes into wellies and vice versa three times a day has been no mean feat! The children have listened so carefully to the ever changing instructions about which doors were in use, areas they could and could not access and, very impressively, I don't think we have gained a single welly in lost property, which is stunning! Thank you to them all.

The contractors who visited conduct a lot of work in schools, all year round, and complimented our children on being some of the most polite, well-behaved and sensible children they had seen, saying they were a real credit to us and what a lovely feel there was about the school.

The next step in developments will be the installation of the Captain Mannering play equipment and creating thermoplastic playground markings and designs.



Remembrance Day

Poppies have been on sale all week at school and House Captains will be visiting the War Memorial in Barton under Needwood for a short service at 11am on Wednesday 11th November. Please ensure they have waterproof coats and sensible shoes as this outside service will go ahead whatever the weather. Mrs Gahagan will be holding an assembly in school with all the children at the same time.

Rugby - Congratulations to Year 5 & 6 for representing us at the Dove Valley tournament last half term at John of Rolleston, with Red Team coming third and Green Team securing first place! In each group there were three games to play before playing the final nail biting match, resulting in a 3-2 victory
- by Jack C, Freddie K, Tom M.

Dodgeball - Yesterday we took two teams to Robert Sutton to play in the Dove Valley tournament. Unfortunately, part way through, a child from another school had an accident. Obviously our first priority was ensuring the injured child and his peers were well looked after and I am pleased to say our children were incredibly supportive and caring towards them. Both of our teams qualified for the quarter-finals and we believe these will be replayed at a later date.

My Maths Workshop - Please visit the school website to find Parental Feedback on the MyMaths Workshop. Follow Parents' Information >> Help Your Child.

You are warmly invited to the
Scouts' Bonfire
Friday 6th November
Gates open at 6pm.
Fire lit at 6.30pm.
Fireworks start at 7pm.

*Best wishes,
Mrs S Sharpe*



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