



Newsletter



Issue No.4

Headteacher: Mr J Emery

18 October 2024



w/b 07.10.24	
Year 3	97.6%
Year 4	97.8%
Year 5	97.4%
Year 6	95.8%
TRJS Overall	97.2%

Wb 14.10.24	
Year 3	97.4%
Year 4	98.3%
Year 5	99.3%
Year 6	96.1%
TRJS Overall	97.8%

We have launched a new initiative (HERO) to promote excellent attendance. We are working in partnership with Staffordshire County Council. We have lots of posters, fliers, stickers and certificates. Can you be a HERO? So far this term, the overall attendance at TRJS is 98.2%. This is an amazing achievement, which is above our target of 97.5% and demonstrates how well parents and school are working together to help all children to be **H**ere, **E**very day, **R**eady and **O**n time. Keep it up. 😊

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH MR EMERY

Congratulations to everyone who has received the **TRJS Weekly Values Award** and will be sharing hot chocolate and biscuits with Mr Emery. We have so many great learners who are proud to demonstrate our school values and be their very best. Congratulations everyone – we are proud of you all!

Year 3	Amber K, Riley G, Margot T, Holly M
Year 4	Amelia M, Olivia P, Rosie C, Lucy G
Year 5	Paige H, Annabelle O, Evelyn G, Lily B
Year 6	George E, Florence M, Orla S, Henry C

Football League

On Tuesday 8th October, the Dove Valley League competition got under way. Thomas Russell played three matches against Mosley Academy, Rykneld and Shobnall. We started extremely well, winning 3-0 against Mosley and scoring some excellent goals. The second match was against Rykneld which was a hard-fought, competitive game. Unfortunately, Thomas Russell lost the match 1-0. As the heavens opened, TRJS began their final match against Shobnall. Both teams played incredibly well; however TRJS lost the match 3-1. Well done to all of those children who took part; it was a great (if not very wet!) evening of football.

KEEPING SAFE ONLINE

Smartphones

If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete this quick survey and give us your views about smartphone use. The survey is relevant for ALL parents, regardless of whether your child owns a smartphone or not. The results of the survey will give us an insight into how TRJS parents feel about smartphone use in children, and what action may be needed to support the school community. The results will be shared in future newsletters. Thank you!

Go to: <https://forms.office.com/r/ctm2AXymAf>

Or scan the QR code:




Information for parents and carers


Childnet has a practical tool to start discussions about how to behave online and how to set clear expectations for your family: www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement/


Internet Matters has practical guides on how to safely set up devices for children:

www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/ including the safe use of monitoring apps: www.internetmatters.org/resources/monitoring-apps-parents-guide/

Perfect Pets Drawing

 We are delighted to take part in the Perfect Pets drawing competition.

 Children can draw their favourite animal or pet, an animal mash-up, be inspired by mythical creatures, or create something unique from their imagination.

 Drawings will be published in the bright, colourful Perfect Pets book series.

Get the drawings of the Perfect Pets into Mrs Khalid and you could become published artists!

Closing Date: 23rd October

Over to You



Well done to our BRAVE children who shared their personal ideas about home customs and practices in answer to the question '**What makes a home special for you?**'. We heard about a wonderful diversity of family activities – both religious and not - including special meals, board



games, story time, home prayers, exciting gardens, family coming to stay, favourite cuddly toys and film nights. Watch this space for more opportunities for children to lead the learning in assemblies.



PACKINGTON FARM

On Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th October, Year 4 went to Packington Farm where they had the opportunity to meet the farm animals, discuss woodland animals and their habitats, take part in giant nest building and follow a woodland/ crop trail. In the afternoon, children were told all about the different crops and machinery which is used on the farm, and they were even able to make flour, knead dough and create and tasty flatbread. A super day. Thank you to Jules and all the staff at Packington for a great day.



Science in Year 4

This term, children in Year 4 have been learning about the different types of teeth and their functions as well as finding out about the digestive system.



Science Year 3

This term, children in Year 3 have been learning about food and healthy eating. Last week we thought about favourite/least favourite foods and why we love/hate these foods so much. E.g. look, colour, smell, texture, new, allergies etc. We then tried sampled some different foods including: olives, limes, celery, green peppers, radishes and some salad leaves. Yum!



Harvest Assembly

All parents are invited into school on Wednesday 23 October. The children will be performing some poems and songs all about harvest. We ask everyone to bring in some harvest produce, preferably cans and packets which are less perishable. Any donations of produce will be sent to the local charity HOPE which does vital work with homeless people. The assembly will start at 9.10 and last for 30-40 minutes. We look forward to seeing you there.

Dinner Money Debts

We ask that parents clear any debt for school dinners within 2 weeks. We do have some debts that are over £40 (which is nearly 3 weeks of debt) and we may write to you to ask for this to be cleared or we may have to ask that the child has a packed lunch until it is paid. Thank you.

Our school catering manager,
Mrs Mandy Brammer is
organising a wreath-making workshop
before Christmas, on Thursday 5 December. Please
give her a ring if you are interested and help raise
funds for school.



Hair

May we remind parents that we ask children with hair that is shoulder length or longer to tie their hair up with a bobble. This helps them focus on their schoolwork and keep safe for all activities.

Applications for High School

A reminder to those Year 6 parents who have not yet completed an application form for a place at high school, the deadline for applications is 31 October (which is in half term). We have sent a message to Y6 parents.

After School Clubs

Woodland Warriors

There are 6 sessions after half term. The cost is £36 to be paid via Parentpay. (There are 10 places.)

www.schoolinterviews.co.uk

Code – uam3j

Magical Maths

Continues after half term on Wednesday 3.30-4.30. Please see the information below.

SuperStar Sport

After half term, Netball is on Mondays and Archery is on Tuesdays. Please see the flier below.

Soccerstars

Will continue on Tuesdays after half term. More information will follow.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 23 October 9.10 **Harvest Assembly**

Friday 25 October – **INSET DAY** (School is closed to pupils for staff training)

Half Term: Monday 28 October-Friday 1 November

The pupils return to school on: **Monday 4 November.**

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

J Emery



SUPER STAR SPORT

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are committed to keeping your children fit, active and healthy!

Thomas Russel Junior School

Monday
 ⚡ Netball | All Years


Tuesday
 ⚡ Archery | All Years

£42 for 7 sessions

3:30PM - 4:30PM

Starting from 4th Nov - 17th Dec

★ Trustpilot
 ★★★★★



To book:
 Visit www.superstarsport.co.uk
 Go to "Book Now" & select your club!

<https://super-star-sport-midlands.classforkids.io/term/437>



Autumn Disco
 FRIDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2024

Yoxall Foresters Scouts are collaborating with St Peters to run a fundraising Autumn Disco! Money raised will support YSP PTA and help the Scouts to go to Kanderstag, Switzerland in 2026.

MUSIC TUCKSHOP
GAMES CRAFT

4pm – 6pm @ St Peters School Hall
All Primary year groups welcome

Tickets are **£6** (drinks, hot dog and tuck shop included in the price)
 Payment deadline: Friday 25th October 2024

Payment to made via BACS:

The Foresters Scouts
 Sort code: 30-99-50
 Account: 34231460

Please put DISCO and child's name as payment reference © AND complete this online booking form:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WSDRW7J>



Science Discovery Fun Day
at Rosliston Forestry Centre

Saturday 19th Oct 11.00am-3.00pm

Join the Environmental Education Project & friends...

- Birdwatching for Beginners
- Make bird boxes or feeders
- Paper plane experiments
- Have a go at your own 'bee waggle dance'
- Lego—display & demo
- 'Marches Energy' advice vehicle

Science fun for all the family.
 Activities and experiments with a focus on FLIGHT.

ARD Birds of Prey

Birdwatching for Beginners

REPAIR CAFE

RAG Rosliston Astronomy Group

www.roslistonforestrycentre.co.uk
rosliston@southderbyshire.gov.uk 01283 535039 (answerphone)
 Rosliston Forestry Centre, Burton Road, Rosliston, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE12 8JX

Environmental Education Project at Rosliston Forestry Centre

Supported by the National Forestry

South Derbyshire District Council

ROSLISTON FORESTRY CENTRE

Find us on: **facebook**

Follow us on: **RoslistonEnvEdu**

Environmental Education Project at Rosliston Forestry Centres



Professor Poopenshtinken's MAGICAL MATHS

Magical Maths... ...is back next half term!

After a fantastic term at Thomas Russell Junior packed full of **mind boggling tricks, games and puzzles**, Professor Poopenshtinken and her friends are back this October for more mathemagical fun!

Over the last term, hats and wands were worn in **fast paced maths duels**, legs were stretched on **Mathletes week** and countless puzzles were solved at Magical Maths. The newest Maths Geniuses will even now be able to **square huge numbers in their heads, read minds and guess your age...**

Professor Poopenshtinken recently even had the chance to visit **10 Downing Street**, where he presented some of the **brand new tricks and games** that we are bringing to the latest generation of maths geniuses next term!



Professor Poopenshtinken's MAGICAL MATHS



To make sure your child doesn't miss out on the opportunity to learn these amazing tricks, scan the QR code or visit www.magicalmathsclub.com to book your child's place!



Spaces are limited... so act quickly!

Magical Maths online is now...

FREE! With every Booking!

With over **260 hours** of videos, worksheets, quizzes and interactive games, you and your child can continue the fun and learning from home with **Magical Maths Online!**

Magical Maths Online now even complements our after school sessions - each week you can quickly access the **Magical Maths Online** topic that relates to the mind boggling trick or thrilling game that your child will have enjoyed that week.

Once charged at £9.99 per month, Professor Poopenshtinken is now offering **FREE access** to everyone who books onto one of our after school club programmes, to make sure your child can get the most out of his incredible tricks and games!



School Attendance Changes from September 2024



*Thank you to all our parents who support their child's education
by ensuring that your child attends regularly and on time.*

The research around attendance is very clear: "The more a child attends school, the better they do."

Please be assured that the school will always be sensitive to children and families who are absent due to genuine health concerns. We always aim to work with our families and discuss support to overcome the barriers to attendance wherever possible.

Attendance is a national and a local concern. Since the days of COVID, the attendance figures for schools have dropped dramatically and the number of children who are absent for at least 10% of the time ("Persistent Absentees") has increased. Therefore, the government have issued a document outlining how schools and parents are expected to work together to ensure that children attend school regularly and achieve their best (***Working together to Improve School Attendance 2024***).

The main changes from September 2024 include:

1. The requirement for schools to share their attendance data each day with the DFE and
2. Changes to penalty notices from this date.

The government will now receive data from all schools regarding attendance each day. This will enable everyone to monitor attendance and, as communicated with parents in previous newsletters, if a child is absent for unauthorised reasons (such as taking a family holiday in term time) for 5 days or more, they may currently receive a penalty notice of £60 per parent per child. In this instance, the school will inform Staffordshire County Council who may then issue the fine. At present, it is possible for some families to receive several fines even if this is not having a positive effect on attendance.

However, from the Autumn Term 2024, only 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3-year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at £160. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days. A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days. A third penalty notice cannot be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within 3 years of the date of issue of the first. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action will be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution or other legal routes regarding attendance.

At TRJS, we are proud of the high levels of attendance overall. However, we aim to work with all of our families to ensure that ALL CHILDREN attend school as much as they can. Please remember that the new approach is set by the government, not TRJS, and parents need to be fully aware of the consequences of unauthorised absence.

Thank you for your support.

J Emery



TRJS

Dates for 2024/2025



Monday 2 September	INSET DAY
Tuesday 3 September	INSET DAY
Wednesday 4 September	AUTUMN TERM STARTS for pupils
Friday 25 October	INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)
Monday 28 October-Friday 1 November	HALF TERM
Friday 20 December	AUTUMN TERM ENDS
Monday 23 December-Friday 3 January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 6 January	SPRING TERM STARTS
Monday 17 February-Friday 21 February	HALF TERM
Friday 11 April	SPRING TERM ENDS
Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April	Easter Holidays
Monday 28 April	SUMMER TERM STARTS
Monday 26 May-Friday 30 May	HALF TERM
Friday 4 July	INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)
Friday 18 July	SUMMER TERM ENDS
Monday 21 July	INSET DAY