



Newsletter



Issue No.31

Headteacher: Mr J Emery

Thursday 17 July



Thank you to all our parents who support their child's education and aim to get their child to school every day, ready and on time. A special shout out to 30 children across the school who have achieved 100% attendance this year. Wow!

Term Dates for 2025-2026

Please find the term dates below. We ask all families to avoid booking family holidays during term time. 😊

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH MR EMERY

Congratulations to everyone who has received the **TRJS Weekly Values Award** and has shared an ice lolly and biscuit with Mr Emery (well it was too hot for hot chocolate!).

Year 3	Felicity C, Charlie E
Year 4	Toby B, Isaac C
Year 5	Sammy N, Thommas F
Year 6	Imogen W, Henry Chantler

Year 5 and 6 Walking Home

Please note that we can only allow Y5 or Y6 children to leave the school premises on their own if the school have received a signed permission slip from the parents. ALL children in Year 5 for September 2025 will need to be collected by a parent for the first 3 days of term. This will give the school time to collate all the permission slips and confirm who is then allowed to leave the school premises on their own **from Monday 8 September**.

Dinner Money

Due to rising costs associated with providing a hot lunch each day, school dinners will go up to £2.90 per day from September 2025.

After School Clubs for the Autumn Term

Please see the information below regarding clubs for the Autumn Term. Please check the information regarding how to book and pay for places. Please sign up for the clubs using your child's class for SEPTEMBER.

Donate Uniform

A very kind parent has offered to collect unwanted uniform (in decent condition), wash it and then have it ready for a "pre-loved" sale in the Autumn Term. Year 6 leavers may have some uniform to donate maybe?? All uniform gratefully received. Please leave at the office. Many thanks.

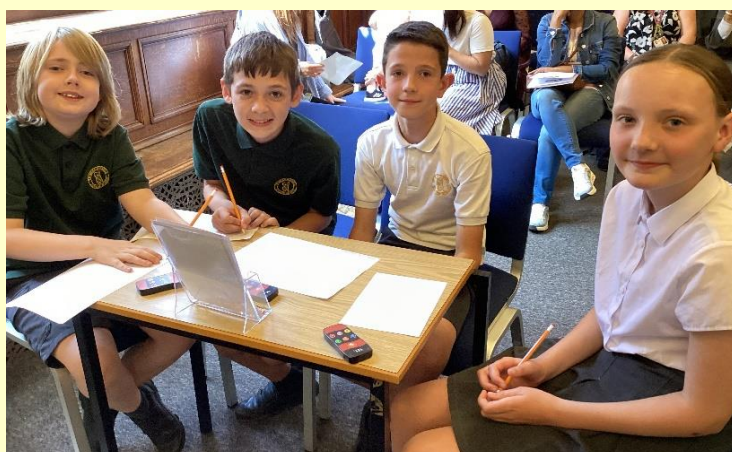
National Maths Championship Finals at Oxford University

This year, TRJS entered the Quiz Club National Maths Championship for the first time. The competition is set up for teams of 4 players from KS2 and the questions are designed to challenge their mathematical thinking under timed conditions.

After successfully making their way through the online heats and the semi-finals, on Friday 4th July four of our fabulous Y6 mathematicians (Thomas H, Kieran T, Harris B and Hettie P) made their way to Oxford University to take part in the finals. The weather was glorious and the setting – the Examination Schools @ Oxford University – was equally impressive. Whatever the result, we knew that this would be a fabulous experience for everyone involved.

The atmosphere was one of nervous excitement as the room full of teams, and an audience of supporting parents, waited for the first question. TRJS started strong, not dropping a mark in the first round and, after two further rounds of tough questioning, we finished in 23rd place. With 442 teams taking part in the competition this was a fabulous result and we are all exceptionally proud of the children and their efforts.

Finally, a big thank you to the parents of our team who took time out to get their children to Oxford and for all of their support at the event.



BMM Summer Concert

Congratulations to the musical stars who performed at the Barton Music Makers Summer Concert on Saturday 12 July at 7.30pm in Barton Village Hall. The sensational six included: Scarlett (Ukelele and Singing), Hettie (Piano), Otis (Piano and Singing), Logan (Violin), Harris (Guitar) and Leo (Guitar). It was a lovely evening of music and TRJS is very proud of you all.

Leavers' Parade

The school gates will open at 3.20pm on Friday afternoon and Y6 will parade from the back of the hall at 3.25pm



Twycross Zoo

On Monday 30th June, Year 4 went on an exciting educational trip to Twycross Zoo. The day was packed with discovery, adventure, and learning as the children explored a wide variety of animals and their habitats.

A highlight of the day was a workshop focused on the Rainforest habitat. The children learned about the different layers of the rainforest, the diverse species that call it home, and the importance of rainforest conservation. The whole visit gave children a deeper understanding of how ecosystems work and why protecting them is important.



Thank you to all the staff who helped on the day and thank you to the children who were super ambassadors for TRJS. A great day out with lots of outdoor learning! 😊



TRJS Delay Smartphones Pact



At TRJS we strongly encourage parents to delay buying a smartphone for their children. We are supporters of the Smartphone Free Childhood parent pact and ask parents to learn more about this virtual pact and consider signing it for TRJS.

Our position on smartphones is based on the mounting evidence of the detrimental impacts on children of owning a smartphone, and our own experience of working with parents to safeguard children following smartphone-related incidents that happen outside of school.

It takes 30 seconds to sign the Parent Pact – and you can see how many others in your child's class, school and county have signed on the live leaderboards.

Scan here and sign up today:

Or visit: parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk



Together We're Powerful

Please see the Smart Phone document on the newsletter page of the school website.

A reminder that the school will be a mobile free zone for children in September.

Cricket

On Tuesday 8th July, two Year 6 cricket teams played other local schools at Rangemore. Each team played 2 matches with the same results: 1 win and 1 loss .



Both teams showed amazing teamwork and sporting attitudes were evident throughout.

Well done to all the boys and girls involved. 😊



Year 6 Leavers Party

On Friday 11th July, it was party time for Year 6! The children arrived to a signature mocktail and a photobooth. Various activities were on offer including: a disco, archery, football match, rounders and table tennis. Mrs Brammer provided hotdogs and the children also enjoyed an ice cream.

The evening finished with a whole school rendition of Sweet Caroline. It was a lovely occasion and all of Year 6 left with smiling faces. We have prepared a booklet of photographs for every Y6 child to capture those precious, happy memories.



A big thank you to Mrs Brammer (hot dogs), Lacey's mum (photobooth) and all of the staff (for supervising the activities) to ensure that Year 6 had a wonderful evening together.



FUN MATHS

If you would like to have a go at some fun maths activities over the summer then check out the documents on the newsletter page of the website entitled, "Summer Maths Activities". There is a document with ideas for each age group. If this is too much detail, then keep it simple and learn your times tables! Have fun!

Healthy Snacks

A reminder that we encourage healthy snacks at TRJS and, from September, we ask that children do not bring crisps, sweets or chocolate to school as snacks. Thank you for your support.



Innovation Station has been running twice a week for over a year, and we finished it off with an assembly celebrating all our achievements and sharing with the rest of the school the wonderful work that we have been doing. Thank you to the parents who were able to join us, and our two special guests from Virtual Schools.

The children in this group have all grown so much in a variety of ways and Mrs K-D and Mrs Vydelingum could not be prouder of them. Well done Vincent G, Poppy G, Esmee W, Hughie M, Layla S, Callum H, Seb S, Matthew P, Olivia S, Mani E and Braydon L 😊



We had our last Nature Based Movement session back in the Spring term, but we were lucky to have a goodbye meeting (with lollies, shame the sun wasn't out today!) with Ester. We would like to say thank you to her for a wonderful group of sessions, and the children who took part were a credit to TRJS. Well done Poppy N, Hugh H-J, Leo J, Trinity W, Caitlin V-T, Hughie M, Jack E, Layla S and Braydon L. 😊



LOVE LITERACY THIS SUMMER!

Enjoy some reading for pleasure or try your hand as a budding author this summer by completing one (or all) of the FREE challenges we have on offer! These activities are not only great for keeping your learning ticking over but encourage mindfulness, creativity and imagination! Find out more.....which will you pick?!

Summer Reading Challenge

Register either at **Barton Library** or **online** for this year's Summer Reading Challenge! Children are encouraged to set their own reading goal, enjoy reading books of their choice (a book, comic, magazine, audiobook, eBook, fact book etc) and collect rewards!



The theme for 2025 is 'Story Garden' and it's all about nature, exploring the outdoors, discovering magical spaces, storytelling - and reading!

If you successfully complete the challenge you will receive (or be able to print off) a **Certificate of Achievement**. Bring this into school in September to receive your first HTA of the new school year! The Summer Reading Challenge runs from **Saturday 5th July to Sunday 7th September**. <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>



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READING PLUS

Reading Plus Summer Challenge

The **Reading Plus Summer Challenge** is encouraging you to do more Reading Plus assignments over the summer holiday. Running from **Monday 21st of July - Wednesday 27th of August**, we want you to complete as much Reading Plus as possible! Simply log-on using your school log-in details and get reading! Prizes on offer include:

- **Prize 1:** The school with the highest average reading lessons will be awarded a trophy and a **£100 book voucher**.
- **Prize 2:** The year group with the highest average reading lessons will be awarded a **trophy** and a choice between a **£100 book voucher** or a **class pizza party**, worth up to £100.
- **Prize 3:** Three students who submitted the completed reading resource activity will be chosen via a prize draw to win a **£50 book voucher**, a **trophy** and a **certificate**.



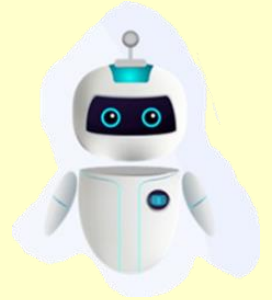
Summer of Skandar Reading Challenge

The **Skandar Reading Challenge** has been set by its author A.F Steadman, who wants you to read

the first book in the series and complete a number of online quizzes and activities related to the book! Watch the videos and find out more here:

[Summer of Skandar | Simon & Schuster UK](#)

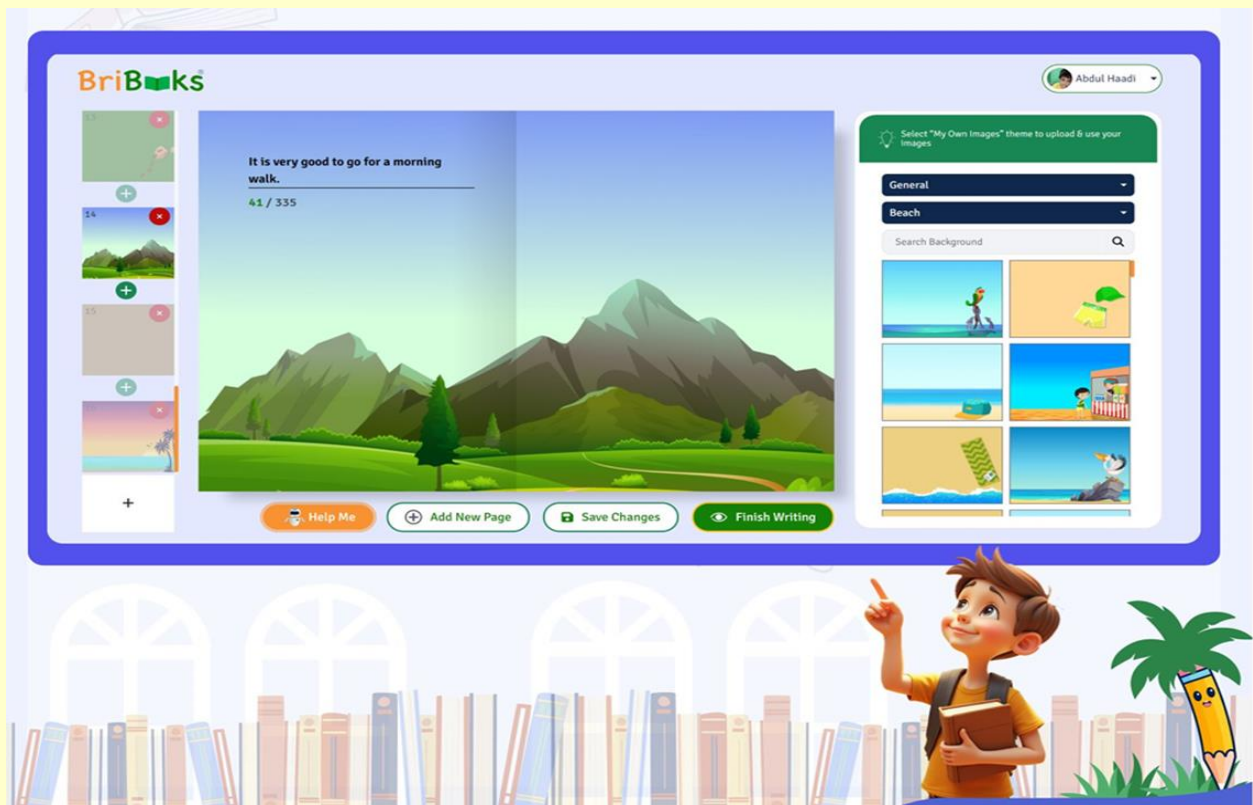
Miss Murfin has a free Skandar bookmark for anyone who takes part!



BriBooks Summer Writing Festival

Meet BriBoo – Your AI Writing Companion!

The **Summer Book Writing Festival** is completely FREE to take part! It requires an adult to help sign you up online. You can then write and publish your own books, with the help of AI! That means there's no need to worry about spelling, punctuation or even ideas - as BriBoo, your interactive AI writing guide, is here to help you!



Please see the newsletter page of the school website under, "Summer Book Writing Festival" for further information. Here you will find your QR code to take you directly to our Thomas Russell Junior page!

What Club	Club Organiser	Dates	Year Group	Cost	Information How to book
Dodgeball	Soccerstars	Mondays 08/09, 15/09, 22/09, 29/09, 06/10, 13/10, 20/10	Y3-6	£38.50	www.soccerstars.co.uk Soccerstars also accept childcare vouchers
Rugby	Mr Tolley	Mondays 08/09, 15/09, 22/09, 29/09, 06/10, 13/10, 20/10	Y4-6	£21	www.schoolinterviews.co.uk Code:f9jwv Pay on parent pay please.
Football	Soccerstars	Tuesdays 09/09, 16/09, 23/09, 30/09, 07/10, 14/10, 21/10	Y3-6	£38.50	www.soccerstars.co.uk Soccerstars also accept childcare vouchers.
Woodland Warriors	Mrs Veevers	Tuesdays 09/09, 16/09, 23/09, 30/09, 07/10, 14/10,	Y3-6	£36	www.schoolinterviews.co.uk Code: f9jwv Pay on parent pay please.
Keyboard Club	Hot House Music	Tuesdays 09/09, 16/09, 23/09, 30/09, 07/10, 14/10, 21/10	Y3-6	£3 Weekly	https://hhmusic.co.uk/school/burton/ Scroll to the bottom and click on TRJS Extra Curricular
Table Tennis Club	Mr Kerr	Wednesdays 10/09, 17/09, 24/09, 01/10, 08/10, 15/10, 22/10	Y3-6	£17.50	www.schoolinterviews.co.uk Code:f9jwv Pay on parent pay please.
Drama Club "Annie"	Mrs Thompson	Thursdays 11/09, 18/09, 25/09, 02/10, 9/10, 16/10,23/10	Y4-Y6	£14	www.schoolinterviews.co.uk Code:f9jwv Pay on parent pay please. (Performance planned for Easter 2026)

Booking for clubs will open on Thursday 17 July at 6pm

Wrap Around

The code for booking Early Birds and Night Owls for the Autumn Term is now open.

The codes are as follows: **Night Owls – 9ycw5** **Early Birds- zhmqp**

A reminder that all accounts need to be in credit by 3 September for the places to be confirmed.

May I take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your support over the last year. TRJS is a happy place of learning where children are kind, brave and give their best. We can be very proud of what we achieve together. I wish all our families a lovely summer break and look forward to seeing you all on: **WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER** for another exciting chapter on our learning journey.

J Emery



Thomas Russell Junior School



Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

Inset day (School closed for pupils):	Monday 1 September
Inset day (School closed for pupils):	Tuesday 2 September
Term Starts for pupils:	Wednesday 3 September
Inset Day (School Closed for pupils):	Friday 24 October
Half Term:	Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October
Term Ends:	Friday 19 December
Holiday:	Monday 22 December – Friday 2 January

Spring Term 2026

Term Starts:	Monday 5 January
Half Term:	Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February
Term Ends:	Friday 27 March
Holiday:	Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April
Easter Sunday:	Sunday 5 April

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts:	Monday 13 April
May Day:	Monday 4 May
Half Term:	Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May
Inset Day (School closed for pupils):	Friday 3 July
Term Ends for Pupils:	Friday 17 July
Inset Day (School closed for pupils):	Monday 20 July
Holiday:	Tuesday 21 July – Monday 31 August

 New Clubhouse Fundraiser

JASE'S 'ALL IN' 120 MILE RUN AROUND BARTON!

Jase Rollins - Barton Rovers



23-25 JULY '25

➤ EQUIVALENT OF HOLLAND SPORTS CLUB TO WEMBLEY
➤ JOIN THE CHALLENGE FOR 1 MILE OR ALL 120!

SUPPORT HIM EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

SCAN TO DONATE!



www.hollandsportsclub.org.uk/new-club-house




WOW

Thursdays 9.15am
Tatenhill Village Hall, Tatenhill

Join us for ● play, ● laughter,
● chatter, ● singing, ● dancing,
● friendship, ● informal worship,
● tea & coffee and ● homemade cake.

Spread the word - open to all ages from newborns to great grandparents.

No need to book!
Turn up and just enjoy the fun!
Donations 😊 welcome.



BARTON ST. JAMES CHURCH INVITES YOU TO:

TRIBE AT ST JAMES

Every Sunday Morning!

COME JOIN US!

10:30 TRIBE

Tribe runs during our 10:30am service – 30 minutes of crafts, games and fun for children, while adults enjoy the service!

