

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter






Issue No. 11

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

25th November 2022

It's a TRJS kind of Christmas 2022

	Christmas Dinner We will be holding this on Thursday 8th December. A lovely festive occasion with music, table decorations, party hats and a great atmosphere for staff and children. Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers with their uniform. Christmas dinner - Roast Turkey, pigs in blankets, stuffing, roast & mashed potato, carrots & peas, gravy. Vegetarian - Quorn fillet, stuffing, roast & mashed potato, carrots & peas, gravy. Pudding - Christmas tree biscuits Sandwiches - from home
	Carol Concert We will be holding our Carol Service at St. James' Church on Wednesday 14th December at 2pm. In order to go ahead as safely as possible, tickets will be limited to up to two per family. Children will be allowed to leave the church at the end of the service (2:50 - 3:00) and go home with an audience member, or can be accompanied back to school by staff.
	Cinema Trip We are going to the Red Carpet Cinema on Friday 16th December to see ' Matilda - The Musical '. We are asking parents for a £4 contribution towards the costs of the trip, which has been subsidised by fund-raising. As cinema timings run over dinner time, we are asking parents to indicate if their child will be dinners (fish and chips) or sandwiches on the final day. This item will be on Parent Pay from Monday.

The form below will collate all of your preferences for the above activities, including meal choices and ticket reservations. Please could we ask you to complete **one per child** and ensure your child is aware of the answers you have given. <https://forms.office.com/r/k7w7vxqBwB>

So far we've had 100 responses via the link above. Please could we ask you to ensure you have replied by Tuesday 29th November so we can finalise our arrangements for all three events.

Thank you

Bikeability

Huge congratulations to our Year 5 children who braved the cold weather (and a torrential downpour) to complete their Level 1 Bikeability.



We were really pleased to see them thoroughly enjoy their day and hopefully develop some valuable skills and knowledge which will help to keep them safe for years to come. Well done Y5 😊

Thank you also to the parents for your support in getting bikes in to school – we know it can be a bit of a logistical nightmare and we really appreciate your support in making the scheme possible.

Information for the Visit to Tucklesholme Nature Reserve



On Wednesday 7th December, parents and children are invited to Tucklesholme for an hour or so during the afternoon to support with more tree planting. Children can be collected from school after 1:30 by parents / grandparents with consent if they would like to join in.

My name is Vicky Broad, and I work for the Transforming the Trent Valley Project as an employee of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

The purpose of this visit is to plant sapling trees at Tucklesholme Nature Reserve. As we all know, trees are hugely important for our wild places and these trees will eventually provide homes and food for a wide variety of living things.

If there is time, we may also do a bit of bird watching – Tucklesholme is an amazing place for a variety of wetland birds.

On the day, we will meet on the car park at Tucklesholme. The postcode is DE13 8EN, and you will find it on Google Maps.

You will need to wear sturdy footwear, as it may be muddy, and please dress for the weather. Please note, there are no toilets on site.

I look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to take your child, please drop us a line to questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk so we know who will be attending. Thank you.

Early Birds and Night Owls



Early Birds runs daily between 8:00 and 8:45 and costs £3.25 per session.

Early Bird Bookings for Spring 1 can be made via www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **apsq9**

Night Owls runs daily from 3:30 until 5:45 (Except last day of term) and costs £8.75 per session. **Night Owls Bookings for Spring 1** can be made via

www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **9jbha**



Booking is ESSENTIAL. We only guarantee availability for Spring 1 for bookings made by Thursday 29th December.

Do you know someone
who is considering a
career in teaching?

Find out more about our teacher training
programme at jtscitt.co.uk



SATs Week & Bank Holiday

You may have already heard an additional Bank Holiday has been announced on 8th May 2023 to celebrate King Charles III's coronation. This should have been the first day of Y6 SATs, which will now take place from Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May.

Christmas Jumper Juggle

We do still hope to host our Christmas Jumper Juggle on Thursday next week (1st December), but as yet have not received any donations. There will be a box in the entrance hall next week and we will text midweek to confirm if the sale is going ahead.

Y6 School Councillors hope to sell donated jumpers for £2, raising money towards the cinema trip and doing something eco-friendly too.

Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school (with the rest of their uniform) on Christmas Dinner day and during the last week of term, so they should get a nice bit of use from whatever they purchase.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe

Teaching Assistant

Part-time (12 hours) on a temporary contract

Required December 2022 / January 2023 to August 2023

£19,650 - £20,043 pro rata per annum

We are looking to appoint an **enthusiastic** and **highly motivated** teaching assistant to join our outstanding school. This post is temporary due to fluctuations in numbers of SEN children in school and the availability of additional funding.

The successful applicant will work alongside a knowledgeable and committed team, supporting children with additional learning needs of all abilities. Experience of implementation of wave 2 and 3 intervention strategies would be welcome, but is by no means essential. The ability to use your initiative and a high level of subject knowledge in both English (Reading, Writing and SPAG) and Maths is an absolute necessity. Applications are welcome from all good or outstanding teaching assistants, regardless of qualification. Flexibility, resourcefulness and a shared commitment to supporting our children to achieve their full potential are essential. Training will be available for the successful applicant.

Primarily we are looking for a TA to work during mornings supporting core lessons in Maths and English, with two lunchtimes supporting specific children with social interactions, developing friendships and playing games. Working hours will be spread over 5 days during the week and can be flexible to allow for school drop off and pick up responsibilities you may have.

We also have a post available for a Lunchtime Supervisor, which may be combined with this role for the other 3 lunchtimes per week, giving an additional 4.5 hours.

Applicants are required to fully complete an application form and are also asked to state strengths and experience within their letter (no more than 2 sides of A4). Please do not include CVs (these will not be looked at).

Visits to the school can be arranged by contacting Mrs Patrick on 01283 247505 or there is significant information about the school on our website and in our Ofsted Report.

Applications should be sent by e-mail only to headteacher@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk

Closing date: **Monday 28th November at 9:00am**

Interviews will take place: Wednesday 30th November

Any appointment will be subject to receipt of satisfactory references.

Additional Information

This position is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure check under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Further details regarding this check are available from schools or by visiting www.crb.gov.uk

This Authority and school are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.