

Thomas Russell Junior School

'Ambitious culture, strong team ethos, outstanding academic achievement, high expectations, exemplary behaviour' Ofsted 2019.



Newsletter



Issue No. 19

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

4th February 2022



I must start by saying a HUGE thank you to Mrs Brammer for her amazing efforts this week to create a very special Chinese New Year celebration for the children.

I think Ella's smile says it all!



The children (and staff) enjoyed a superb Chicken Chow Mein with prawn crackers and a fortune cookie, served in a special noodle box. They also got the chance to master the art of eating with chopsticks – some more successfully than others!



Year 6 marked Chinese New Year in their maths lesson. The session tied in with their learning of adding and subtracting numbers up to three decimal places.



They were taught about certain countries whose currency has values to more than two decimal places and learned about traditional food served at Chinese New Year. The children were given a menu and had a number of tasks to complete including: working out the cost of meal combinations, paying for multiple meals, applying offers and adding tips for good service.

They definitely worked up an appetite for lunch and we hope that the children use some of these skills in real-life scenarios whilst out for a meal, at home or on holiday, in the near future.



Chinese New Year Lunch

01.02.22



A message from Mrs Vardy...

You may have seen me out and about around the village running lately. There is a very good reason why...

Whilst on maternity leave in 2020, my dad underwent a quadruple heart bypass. All was well until October 2021 when he suffered a cardiac arrest during a Sheepdog trial. Thankfully, three people at the trial were first aid trained and immediately began CPR. Amazingly, they were able to restart his heart when the paramedic arrived.

After a stay in hospital, he is now home and back training and working sheepdogs. My family and I are incredibly grateful to everyone involved.

I decided that I wanted to do a charity event in light of this and Dad asked if the money could go to the British Heart Foundation.



Mrs Vardy

On Saturday 26th February, alongside Mrs Rollins, I will be running the Carsington Half Marathon. I have set a target of raising £1000. If you are able to add a donation to my Just Giving page, my family and I would be very grateful.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/louise-varidy1>

Thank you, Mrs Lou Vardy



Mrs Rollins

Covid 19

I can confirm that today we have 4 positive cases of Covid across the school population. We are confident the situation is much more under control now and have therefore taken the decision to close the 'Snapshot' Form, which was collecting all test results. Please could we ask parents to resume e-mailing any POSITIVE results to questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk which is checked daily.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please **check carefully** below as some clubs are not due to take place next week because of Parent Consultations and other commitments.

		Next week	14/2	21/2	28/2	7/3	14/3	21/3	28/3	4/4
Science Club	M	Y	Y	Half Term						
Coding Club 1	M	Y	Y							
Coding Club 2	M				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tennis (LS)	Tu				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Clarinet Group	Tu	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cross Stitch	W				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Keyboard Group	Th	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Forest School	Th				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Golf	Th	No	Y							
Tennis (US)	Th				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Choir	F	No	No		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	No

Cancelling any club is always a last resort, but unfortunately due to Covid, we know this was necessary last term. Should the need arise, we will notify parents via text and will endeavour to give as much notice as possible.



The theme of Children's Mental Health Week this year is **Growing Together**, this will be the focus of assemblies next week.

Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'.

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Check out the free online resources for families at <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/> including top tips and art activities to do together.



This week, Y3 were our final group of children to visit Barton Library. Again, we received some superb feedback about their behaviour and manners, which impressed the volunteers and members of the public. It was also fabulous to see how many of them either already had Library cards, or signed up for them this week.

We have been pleased to see how enthusiastic the children have been about borrowing books and I hope they have been just as enthusiastic about reading them! We are offering a returns service, so if you have Barton Library books which are ready to go back, but you can't get to the Library, then please feel free to bring them back to Junior School and we will ensure they are returned for you.

Parent Consultations

We look forward to being able to go ahead with face to face meetings next week. Although we know the number of cases has dropped significantly, the risk of Covid is still very present. We ask parents to wear a mask when on site and ensure they have a negative LFD test within 48h of attending. For the protection of staff, other parents and pupils, please do not come to school if you have any symptoms or are concerned for any reason.

When you arrive, please come to the hall where you will be signed in. Appointment times will be indicated with a bell. We ask all parents to adhere to their 10 minute appointment times to keep the evening running smoothly and to ensure equality for all parents. If you need a longer appointment, or have more to discuss, then we will be able to accommodate this outside of Parent Consultations. Even if another parent does not arrive in your room, please be conscious that might be the teachers only comfort break across the 3 hours.

If you are no longer able to attend your appointment, we would be grateful if you could contact school to let us know and we will do our best to rearrange.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe