

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 16

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

20th January 2023

Young Voices 2023



I would like to congratulate the 112 children who attended Young Voices last week. They were such a pleasure to spend time with and every one of them did us proud with their wonderful enthusiasm, superb singing & dancing and their exemplary behaviour. Huge thanks to the staff who accompanied the trip - it would not have been possible without you. Thanks also to Mrs Patrick for her help with organisation and logistics, and finally to the 124 parents, grandparents, siblings and family friends who came along to support. A wonderful time was had by all ☺

Assemblies

This week in our assemblies, we have been exploring the question: 'Is gaming good for your health?' We talked about why computer games have age restrictions, sharing our ideas about the questions:

- Does it matter if younger children play games that are meant for much older children or adults?
- If people play violent video games, does it affect how they view real violence?
- Do people (children/adults) take any notice of the age restriction labels? Why or why not?

We considered what 'healthy gaming' looks like, the importance of time spent away from devices, and discussed what to do in a range of gaming scenarios such as:

Sam is with his mate Terry playing a video game round at Terry's house. Terry has put on a 15+ game that belongs to his dad. He knows he is not allowed to play it but wants to show off in front of Sam. He can see that Sam is shocked but, as he doesn't say anything, they continue to play.



- 1 What is happening in this scenario?
- 2 What do you think might happen next?
- 3 What do you think Sam and Terry are thinking?
- 4 What do you think Sam and Terry are feeling?
- 5 What would you do if you were Sam?

BBC Own It have informative videos and top tips for children and parents on how to game safely. Use the links [bbc.com/ownit/the-basics/console-content-restrictions](https://www.bbc.com/ownit/the-basics/console-content-restrictions) and internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/ for help on how to set up parental controls and content restrictions.

If you would like further support about healthy gaming, or information about what we cover in our assemblies please contact Miss Branson.

Parent Consultations - Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th February 2023

During our Spring Consultations, you will have the opportunity to view a selection of your children's work in the hall, as well as meet the teacher who your child spends most time in the week with. For Y4 children, we parents of children in 4M to book with Miss Marston and those in 4H to book with Mrs Jones. If Mrs Sharpe teaches your child for Maths, then she will join Mrs Jones during your appointment where possible. For children in 4M who Mrs Jones teaches for Maths, feedback will be provided via Miss Marston.

Please follow the link below to book a convenient appointment slot.

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk/code/4t2sg>

The smooth running of our event relies on all parents keeping to the timetable. Please consider other parents and end on time. If you need more time with a particular teacher, we kindly ask you to arrange a separate meeting or phone call.

Children are welcome to come in to school and can wait in the hall whilst parents attend their appointment. Due to the number of children attending Night Owls and other clubs it will not be possible to access the playground.

Our Reading Ambassadors and Y6 helpers will be running the 'Wonky' Book Shop again where children will be able to purchase from a selection of new (ex-display) books at a cost of £3 each.

Parent Governor

Dr Peter Madill has completed his 4-year term of office as a School Governor and we would like to thank him for the time he gave to the school and his valuable contributions - taking on roles on both Finance and Curriculum committees, as well as being a great supporter in the development of the Hope Orchard ☺

His departure leaves us with a vacancy for a new Parent Governor on the Governing Body.

Do you want to play a part in determining the strategic direction of the school?

Do you want to have a say in important decisions about finance and buildings?

Do you have time that you could contribute to support the achievements and developments at the school?

If you are interested in the role, then we would love to hear from you – please let us know your field of expertise or areas of interest. Please find attached to the Newsletter a Parent Governor Nomination Form to formally express your interest.

The closing date for nominations is 9:30am on Thursday 9th February.

Chinese New Year

In celebration of Chinese New Year next week, we will be offering a special menu on **Thursday 26th January**.

Children who normally stay for dinners will be able to choose Jacket Potato or the special menu:



Chicken or Quorn Fried Rice

Curry Sauce

Spring Rolls

Jam Buns

A drink and a fortune cookie.



If your child is normally sandwiches on that day, but you would like them to be included, please e-mail lpatrik@thomasrussell-junior.staff.sch.uk to confirm this and add £2.45 on to Parent Pay.



Lost property

Please could we ask parents to have a look out at home for a charcoal grey 'air up' bottle with orange strap, that may have been brought home from school? It went missing last Friday and despite searching lockers and classrooms we have not been able to locate it, so wonder if it was taken home by a child in error.

Could we also remind parents about the importance of labelling property clearly – we have between 6 and 10 of these (expensive) bottles in most classrooms and only a very small percentage are labelled

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe

Community News

It is not too late to book a place on our exciting Choral Singing Workshop!

Designed for children aged 6-10 years, this free singing workshop includes singing tuition, lunch and a chance to sing in Lichfield Cathedral.

Call 01543 306168 for more information or to book a place, or e-mail admissions@lichfieldcathedralschool.com



Sat 21 JAN

WANT TO BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY?

at Lichfield Cathedral

Our Activities

- Singing tuition
- Info for parents
- Lunch included
- Make new friends
- Learn about choral music
- Meet the choristers

9.30am to 3.00pm
Boys & Girls Aged 6-10

FUN & FREE WORKSHOP

Register online at www.lichfieldcathedralschool.com
Contact 01543 306168



BARTON under NEEDWOOD R.U.F.C.
TOUCH RUGBY

Come along to our
Touch Rugby Game Sessions
Join in, have fun, get fit!

Every Tuesday evening

Holland Sports Club, Barton under Needwood DE13 8ET

| Junior sessions | Senior sessions |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5.30 - 6.30pm (age 9/10 - 14) | 7.00 - 8.00pm (14 years+) |

All are welcome.
Age, Gender, Ability
for Social or Competitive games

Free for any BRUFC members, £1.50 per session for non members.
Text 07977 055485 for further info

