

# Thomas Russell Junior School

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



## Newsletter



Issue No. 3

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Swimming Eyes

Thank you so much to those additional parents who have been able to offer their time to act as Eyes for our swimming lesson. I am pleased to say we have Y3, 4 and 5 covered now. I have had a couple of offers from people already doing Eyes to cover on a second day, however it would be preferable if we could spread the workload a little, so if there is anyone else available that could cover either of the Y6 sessions, it would be appreciated. Contact [questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk). Thank you.



Monday 1:15 – 2:20	Monday 2:15 – 3:25	Tuesday 1:15 – 2:20	Tuesday 2:15 – 3:25	Wednesday 1:15 – 2:20	Wednesday 2:15 – 3:25	Thursday 1:15 – 2:20	Thursday 2:15 – 3:25
4K	4H	5P	5M	6R	6P	3V	3H

### Packington Farm

Today we sent another group of our Y6 children off to visit Packington Farm. They didn't see quite as much of the lovely Autumn sunshine as last week, but the weather still helped to make it a super day. Mrs Rollins, Miss Murfin and Mrs Watling all said that the children had a brilliant time. The team building games were great fun and enlightening as some natural leaders emerged, as well as some who learned important lessons about the value of planning and preparation! Thanks again must go to the staff at Packington Farm who were fabulous and made the whole trip incredibly enjoyable.

### Parent Consultations

Thank you to everyone who contributed their thoughts to our survey about how to operate Parent Consultations this year. Having analysed the results by year group, I can inform you that 61% of Y3 respondents would prefer a face-to-face appointment decreasing to 49% in Y4, 33% in Y5 and 32% in Y6. 46% of respondents in Upper School would prefer Zoom, falling to 28% and 18% in Y4 and Y3 respectively.

There were a higher number of requests for face-to-face appointments on a Tuesday. We have therefore made the decision to run a face-to-face consultation evening on the Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October and a Zoom consultation evening on the Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

I hope that this means that the majority of respondents will be able to have their wishes accommodated. We will send letters early next week to individuals with the booking code attached. Bookings will open at 5:30pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> to allow all parents equal opportunity to secure their first choice booking.

### **Individual photos**

We have our photographer in school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October to take individual photos.

We are aware that it may be some time since parents have been able to have family group pictures so are offering the opportunity to attend from 8:30 on Monday morning. In order to maintain Covid safe systems, we will ask families to queue outside (weather permitting). You must book a session via the following link if you wish to attend [www.schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk) using the code **8gy5k**.

Please note: any siblings within school will be automatically photographed together during the school day, so the booked session are only for siblings who do not attend Junior School.

### **Secondary transfer**

*Unfortunately, due to Covid, the Headteacher from JTHS will not be visiting Thomas Russell Junior School to speak to Y6 children and parents, as has always happened in the past. Y6 parents should have received a letter with important transition information and a link to the presentation that would normally have been made on the visit evening.*

*Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe*