

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 21

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

18th February 2022



Early Birds and Night Owls

Early Birds runs daily between 8:00 and 8:45 and costs £3.00 per session.

Early Bird Bookings for Spring 2 can be made via
www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **94ykp**

Night Owls runs daily from 3:30 until 5:45 (Except last day of term)
and costs £8.00 per session.

Night Owls Bookings for Spring 2 can be made via
www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **vfemg**



**Booking is ESSENTIAL - please ensure you book all sessions you require
by Friday 25th February.**

Remember there will be no Night Owls on the last day of term - Friday 8th April.

Our winter menu at Night Owls has been very well received by the children - hot dogs, soup, fish finger sandwiches and jacket potatoes are all going down very well. We will continue to serve this hot menu until the warmer weather arrives.

I have been asked by Governors to pre-warn parents to anticipate a rise in costs for Early Birds and Night Owls, likely to be implemented from September 2022. Our prices have been fixed since 2016 and have only gone up by £1 in total since 2009, so you can see we do not take this decision lightly. However, we do have to take into account rising staffing costs, food and energy bills all of which impact. Please remember any profits generated by these clubs are always put straight back in to the school - providing opportunities and resources for the children.

Lunchtime Supervisor

In March we will bid a fond farewell to Mrs Da Rosa who has been a lunchtime supervisor at Thomas Russell Junior for over 7 years. Many of the children will know her from school lunchtimes and also from her weekend activities teaching dance. We all wish her the very best of luck in her new venture into Nursery care.

This does mean that we have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor 5 days a week, from 12:00 – 1:15pm. If there is anyone who would be interested in taking on this rewarding post, either 5 days a week or on a job share basis, then please contact Mrs Sharpe on 01283 247505 for more information.



Y4 visiting artist

Joanna Dawidowska is freelance ceramicist and part time lecturer at South Staffordshire College in Lichfield. She came to work with Year 4 on Wednesday 9th February.



The children made a Roman style clay pot, they coiled clay around the plastic plant pot. Decorated with coloured slip and decorated with graffito technique.

Some of them even added handles. The second activity was rolling out a slab of clay, cutting round coins out and marking them with the Roman numbers.

The pots have been taken for firing in the kiln and will be

returned to us when ready, for children to take home.

They thoroughly enjoyed this experience.



Royal Academy – Young Artists

Last year we were delighted to get a couple of pieces of children's art through to the second round in the Royal Academy Arts competition. We have some absolutely fabulous artist at school, so please follow the link below if you are interested in finding out more about how your child can submit as many pieces of art as they like: <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/> We are registered and ready for parents to upload any amazing art!

Closing date is 30 March 2022



The task: saying "thank you" to the NHS after their learning about the job roles and opportunities available.

As the inspiration for your entry, think about which job or team you want to say "thank you" to in the NHS. It can be anyone who works there. Think about:

- the wide range of jobs you have learnt about
- surprising facts you have collected
- how the NHS has helped you, one of your friends, or your family
- what you've learned about challenging gender stereotypes

Get creative!

Produce a piece of artwork or performance art, for example: a painting, drawing, video, collage or temporary street art **OR** a poem, story, song or dance.

Judging criteria:

25%: Understanding of NHS careers. Awareness of the range of NHS careers and services.

25%: Challenging stereotypes. Exploring the challenging of gender stereotypes.

50%: Creativity. Is the design creative and attractive? Anything that demonstrates that they have gone the extra mile with their work.

For more information, go to <https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/primary-schools/KS2-competition>

Extra-Curricular Clubs

I am pleased to report that Miss Press has had such a positive response from Science Club this half term and the Science Ambassadors have so many great ideas that she wants to continue the club for another half term and open it up to those who are not Science Ambassadors to fill any remaining spaces.

If your child would like to attend Science Club 2, you must e-mail questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk to confirm this and I will draw names from a hat on Monday 21st February.

		Next week	7/3	14/3	21/3	28/3	4/4
Science Club 2	M	Y	Y	Y	Y	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
Cross Stitch	W	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Keyboard Group	Th	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Forest School	Th	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tennis (US)	Th	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Choir	F	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	No

Please don't forget to check your ParentPay account to ensure it is in credit for any meals your child has taken or any childcare they have used. It is really helpful for us if parents are able to keep their accounts in credit - this can be done much more easily now it is possible to set an 'auto top-up' which will activate when your account gets below a specific amount, determined by you.

Have a lovely break - we look forward to seeing you all safe and well on Monday 28th February.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe