

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 12

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

3rd December 2021

It's a TRJS kind of Christmas

Thank you so much for the absolutely brilliant response to our questionnaire sent out this week, which has already been incredibly helpful for our Christmas planning. We've had 199 responses so only 51 more required. If you missed the link, please find it below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/XKYT4SKPAi>

If we could have everyone's response by Wednesday 8th December, we will be able to finalise food orders for Christmas dinner and Cinema seats and we will also send out personalised Church tickets.

We've noticed a few parents with two children have signed up for two tickets for Church, but I'm afraid we're limiting to ONE PER FAMILY, so we'll send one ticket with both names and you will be able to choose who attends.



Christmas Post Boxes

Our Christmas Post boxes will be out in school from Monday 6th December to Monday 13th December. If your child intends on using them to deliver their cards, please ensure they have put the recipient's **full name** and **class** on the envelope. Also, remember to sign cards clearly inside so people know who they are from by including a surname initial or class. Postage is free and our Y6 elves will be helping with deliveries.

Families are warmly invited to the Christingle Service to be held at St James' Church on Sunday 5th December at 6pm.



Santa Fun Run

Hold the date...

Saturday 18th Dec...

Registration from 10am...

Race starts at 11am...

Hot food & drinks available after the race

Money raised will go towards



&





Interschool Christmas Countdown Battle

On Monday 6th December, TRJS enters its fourth Top of the Rocks Battle – Christmas Countdown. A competition against five other local primary schools in the Burton area. The battle will continue until Thursday 16th December. Points earned between 7.30am and 6.30pm each day will count towards the total.

The competition is tough. As the schools all have different numbers of children, this isn't about the total number of points that we score. It is the average points per child that is used to decide the winners and losers. The average is taken from the number of children in the school, not just the number of children who take part. This makes it even more important that we all work together and everyone gets involved.

To take part, you just need to login to Rockstars and play. Points earned in any area of Rockstars will count towards the battle.

In the last competition, the winning school scored an average of 2,041 points per pupil in one week so set yourself a target. Maybe you could earn 300 points each day or plan one or two longer sessions where you can earn more points. It doesn't matter how. Just play!

We have a strong track record in these battles, we have won twice, and were narrowly beaten in our last outing where we took second place. I would love us to make this a hat trick of wins! It won't be easy and I have no doubt that the other schools will be battling hard to stop us so let's make it as difficult as we can for them. ☺

Come on TRJS Rockstars. We were born ready 🐣

If you need any further information or have forgotten your password, please contact Mrs Preston on DPreston@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk



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 1 can be made via www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **62eet**

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 1** can be made via

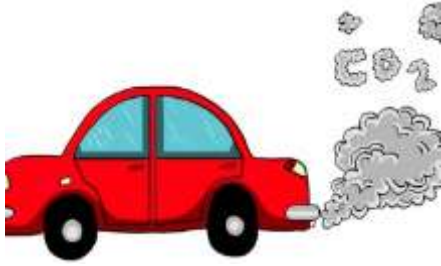
www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **z634y**

Booking is ESSENTIAL. We only guarantee availability for Spring 1 for bookings made by Thursday 16th December.



I am pleased to announce we have moved over to our winter menu at Night Owls, offering some hot teas during the colder weather – alongside sandwiches, we will also be offering soup and bread, half jacket potato, hot dogs, beans or spaghetti on toast and Mrs Sharpe's favourite – fish finger sandwiches!

Parked Cars



I've been asked to pop a reminder on the Newsletter to request parents please turn their engine off when they are waiting to collect children from school. Exhaust fumes can easily build up even if only one or two cars leave their engine running, and we have to remember that lots of the little people awaiting siblings from the junior school will be about the same height as an exhaust pipe.

Why not set yourselves a 'winter fit' target with your children to park and walk, even just 10 minutes of walking per day can help to build fitness and establish healthy habits.

Individual and Sibling Photographs

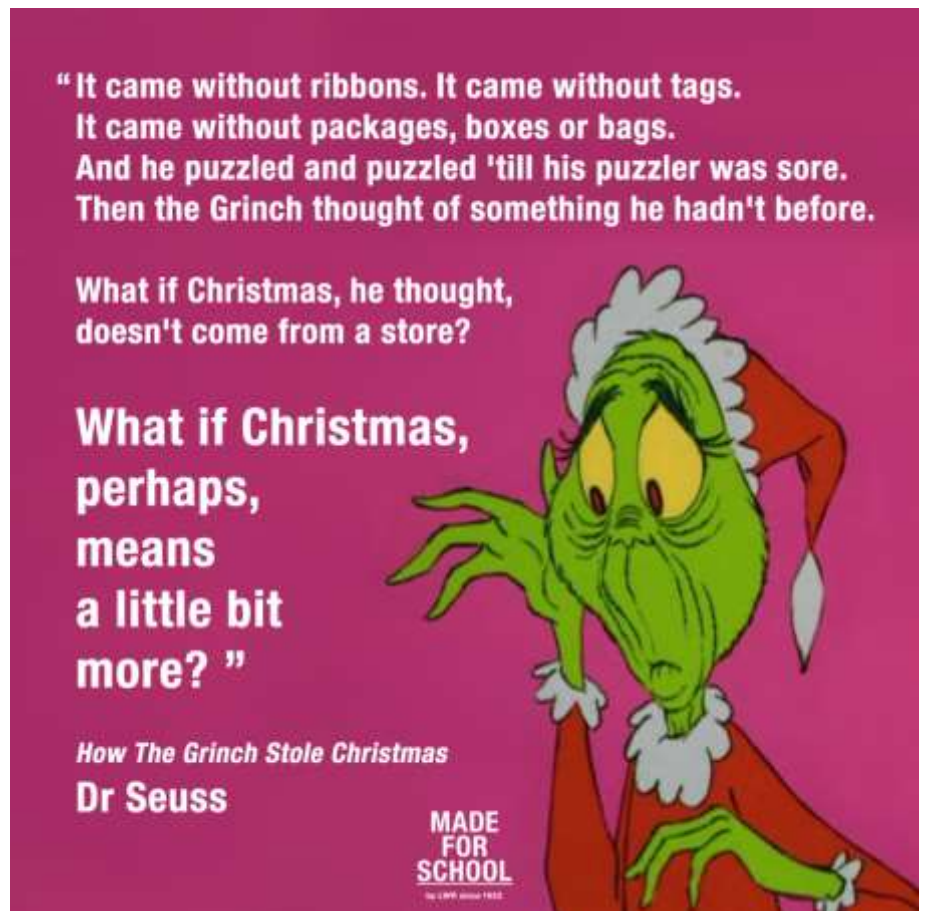
We have sent home the individual photograph proofs this week. We have been assured by Wrates that these will be delivered by Christmas if ordered by the deadline indicated.

And finally...

As we get closer to Christmas, I just wanted to share a little message from Dr Seuss:

There's a huge amount of pressure on parents to create 'the perfect Christmas' for children. Advertising can make us all feel children must have the latest gadgets and the most expensive gifts.

Remember to take time to pause and reflect on what Christmas is really about – don't go into debt trying to show people how much you love them.



Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe