

# Thomas Russell Junior School

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



## Newsletter



Issue No. 36

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

### Swimming Gala - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Congratulations to the team of swimmers who headed to Meadowside Leisure Centre on the roasting hot Friday evening to compete in, and subsequently win, the Burton Schools' Gala.

We were incredibly proud of our swimmers, many of whom were taking part in their first gala representing Thomas Russell Junior.

We competed against Hilton Primary, William Shrewsbury and Richard Wakefield. By the third race TRJS took the lead, and remained in pole position throughout the remainder of the night. A total of 19 first place medals were won, including a clean sweep in the relays for every year group and a first in the cannon relay which involved swimmers from all year groups.



The team consisted of:

Year 3 - Logan B, Ruby C, Ella C, Seb R

Year 4 - Olive H, Adam G, Walter H, Nancy B

Year 5 - Olivia B, Jack K-D, Brodie H, Jacob C

Year 6 - Jack T, Jess G, Leo H, Erin C

Thanks to Mrs Owen, Mrs Hiatt and Mrs Harvey for accompanying and supervising the children - without you it would not have been possible.

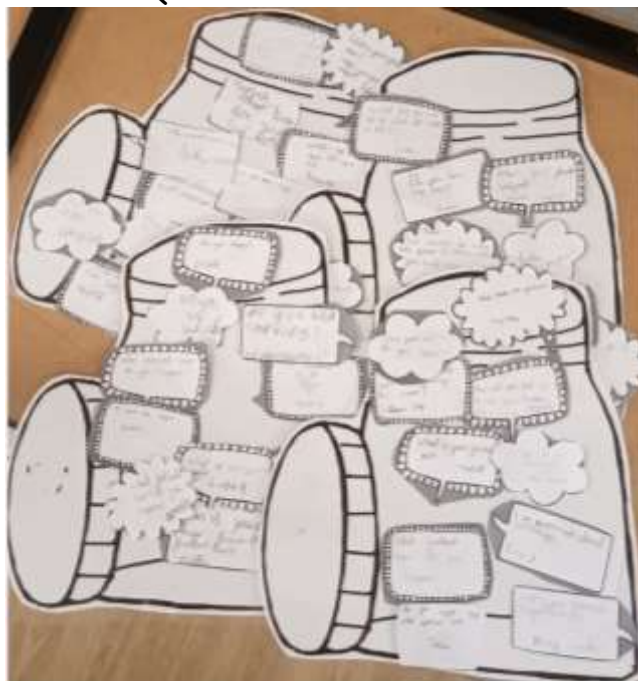
### Transition 2022 ☺ By Mrs Kerr-Delworth (Wellbeing Lead)

We know that moving up to the next year group can be a worrying time for some of our children - and lots of us find change difficult! We were very pleased to be able to do our transition work again this year across year groups - after a break due to Covid - in order to support all the children with their next step.

Years 3, 4 and 5 completed different activities that would show their new teacher what they were like. This included - what they enjoy doing, what their strengths were, and things that they may find difficult. They also recorded questions for their new teacher and any worries that they may have. On Move Up Morning the children's new teachers will go through the questions with their new class.

It was really lovely to see the thought that went into the work the children completed, but also what they wanted to know about their new teacher, asking questions such as: 'I find maths hard, how will you help me?'; 'What is your favourite subject to teach?'; 'How will you help me build my confidence?'; and, of course, the all important question: 'Are you nice? Circle Yes/No' ☺

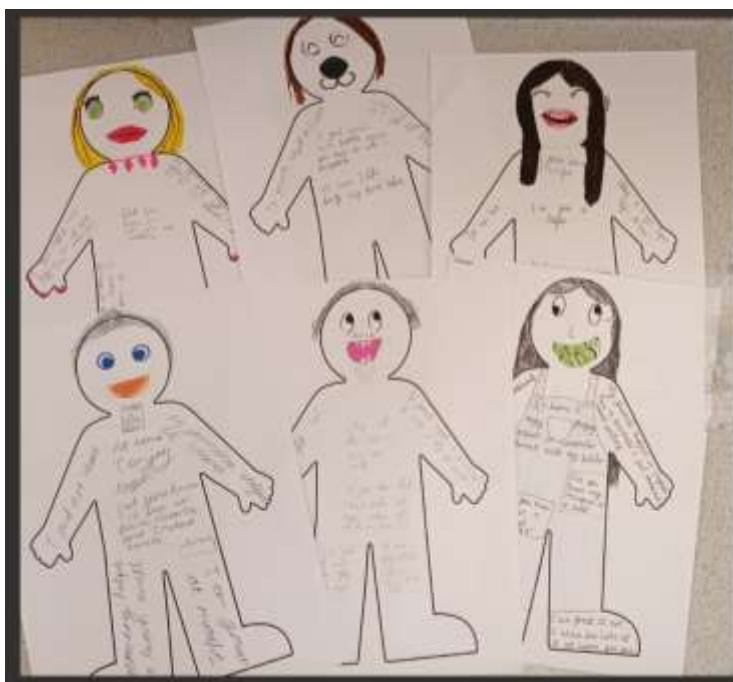
Questions and worries



Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Academic Reports to Parents and letters with new class information for next year will be sent home next Friday. Assuming we can get everything prepared in time Reports for Y6 children will come home on Tuesday as they are going to PGL, envelopes will also contain SATs results if possible.

## **Residentials at Home Week**

I would like to say a HUGE thank you to all of the staff for everything they have done to give the children a very special Residential at Home experience this week. Rightly so, there have been more activities focused towards the older children in school, and I know Y6 are very much looking forward to their PGL trip next week. The children at Thomas Russell Junior are very lucky to have such a dedicated (and well-qualified) team of staff who have shared their skills and time with the children to make it a really memorable week.

It was lovely to hear from Taavi in Y4 how much he had enjoyed climbing and that he had been watching when he was Y3, and never thought he would be able to do it, but he climbed the tree right to the top and rung the bell. The beaming smile on his face said it all.

Sophie in Y5 was so delighted with herself for reaching the top of the tree that she carried a leaf around with her for the remainder of the day that she had picked from right at the top!

I was impressed as I walked around the field on various days this week and could see Y3 running around completing an 'Escape Room' style challenge, Lost in the Forest, to solve the code and get themselves rescued! Y4 children built some exceptional dens - one of them was even carpeted with grass cuttings and looked almost like a log cabin! Lots of children cooked pizzas and melted marshmallows around a campfire, developed their archery and tri-golf skills. There were challenge games and even a swamp rescue taking place in the swimming pool!

I know the Y3 staff were all proud of how the children behaved at Packington Farm. Y5 were exceptionally well behaved out at Chatsworth for the day, and despite a bit of rain in the morning, the sun shone for most of the day, and a great time was had by all - including a giant 'Hokey Cokey' around one of the sculptures as we tried to get it to move ☺

I loved the fact that Freddie described our Sleepover at school as a 'once in a lifetime opportunity' and not only were the children brilliantly behaved, but their gratitude and manners were second to none.

Finally, I would like to say a very special thank you too to the parents, family members of staff and governors who volunteered their time to help with accompanying trips and organising some lovely activities. Parental emails and comments are really appreciated too ☺

### **Music concerts**

We have two demonstrations in school over the coming weeks:

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 2:45, Mrs Owens, the Y5 children (on clarinet) and those who have peripatetic lessons will be performing pieces they have been working on over the last 12 months.

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 2:45, our second performance will be by Y3 children (on keyboard) and those who have peripatetic keyboard lessons will also be performing.

Tickets are free of charge, but you must sign up via the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/nREjqsUfkB>

### **Leavers' Assembly**

This will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 10am and is only for parents of Y6 children.

Again, tickets are free of charge, but you must sign up via the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/PpHhk975LP>

Everyone is invited to join us at 3:15 on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July to bid a final farewell to our Y6 children as they leave junior school for the last time. Please head to the far side of the playground.

*Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe*



## Health Information Fair @ Burton Library



Saturday 2nd July 11am–2pm

Chat to local health care providers and support groups

Find out about health apps and discover ways to improve your wellbeing.

Activities for the kids and free healthy snacks too!

All welcome.

For further information, please contact

Burton Library

Riverside, High Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1AH

01283 881208



Barton under Needwood RUFC are recruiting across all Mini Junior age groups specifically age groups Reception - Under 5/6's to Year 4 Under 9's. We also have age groups up to U16s to cater for all age groups. We are an RFU Kids first Affiliated Rugby club meaning all our Coaches and Volunteers are DBS checked and are RFU accredited coaches. U6's to U8 age groups play TAG rugby with contact rugby starting at the U9's age group.

We offer the first 4 sessions free as an introduction to make sure your child enjoys the sessions and games before looking at club membership.

The Season will restart again from early September 4<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> 2022 so please contact Club Chairman Jon Leason 07866 032412 or Mini Junior Section Chairman Jon McCall for more details on 07738 277977 or follow us on social media for more information.

<https://www.facebook.com/officialbartonrugby>

<https://www.instagram.com/bartonunderneedwoodruffc/>

## Barton Family Festival 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September

**JOIN US AT THE SCARECROW WORKSHOP  
SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 9:30-12:30**

**@ The Middle Bell**

**TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE A SCARECROW**

Do you remember last year's winners?



<p><b>Summer Sunday Sesh</b> Make Disciples</p>	<p>St James Church Barton</p> <p>Sunday 7th August 2022</p> <p>2:30pm - 4:00pm</p> <p>0-99</p>
<p>A chance for all the family to interact explore and grow whilst having fun within our friendly church community</p>	<p>Snacks Games Craft Wii Sunday Papers Chill, Chat Worship</p>