

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 8

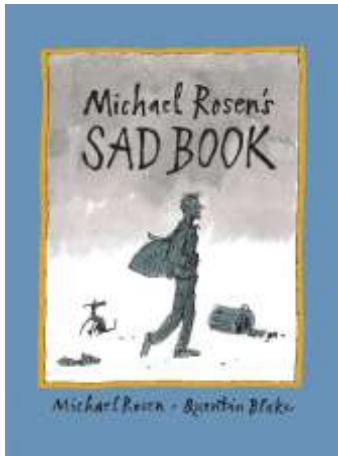
Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

4th November 2022

'Looking Back, Looking Forward'

Next week in our assemblies, we will be talking about loss and bereavement. On average, 1 in every 29 children will be bereaved of a parent, that is the equivalent of one in every class, and many more children will experience the death of another family member or friend. It is something that affects us all, yet for many people, death is not something that is often talked about. We believe it is important to provide the opportunity to learn about bereavement and to support our children to develop the skills and understanding they need to deal with this particular life event.

We will be using planning from Winston's Wish, which is a charity that supports bereaved children, young people, their families and the professionals who support them. This planning has been developed by teachers and bereavement experts and awarded the Quality Mark by the PSHE Association.



Children will be discussing two books to support their learning this week: 'The Sad Book' by Michael Rosen and 'The Heart and the Bottle' by Oliver Jeffers.

We are aware of a large number of our children who have personal experience of loss and bereavement, and will obviously be covering content in a very sensitive manner. If you have concerns about how your child may respond, or wish to make

us aware of any situations that we may not be aware of, then please contact us via questions@thoamsrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk and we will ensure these are passed to the relevant teachers.

Swimming Eyes

We are still without Eyes for our Y4 swimming lessons on a Thursday afternoon most weeks. We have been covering this by taking Teaching Assistants out of the classroom, however whilst they are doing this, it does mean they are unable to provide other vital support to children through interventions and 1-2-1 help. If there are any Y4 parents (or others) who would be able to give up an hour of their time, it would be much appreciated. Please let Mrs Sharpe know if you can help, even if just for a few weeks.

Y5 and Y6 Residentials

We have extended the deposit deadline for Residential visits to Wednesday 8th November. If you wish for your child to be included, then the deposit must be made by this date. If you do not wish for your child to go, then they will be expected to attend school as normal on those days.

We are pleased to confirm that we have been in communication with John Taylor High School regarding their planned transition day and can confirm there will not be a clash with this and our Y6 residential visit.

Absence

I would like to inform parents of children in Y6 that Mrs Rollins is currently absent having suffered a bereavement. We know you will join us in sending your condolences to the family.

Reading Café

Calling all Y3 children and parents Miss Murfin and a small group of Reading Ambassadors will be hosting a

Reading Café at Barton Library from 3:45 - 4:45 on Thursday 17th November.

The session is for Y3 children, parents & carers and families.

It will include a Parent Workshop and some information to help parents support children at home with further developing their reading, as well as an opportunity to change library books.

Drinks and refreshments will be provided - your chance to try one of Mrs Brammer's lovely cakes or cookies ☺



Cake Sale!

Thursday 10th Nov 3.30pm outside school

Jamie in Yr 5 and Joseph in Yr 4 are raising funds for Barnardo's.

They will be selling a selection of delicious cakes all priced £1 (gluten & dairy free available too!) immediately after school.

They will also be raffling Barney the Barnardo's bear – tickets £1 a strip

All money raised will go towards Barnardo's Hardship Fund, which aims to provide direct support to struggling families this winter to help with food and energy bills.

They would really appreciate your support.



Fireworks!

I hope you have a lovely weekend. Enjoy the fireworks if you are off out somewhere.

Before you go - why not take a few minutes to look up the Firework Code with your children? Or even make up your own version.

Help children to understand the potential dangers of fireworks - teach those valuable lessons now whilst children are young enough to take them on board, so they know how to keep themselves and others safe when they are older.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe