

Thomas Russell Junior School

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



Newsletter



Issue No. 35

Headteacher: Mrs S Sharpe

14th July 2023

Musical Showcase

On Tuesday, we were treated to another fabulous Musical Showcase, this time from woodwind instruments (with an award-winning solo piano performance from Lucy at the end!). Year 5 played their clarinets in whole class and whole year group performances of their favourite songs learnt over the year. We listened to solos, duets and trios on the flute, clarinet and saxophone. The chance to play in front of a real audience is an important experience that helps the children improve their ensemble skills, bravery and resilience. Congratulations to all players, and thank you to all family who were able to attend, for parents and carers for supporting and encouraging practice at home and to Mrs Owens for teaching the children.



Join the Summer Reading Challenge 2023!



It was lovely to hear from Miss Murfin and some of our Reading Ambassadors in assembly on Monday who told the children all about the Summer Reading Challenge.

See Newsletter 33 for more information about the Summer Reading Challenge

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/home-zone-src>

Reading Plus Awards

We are delighted to tell you that the results are in for the National Reading Plus Awards and we are really proud of our school and individual achievements.

The panel considered entries and data from all schools in the country that are using Reading Plus.

We were really proud to be shortlisted for School of the Year 2023 – thanks to the collective hard work of children, staff and parents working between home and school. We are also delighted to see Seb R shortlisted for Star of the Year for extensive usage and progress.



Furthermore, we are delighted for Charlotte E. She has WON the category of Best Home Usage, based on number of lessons completed and progress made.

Charlotte wins a £25 Amazon voucher and should be incredibly proud to see how all of her hard work has resulted in this fabulous recognition.

Well done to all of the children who have thrown themselves into using Reading Plus across all year groups. The progress data across school is excellent.

Awesome Art



On Tuesday morning, our Lower School children were treated to an Art session, led by Mrs Forden, who is an Art Teacher from John Taylor High School (and mum to Scarlett in Year 5). Mrs Forden began the lesson by playing a selection of music and encouraged children to begin mark making inspired by how each piece of music made them feel. We then explored the work of Frank Stella, who is famous for his mixed media collages, inspired by his favourite music and other interests such as motor racing. Using our initial mark makings, and inspired our school song "Power In Me," we cut out jagged shapes and began collaging

these into 3D masterpieces in the style of Frank Stella. We were delighted with the imaginative, expressive work created by our Year 3 and Year 4 children and would like to thank Mrs Forden for a fun-filled, informative and creative morning.



Final reminders

Thank you for your help in returning forms to support with organisation. So far we have 136 children signed up to have a Leaver's Lunch from school and 62 children who have ordered a picnic sandwich bag from school.

If you know you still haven't completed the forms, please find the link on any of the last 3 newsletters. Thank you ☺

We're really looking forward to TRJS Fest on Thursday afternoon next week. Children are invited to wear bright clothes to school for the day. They don't need school bags with them on that day - just their picnic lunch if they're bringing one. We're hoping for good weather ☺

Don't forget to join us on the playground from 3:15 next Friday for our Leavers' Parade to bid farewell to our wonderful Y6 children as they leave

Early Birds and Night Owls



We only guarantee availability for bookings made before 31st August 2023. Please book early using the codes on Newsletter 33 and 34 to support our planning for the new academic year.



If you have any outstanding debts on your Parent Pay accounts, please could we ask for your assistance in bringing these up to date before we finish next Friday to allow us to complete our end of year processes.

Please find attached to the Newsletter information for the Barton Festival at the end of the Summer Holiday. Teddy races and the Scarecrow Competition are always very popular.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe