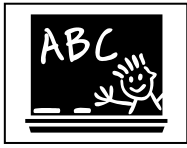


Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



Newsletter



Issue No. 13

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

18th December 2015

Advent

Thank you to Reverend Andrew who joined us to mark the beginning of advent with an assembly for the children and an advent calendar for each of our classes from the three Churches of Barton.

On Thursday 10th December, Year 4 children were lucky enough to be invited to St. James' Church to learn more about Christmas. They visited six stations in total covering topics including; Mary finding out she was going to have a baby, the journey Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem and the shepherds finding out about the baby Jesus.

They also spent time reflecting on friendships and how Christmas time is about seeing family and friends. Year 4 would like to express their thanks to Rev. Andrew and his helpers for the fantastic Christmas experience. They would also like to thank the parents who gave up their time to walk up to church and back; without them we would not have been able to go.



Christmas Carol Service

Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and even neighbours who were able to join us in the

church this morning. We had a really lovely Carol Service and raised £354.48 to be shared between Diabetes UK and Birmingham Children's Hospital. The service was marvellous and children sung and spoke beautifully. Working in Houses seems to bring the children together in a really nice way and they speak very fondly of the time they spend together like this.

Again thanks to parents and siblings who helped walk up to the church with us.



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to those parents who came along to support our book fair this week. The fair sold nearly £600 worth of books which has enabled us to select books to the same value to replenish stocks in classroom libraries.

We really appreciate parental support in enabling us to do this.

Friends AGM

Don't forget we will be holding the Friends AGM at 3:45 on Wednesday 27th January. Mrs Brammer has kindly offered to make a cake for the occasion. We will provide supervision for any children (including

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younger ones) where they can have cake and a drink and watch a film.

At this meeting we would like to take nominations for the roles of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

We also hope to come up with a list of events for the year, a quick 'shopping list' of what needs doing for each event, and a much larger list of people who are happy to be called upon for smaller responsibilities.

We should also look at the current funds available to spend, how much recent events and activities have raised and come up with a 'wish list' for purchases for the coming year.

Lunchtime Supervisor

We still have vacancies for two lunchtime supervisors at the school. If there are any parents interested we would like to hear from you.

Academic Reports

Today you will receive your child's academic Report for the Autumn Term. Please take time to read all of the information you have received. We would really appreciate if all reply slips are returned to school by Wednesday 6th January. Thank you.

Young Voices - Wednesday 13th January 2016

On Thursday 7th January, we would like an extended practice to ensure we have time to run through every piece, so please could parents send children with a small snack to be eaten at 3:30 and collect at 5pm just on that one day.

Breakfast Club & Dinner Money

This needs to be booked via the office so we know numbers attending each day. Sessions cost £2.50 each or £60 if booking for every day next half term. Costs of Dinner Money next half term are:

£2.10 per day or £63.00 for the half term.

Please ensure ParentPay is loaded with sufficient funds to cover these costs in advance. Please also ensure any changes you make are communicated in writing, in advance. Thank you.

Defibrillator News

Thank you to all of you who have bought a raffle ticket off us this week. There were 8 prizes for winning in Friday's merit assembly, well done if you won one. We reached £137 which is amazing. It does mean we now have enough money to provide TRJS with a second defibrillator. Thank you so, so much.

Dan and Lydia Cartwright

All that remains is for us to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous start to 2016.

Thank you for all of your kind presents, cards and wishes.



We look forward to seeing you safe and well on Monday 4th January 2016!

Best wishes, Mrs S Sharpe