



Newsletter



Issue No. 22

Headteacher: Mr J Emery

22 March 2024

Strings and Things

The school were treated to a wonderful concert on Wednesday afternoon. The amazing violinists and cellists from TRJS performed a range of music to delight parents and their peers. Everyone did brilliantly. Learning a musical instrument requires dedication, focus, resilience and practice. It is a great life skill that brings such enjoyment to many. A special thank you to our teacher Mrs Edwards, who is retiring at Easter. We thank you her for her many years of service, expertise and enthusiasm. She is a proper, old-school music teacher and the children have made super progress under her guidance. We have a new string teacher joining us after Easter, but we will all really miss Mrs Edwards. Well done, everyone: "Keep music live!"



Music Provision

We start our new music provision from w/b 15th April. The class lessons are as follows:

Year 3 – Keyboards on **TUESDAY** afternoons.

Year 5 - Ukelele lessons on **WEDNESDAY** afternoons.

Violins/Cellos – Mrs Edwards will be replaced by another teacher from Entrust and the violin/cello lessons will continue as they currently do.

Small Group Tuition

All other small group tuition lessons will be taught by HotHouse Music staff. Payment for these lessons will be arranged directly with HotHouse via their website. There will be a letter emailed out to all those who currently have tuition lessons, with the details of how to book and pay for the new lessons. We are also looking at providing guitar lessons moving forward. We have a list of those who had guitar lessons previously and we will also send you a letter. Refunds for any parents who had paid up until July have been processed by Mrs Patrick.

Music Assembly

Today, our HotHouse music teachers have joined us for a music assembly. The children were treated to an inspirational experience! A letter is being sent to all parents to see if any new children would like to take up the opportunity of learning to play a musical instrument at a cost of about £15 per month, plus the hire of the instrument.

Parent & Carer Survey

Thank you to all our parents who joined us for the recent parent consultation meetings. It was very encouraging to see the hall full of parents and teachers, as we work together to help our children be their very best. We invite parents to give us feedback via a survey. If you haven't had chance to do this yet, please scan the QR code and fill in this quick survey to let us know your thoughts about your child's school experience. We will collate the feedback, discuss this with governors and communicate to parents after Easter, suggesting some next steps about how the school and our families can work together more effectively. The survey will close on Monday 25 March. Thank you for your support.



Keeping children safe online

We all have a part to play in keeping children safe online. Find out how with our online safety guides.

Y5 and Y6 Whatsapp Groups

It has come to light that a number of children in Year 5 and 6 are on Whatsapp groups. There have been some incidents recently of unkind and abusive messages from some children to others. We ask parents to be vigilant, talk to their child and ensure that there is

appropriate and safe behaviour taking place. Government advice is the age for such apps is 16 years old, so the advice from school remains the same: children of primary are not advised to be on Whatsapp – they do not have the maturity or resilience to cope with this environment. The school has a duty, under Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, to safeguard children in and out of school. Therefore, we are duty bound to support children who may be upset or worried by what they have seen online. So, we try to educate children, remind them of the rules for appropriate messages and ensure that they know what to do if they are worried about any online behaviour. So, children: Be KIND (avoid any rude messages), BE BRAVE (stand up and report any concerns to a trusted adult) and SHOW INTEGRITY (do the right thing even when no-one is watching). Let's keep everyone one safe and happy online. If parents have any concerns, then please don't hesitate to contact us at school. The NSPCC is a great source of advice which parents may find useful: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

World Book Day 2024

The whole school enjoyed a great day last Friday. A huge thank you to Miss Murfin (Granny Murfin!) who organised the whole day. The Reading Ambassadors did a fantastic assembly. Children then worked with their House Team and enjoyed recording voice-overs for characters and books using the iPads. We also had fund "Designing a Doorway" with excellent illustrations and artwork that will be used to decorate our library door. Children also watched the BBC Live Lesson and sang along to MC Grammar with his World Book Day rap. A fun day, with a key message: Reading is FUN, so let's read EVERYDAY.



Summer Term After School Clubs

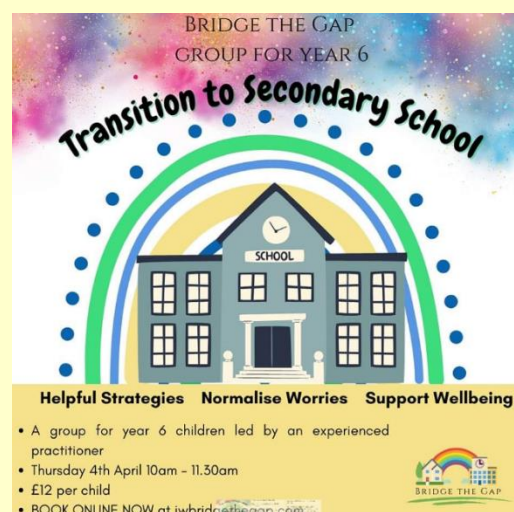
Please see the flier at the end of today's newsletter for Soccerstars, which starts the first week back after Easter. We are looking at a number of other clubs for the summer term and will send out the details after the holidays, with clubs then due to **start w/b 15 April**.

Year 6 Transition

It is normal for Year 6 pupils to feel a bit excited and a bit nervous about the transition to secondary school. This session run by "Bridge the Gap" during the Easter holidays, might be useful for some of our children?

Little Princess Trust

Millie Cullen (4H) is cutting her hair to help the charity make a wig for those children who have cancer and may have lost their hair through treatment. She has raised over £600 so far! If you would like to support her, please scan the QR code!



Well done, Millie.

What a KIND and BRAVE girl you are!



Y5 Trip to Laches Wood

This half term, our Y5 children spent a fabulous 3 days at Laches Wood. During our time at the centre, the children were able to experience a range of different activities including caving, BMX biking, bushcraft, high ropes, leap of faith, archery and even axe throwing!

It was super to see the bravery and resilience shown by all the children when faced with new challenges which often pushed them outside of their comfort zones. It was also brilliant to observe how kindly they were encouraged and supported by their peers. We are so proud of them all.



The children achieved so much during our short

stay. Whether it was overcoming a fear of heights, the first night sleeping away from home, learning to ride a bike more confidently, learning to put on their own duvet cover or simply being in the right place and the right time with the right kit! We are so very proud of them all and everything they achieved. We hope that they have made memories that they will treasure for many years to come.



Please check the dates for the diary as we look ahead to what I'm sure will be a very busy and productive time for everyone at TRJS over the summer term. Have a great break over Easter. See you all on Monday 8 April!

J Emery

Dates for the Diary: Summer Term 2024

Thursday 11 April	Y4 Clay Workshops
w/b 15 April	Music Lessons Start/ After School Clubs Start
Monday 13-Thursday 16 May	KS2 SATs Week (Year 6)
Friday 17 May	Y6 Circus Skills Workshop
Thursday 23 May	Sports Day (9.30am and 1.30pm)
Friday 24 May	INSET DAY (School Closed to pupils)
Monday 27-Friday 31 May	HALF TERM
Thursday 6 June	Class Photographs
Monday 10 June	Y6 Visit to Library
Tuesday 11	Y6 Trip to Cannock Chase
Monday 17 June	Y5 Visit to Library
Monday 24 June	Y4 Visit to Library
Wednesday 26-Friday 28 June	Y6 Residential to Standon Bowers
Monday 1 July	Y3 Library Visit
Tuesday 2 July	Transition Day (Y6 to JTHS, Y2/3 Transition Day)
Thursday 4 July	School Art Exhibition (all day)
Tuesday 9 July	Music Night (Details to be confirmed)
Thursday 18 July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly- Perform to School (10am)
Friday 19 July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly for Parents (10.00am)
	LAST DAY OF TERM

Dates for the Diary: Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September	INSET DAY
Tuesday 3 September	INSET DAY
Wednesday 4 September	TERM STARTS
Friday 25 October	INSET DAY
28 October -1 November	HALF TERM

Wrap Around

Early Birds and Night Owls bookings for Summer Term 1. If you are interested in using the TRJS before or after school care, then please enter the following codes at www.schoolsinterviews.co.uk to book:

Early Birds – **43pvu**

Night Owls – **vy5nu**

Please note that by using the booking system we can guarantee your child's place.

Due to staff ratios, we may not be able to accommodate any bookings requested after the closing date of **Friday 5th April**.

f Instagram

soccerstarsuk

TINY TOTS SATURDAY MORNING SESSIONS

FOR CHILDREN AGED 2 TO 5

INDOOR VENUES

- UNIVERSITY OF DERBY
- THE LONG EATON SCHOOL
- CHELLASTON ACADEMY
- REPTON SPORTS CENTRE

TASTER SESSIONS AVAILABLE TO BOOK ON OUR WEBSITE!
FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION TO SCHOOL YEAR 6

SKILLS CENTRES

SATURDAY
UNIVERSITY OF DERBY
• 9:15AM - 10:15AM
• 10:15AM - 11:15AM

SUNDAY
EYEWALL LEISURE CENTRE
• 9:00AM - 10:00AM

10 EPISODES WEEKLY TOPICS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.SOCCERSTARSUK.CO.UK

soccerstarsuk

FOOTBALL

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Thomas Russell Junior School

YEARS:
3, 4, 5 & 6

Monday 9th April –
Tuesday 27th May

Price £38.50

TO BOOK AND MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
WWW.SOCCERSTARSUK.CO.UK