# Thomas Russell Junior School

The place to be YOUR BEST



# Newsletter



Issue No. 20

Headteacher: Mr J Emery

23 February 2024

#### **Athletics Fun at JTHS**



On the Wednesday before half term, a number of children from Year 3 and 4 went to JTHS after school with Miss Branson. They showed brilliant BRAVERY in giving every new event a go, competing against and alongside other schools. Miss Branson was delighted to see all children attempt the events with a huge amount of fun, friendship and joy.











#### **Parent Consultations**

The Spring Term Parent Consultations are in the diary for:

## Thursday 14 March 3.50-6.50pm and Tuesday 19 March 3.50-6.50pm.

The booking code will be sent out on Monday 26 February and be available to book from 6pm. Please ensure you book with your child's **MORNING** teacher (English and Maths). We look forward to seeing all our parents.

#### School starts at 8.50

It is brilliant to see the vast majority of children who burst through the school gates, with great eagerness at 8.40am each day. May I remind everyone that school starts at 8.50, which means we expect children to have sorted their coats and bags and be ready for learning, in their seats, by 8.50. Thank you to all our parents for your support in achieving this prompt and enthusiastic start to the day.

#### Speak out! Stay safe!

We will be participating in the **NSPCC's "Speak out. Stay safe."** programme next week. This is designed for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and

Worried about a child?

Contact our child protection specialists for help, advice and support.

help@nspcc.org.uk

0808 800 5000

Report a concern

consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom based activities which we have reviewed. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the *Speak out*. Stay safe. programme visit <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout">www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout</a>.

#### Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe

The NSPCC have shared some important information below on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe.

## **Parent/Carer support**

Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers.

www.nspcc.org.uk/parents

# Activities to extend learning at home

Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/activities

# **Online Safety Hub**

For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more.

www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

#### Childline - under 12's

Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content.

www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7) www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)

## Talk PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. Download the free resources at <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants">www.nspcc.org.uk/pants</a>.

I hope you find this information about the NSPCC and the *Speak out*. *Stay safe*. programme helpful. Please contact Miss Branson if you have any further questions.

#### **Night Owls**

Thank you to all the parents using Night Owls who book in advance using the code in the school newsletter. We use these numbers to carefully plan staffing and catering to ensure the health and safety of all the children. Please note that we are not able to take bookings on the day, as we have already sorted the staffing and catering for the session. However, in the event of an emergency, the school would always do our best to accommodate children to keep them safe until parents arrived at school. A letter to clarify our booking procedure will be emailed to all the parents who use Night Owls. Thank you for your co-operation.

#### **Year 6 SATs Revision Booklets**

We have ordered some extra bundles of the English and Maths Revision Packs for Year 6. So, if you haven't ordered an optional bundle, but would like one, please let the office know, as we have some spare packs (£5 each).

## **Touch Rugby**

If you are interested in doing Touch Rugby at Barton Rugby Club, please see the flyer below.

#### **Barton Library Visits**

At TRJS, we enjoy reading for pleasure and look forward to our to Barton Library. Our Spring term dates for each year group are as

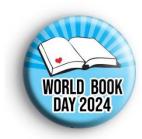
- Year 6 Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February
- Year 5 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March
- Year 4 Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March
- Year 3 Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March



termly visits follows:

Please remind children to bring in their Library Card, plus any borrowed books which need returning, on their selected visit date. A waterproof coat (with a hood) will also ensure they are well prepared for all Spring weathers on their walk to/from the library!

#### World Book Day



Advance Warning! Excitement is building for World Book Day 2024! Although the official date this year is 7<sup>th</sup> March, due to Year 5 being away on residential, here at TRJS we will be celebrating with a special World Book Day morning on <u>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March</u>. We are inviting children to dress up as their favourite story book character, hero or villain so that they can share their reading preferences and recommendations with others. Hopefully this will provide plenty of time to get creative and organise a costume! If you're looking for some inspiration, try here:

https://www.netmums.com/world-book-day/top-world-book-day-costume-ideas or https://www.worldbookday.com/resource/dressing-up-ideas-for-parents/

# Comic Relief (Friday 15th March)

We are doing our World Book Day activities on this day, so please just dress up in your character and donate £1 via ParentPay if you can via the link below. Thanks for your support.

https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=14336

# Skip with Mrs K-D



Fancy joining Mrs K-D in skipping 100 times a day in March? No need to get sponsors just bring a skipping rope into school and at a break time each day we'll skip together.

Getting fit for a good cause - what could be better?

# **Safety Around Water**

The school has reminded pupils and parents on several occasions on how to stay safe near water. It seems that there remain some pupils who are behaving dangerously. Barton Parish Council have asked us to post information to help keep all our children safe. Please see below and please heed the advice.

Let's hope the rain stops sometime this weekend. Stay safe everyone! Wishing all our families a good weekend. (3)





#### Barton under Needwood Parish Council - February 2024



#### Fishpond, Efflinch Lane, Barton under Needwood

Recent incidents have been reported of school pupils throwing items into the Fishpond and trying to retrieve them. Please DON'T do this as it's fraught with danger - drowning, injury, risk of contracting waterborne diseases. It also results in rubbish/detritus going into the Fishpond unnecessarily.

Never attempt to step onto the ice or go into the pond when the pond is frozen.

Please could all parents, carers and children be aware of general safety tips below....

#### Stay Safe Around Open Water

- 1. Be Aware of the Risks: Open water can be deceiving. Understand the dangers, including, hidden debris, extreme cold, pollution, and fast currents in rivers and streams.
- Emergency Response: If you see someone in distress, call emergency services immediately (999). Provide precise location information using tools like WHAT THREE WORDS. Stay on the line and follow instructions. WHAT THREE WORDS for Barton Fishpond is at: sprinkler.filed.bench.
- 3. Safety Measures: Encourage individuals in the water to float on their back. Use available lifesaving equipment such as lifebuoys or throw lines. Never enter the water yourself.
- 4. Cold Water Hazards: Beware of cold-water shock. Even when ponds are frozen, falling in can be dangerous. Stay away from frozen bodies of water and avoid walking on ice.
- 5. Environmental Protection: DON'T throw objects into the water. Items like rubbish, broken glass, or shopping trolleys can harm both people and aquatic life. Protect fish habitats and aquatic environments by disposing of waste properly. Do not be tempted to enter the water to retrieve items.
- 6. Pollution Awareness: Open water may be polluted, posing risks of waterborne diseases.

#RespectTheWater | National Water Safety Forum



#### **Barton Bandits Touch "Footie".**

Every Tuesday evening Mr Gee runs the Barton Bandits Touch "Footie" (Touch Rugby) sessions for Junior Players. The sessions are £2 donation to the Barton Under Needwood RFU Club and run from 5.30 - 6.30 at Holland Sports Club, Barton under Needwood DE13 8ET. Please see the flyer. This session is ideally suited for Year 4,5 & 6 pupils. Please text Mr Tim Gee directly, as sometimes the pitches have been unplayable with lots of rain.

Mobile: 07977055485