



# Newsletter



Issue No.16

Headteacher: Mr J Emery

Friday 14 February 2025



Year Group	w/b 03.02.25	w/b 10.02.25
Year 3	97.9%	98.4%
Year 4	97.5%	96.9%
Year 5	94.5%	92.7%
Year 6	97.7%	97.8%
TRJS Overall	97%	96.5%

Despite the bugs, well done to everyone for getting into school and being little heroes! Year 3 continue to be top of the pops, while Year 6 have achieved the school target for 2 weeks in a row. Remember: "The more you attend school, the better you do."

## Hot Chocolate with Mr Emery

Congratulations to everyone who has received the **TRJS Weekly Values Award** over the last couple of weeks and shared hot chocolate and biscuits with Mr Emery. It is wonderful to hear all about their achievements both in and outside of school.

Year 3	Iga P, Josie G, Amy S, Hannah D-K
Year 4	Toby M, Berivan M, Leo C, George B
Year 5	Imogen M, Poppy L, Jessica E
Year 6	Oscar S, Henry M, Harry F, Teddy C

## Safer Internet Day: 11<sup>th</sup> February

This week in our assemblies we have been discussing the Safer Internet Day theme of '**Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online**'. The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors led our whole school and class assemblies, with activities including recognising signs of a scam, phishing and how to protect your profile.



Parents and carers can follow this link for tips on how to support their children on staying safe online:  
[Tips for Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

## Dance at JTHS



On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January, pupils from Year 4 took part in a dance event at JTHS, which was led by Dance leaders from Years 7 and 8. The children from TRJS were taught the routine and had great fun learning all the moves and showing off their performance skills. At the end of the session, all the children performed the routine together - it was great to watch. Congratulations to everyone; you were all excellent! 😊



## Earrings

May we remind parents that earrings at school are not encouraged. If parents feel earrings are necessary, then the school policy only allows a small stud earring. With regard to having a child's ears pierced, may we ask for this to be done at the very start of the summer holidays. If earrings need to be left in during the first few weeks, this may mean that your child will be unable to participate in PE. Promoting health and activity at school is so important, so we welcome the co-operation of parents.



## All Shook Up

A message for the cast of All School Up:

As the show takes place in the 1950s, the costumes are very simple. The cast are asked to provide the following:

Boys: Jeans and a collared, short-sleeved shirt

Girls: Skirt (below the knee) or pedal pushers and a T-shirt or sweater

We are hoping to perform the show just before Easter. Apologies for the lack of a definitive date. Mrs Thompson started the rehearsals after half term and, as this is the first time we have done a performance like this, we weren't too sure how long we would need to be ready. We will let parents know the date of the performance after half term. The rehearsals sound brilliant, so we are very much looking forward to getting rockin' and rollin' Elvis style!

# Children's Mental Health Week



Last week in school we supported Children's Mental Health week. We started the week off with a wonderful assembly led by our Mindful Mentors. The focus was on gratitude, appreciation and being thankful. Science says that we are more likely to dwell on negative thoughts than positive. We know that there are no "bad" emotions. All thoughts and feelings are valid. Both positive and negative thoughts and emotions play a valuable role in how we process the world around us. If we look on the bright side and focus on the positives this helps our brain to focus on the good.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmtwxg8#zfxdmbk> In our assembly the children were asked for a person they were grateful for; an experience or day; a skill, talent or strength; and something in nature. We asked them to show their gratitude to others – please let us know if you have been on the receiving end of this 😊



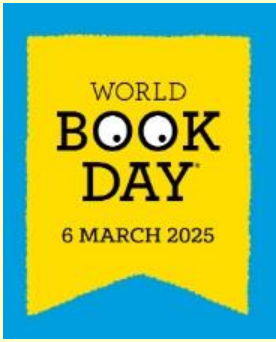
## Art Therapy

We are very lucky at TRJS that for the Spring and Summer term we have Katie Russon, who is an Art Therapy trainee, undertaking her clinical placement with us. She has spent the last month getting to know us and how we work and will start working with some children after half term.

What is an Art Therapist? How can Art Therapy help?

Art Therapists (or Art Psychotherapists) is someone who has undertaken training in art therapy approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). Art Therapy is a type of psychotherapy, utilising art media as a form of communication. Art is used to facilitate communication of the child's thoughts, feelings, and emotions, it is particularly useful for individuals who struggle to express themselves. Art Therapists can help identify strategies for managing feelings and behaviours both in school and at home. They can aid a child in building resilience and support the teachers and parents through the process of making positive changes.

If you have any questions, or would like to find out more, please contact Mrs K-D [skerrdelworth@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:skerrdelworth@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk)



On **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, TRJS will be participating in **World Book Day 2025!** It is a worldwide annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading, providing a fantastic opportunity to focus on **reading for pleasure!** This year's theme is '**Read Your Way**'. Research shows that children feel reading is something they have to do, rather than something they choose to do. Read Your Way encourages everyone to let go of reading pressures and expectations; it empowers children and young people to have fun discovering reading on their own terms.

**READ  
YOUR WAY**

All pupils have been issued with a **£1 book voucher**, which they can use in exchange for a brand-new book that has been written by some leading authors especially for this year's World Book Day. Participating retailers and supermarkets include: ASDA, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrisons, WHSmith, Waterstones, Blackwells and The Works, as well as **Spaldings**, our local village bookshop. Check out the choices on offer this year's here: <https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/books/>

**We invite you to come to school dressed as a book character of your choice.** There is a list of website links to quick, simple and low-cost costume ideas below.

We have a busy day of activities planned, including a special visit by Alex Atkinson, author of '**Spooksmiths Investigates: The Cinderman**' - a spooky tale packed with mystery, adventure and humour. We will learn about how she ended up as a writer of scary stories, where her inspiration comes from, some of the weird things she's learned through her book research and why everyone should exercise their imagination!



Copies of Alex's book are being stocked at our local bookseller, **Spaldings** – where you can also spend your World Book Day Token AND donate to our TRJS Wishlist, which will be used to stock our new book vending machine for reading rewards! Similarly, the book can be purchased at other major book retailers, such as Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Spooksmiths-Investigate-Cinderman/dp/1835400930>

Find out more about Alex on her website: <https://www.alexatkinsonstories.com/>

**Competition Time!** We will also be running a World Book Day inspired '**Create a Potato Character**' competition. We want you to think of a favourite character from a book you've read and turn it into a potato character – like this one shown here! Please see the separate letter, which has been sent home today (Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February) for further details. An electronic copy has also been attached to this newsletter. One winning entry from each class will be treated to a special **VIP 'Meet and Greet Lunch'** with our visiting author, Alex Atkinson, along with a personalised, signed copy of her book. There will be other "**Super Spud**" prizes for excellent effort, creativity and imagination. ALL entries will receive a small treat for participating! 😊



### **World Book Day Costume Ideas**

- <https://www.teachwire.net/news/a-pretty-comprehensive-list-of-costume-ideas-for-world-book-day/>
- <https://www.mumsnet.com/articles/world-book-day-costume-ideas>
- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/world-book-day-costume-ideas-that-tell-a-story>  
<https://www.theschoolrun.com/cheap-and-easy-ideas-last-minute-world-book-day-costumes>



## Y5 Junior Cadets

Over the last half term, some children in Year 5 were involved in Junior Cadets. The sessions were led by our local PCSOs and covered themes such as the role of the police, keeping safe and how to be a good citizen in the community. Last week, the police van was at TRJS and the children were very excited to hear the siren and be locked up in the van! Thank you to Lucy Hadfield and the PCSOs for very useful sessions. We also received super feedback from the police, highly praising the children's respect, manners and teamwork. Well done, everyone!



## Swimming Stars

Congratulations to Seb and Annabel for a very successful club championships at Burton Amateur Swimming Club. They both compete in various different strokes. We are so proud of you.



Seb won 2 first places in the U10 and also won a second and third place in the U12. Seb has his first counties weekend coming up 15/16th February.

Annabel achieved first and third place in her age group and also a fourth place in the age above. She was also nominated for swimmers' swimmer.

Swimming at this level takes a huge amount of commitment and hard work, so well done to you both!



# After School Clubs

What	Provider	When	Year Group	Cost	Information
Dodgeball	Soccerstars	Mondays 24/02, 03/03, 10/03, 17/03, 24/03, 31/03, 07/04	Y3-6	£38.50	See flier below (Term 4)
Rugby	Mr Tolley	Mondays 24/02, 03/03, 10/03, 17/03, 24/03, 31/03, 07/04	Y4-6	£21	<a href="http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk">www.schoolinterviews.co.uk</a> Code:kd938 Pay on parent pay please.
Football	Soccerstars	Tuesdays 25/02, 04/03, 11/03, 18/03, 25/03, 01/04, 08/04	Y3-6	£38.50	See flier below (Term 4)
Woodland Warriors	Mrs Veevers	Tuesdays 25/02, 04/03, 11/03, 18/03, 25/03, 01/04	Y3-6	£36	<a href="http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk">www.schoolinterviews.co.uk</a> Code:kd938 Pay on parent pay please.
Keyboard Club	Hot House Music	Tuesdays 25/02, 04/03, 11/03, 18/03, 25/03, 01/04, 08/04	Y3-6	£3 Weekly	<a href="https://hmusic.co.uk/school/burton/">https://hmusic.co.uk/school/burton/</a> Scroll to the bottom and click on TRJS Extra Curricular
Tennis	Soccerstars	Wednesdays 26/02, 05/03, 12/03, 19/03, 26/03, 02/04, 09/04	Y3-6	£33.25	See flier below (Term 4)
All Shook Up	Mrs Thompson	Thursdays 27/02, 06/03, 13/03, 20/03, 27/03, 03/04, 10/04	Continuing for children already signed up		

# Dates for the Diary

Monday 3 March	Y6 Library Visit
Thursday 6 March	World Book Day
Thursday 13 March	Science Day
Monday 24 March	Y3 Library Visit
Wed 26-Fri 28 March	Y5 Residential
Thursday 3 April	Parent Consultations (4pm-6.30pm)
Tuesday 8 April	Parent Consultations (4pm-6.30pm)

Wishing everyone a good half term. We look forward to seeing all the children back at school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

*J Emery*



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**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

**Football**  
School Years: **3 to 6**

**Thomas Russell Junior School**

**Price:**  
Dates: **Tuesday** Term 3 Price - **£33.00**  
Time: **3:30pm-4:30pm** Term 4 Price - **£38.50**

TO BOOK AND MORE INFORMATION 01332 368000  
PLEASE VISIT HERE: @Footie@soccerstarsuk.co.uk



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**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

**Dodgeball**  
School Years: **3-6**

**Thomas Russell Junior School**

**Price:**  
Dates: **Monday** Term 3 Price - **£16.50**  
Time: **3:30pm-4:30pm** Term 4 Price - **£38.50**


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# AFTER SCHOOL CLUB




**Tennis**  
School Years: **Y3-Y6**

 **Thomas Russell Junior School**

**Dates: Wednesday**  
**Time: 3:30pm-4:30pm**

**Price:**  
**Term 4 Price - £33.25**

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