



# Newsletter



Issue No.2

Headteacher: Mr J Emery

Friday 12 September 2025



	W/B 08.09.25
Year 3	100%
Year 4	98.9%
Year 5	99.7%
Year 6	98.9%
TRJS Overall	99.4%

Attendance at school so far this term has been excellent. We have smashed the school target of 97.5% again! 5 minutes extra play for everyone. Remember to be here at school before the gates close at 8.50am so we can all be ready for the day of learning. 😊

## HOT CHOCOLATE WITH MR EMERY

Congratulations to everyone who has received the **TRJS Weekly Values Award** in the last 2 weeks and is ready to share hot chocolate and biscuits with Mr Emery. Don't forget to be ready to tell us all about your hobbies and interests out of school. Oh, and jokes are always good!

Year 3	Max P, Jacob R, Isaac N, Tennyson P
Year 4	Violette O, Hugo H-J, Thomas D-H, Amy S
Year 5	Vincent G, Olivia H, Henry H, Toby M
Year 6	Jack E, Esmae W, Harley P, Niamh S-D



## Meet the Teachers

This year we plan to have a detailed Parents' Evening later in the term, once we have completed Autumn Term assessments. However, we feel it is really important for parents to touch base with your teacher, remind yourselves of the routines for that year group, find out how you can support at home and ask any questions. To facilitate this, we are having "Meet the Teacher" sessions.

**Year 6** are having an evening in the hall to outline the Year 6 curriculum, preparation for the SATs and details of the Y6 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes. This is on **Monday 22 September** at 6pm-7pm.

Y3,4 and 5 teachers are hosting a session for parents, starting with a talk from the teacher at 3.45 to outline the routines of that year group, on the following dates:

**Year 3 and Year 4 – Wednesday 24 September** at 3.45-4.15pm

**Year 5 – Tuesday 23 September** 3.45-4.15pm

Please come to the school office entrance on the day and we look forward to seeing you there!

Parents may bring children along if they stay with you and are supervised by the parent.

# Football Trials for Year 5 and Year 6

Miss Marston will be conducting football trials for boys and girls in Y5 and Y6 who are interested in representing the school football team. Please bring shinpads, football boots, goalkeeping gloves (if appropriate) and appropriate kit to change into if you want to take part. Please note that football matches **will not** be on a weekly basis this year, with the school team taking part in a variety of tournaments instead throughout the year. We aim to provide all children with the opportunity to have taken part in a football match during the year but cannot guarantee equal amount of playing time for all players. The **lunchtime** dates for the trials are:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September: Year 6

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September: Year 5

WANTED!

## Y4 READING AMBASSADORS

Do you love reading? Then TRJS needs you...



We are inviting new applications from **current Y4 pupils** who are interested in undertaking the important role of **Reading Ambassador** within school. Our Reading Ambassadors must love to read and want to inspire others to read too.

You should be able to encourage reading for pleasure, offer book recommendations or run reading activities with other pupils. Reading Ambassadors attend a meeting every half term with Miss Murfin and provide regular support with our reading scheme, school library, reading events, book fairs and more!

### Key Duties

- Read, review and recommend books to others
- Organise and lead reading activities within school
- Help to organise Book Fairs
- Listen to others read and provide support as a reading buddy
- Monitor and maintain our reading scheme book corridor

To apply for the position, please either **send in either a written letter (no more than one side of A4 paper) or video application**, explaining:

1. **Why you want the job**
2. **How you would make a good reading ambassador**
3. **What you love about reading and your favourite authors**
4. **A few suggestions about how we could improve reading in school.**

Please send your application to Miss Murfin via email by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September:**  
[cmurfin@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:cmurfin@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk)



Mr Eno treated the school to a music assembly on Tuesday morning. Everyone enjoyed the rendition of a medley of tunes including the theme from Wallace and Gromit and the Little Mermaid. We learnt all about the benefits of learning to play a



musical instrument. Toby M in Year 4 was the bravest lad ever. He blew raspberries and made a great sound on the trumpet, in less than five minutes, in front of the whole school. Great work, Toby!



## KEEPING SAFE

Year 3 are being very brave and nearly everyone is managing to walk down the path without their parents in the morning. Well done, Year 3, you have settled in very well! Keep up the good work. 😊



## Parking

We ask that parents do not park on the double yellow lines or in front of the school gates near the kitchen entrance. Several parents often park here; this restricts access to the school and could put the safety of our children at risk if an ambulance was needed.

Parents are reminded not to park in the school car park at any time during the day. There are many occasions when children and parents need to walk to and from the school office and cars coming into the car park are a real hazard. Thank you for working together to keep our children safe.

## Healthy Snacks

Last year, the TRJS School Council led assemblies on the importance of eating the right foods and reducing the single-use plastic waste that is polluting our planet. Parents are reminded that, from this term, we expect children to bring healthy snacks for break times such as fruit, vegetables or a healthy cereal bar. At TRJS, we discourage crisps, chocolate or sweets for a snack at break time in the morning. However, if children have sandwiches at lunchtime, they may bring crisps/chocolate bar for lunchtime as part of a balanced diet. TRJS will not be the “lunch box police”. Thank you for your support.



## Mobile Phones

May we remind parents that school is a mobile phone free zone for children. We do not allow children to bring mobiles into school, unless there is an emergency or exceptional circumstance. If that is the case, we ask parents to discuss this with Mr Emery.

## Cauliflower Cards

The template for the Christmas cards will be sent home this week. It is entirely up to you how you choose to design your card. Please be mindful of the instructions on the sheet regarding additional embellishments and the size of the design. Orders need to be placed online by FRIDAY 26th SEPTEMBER. Design sheets need to be returned to school by Monday 29th September in order for them to be sent off to the company for printing.

## Staffordshire County Gymnastics

Annabel is super proud of her achievements over the weekend. She competed at the Staffordshire County Gymnastics Championships last Sunday at Lilleshall where she placed 1st on the floor and 2nd overall. Wow, Annabel! This is amazing work!

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend

*J Emery*





# Thomas Russell Junior School



## Term Dates 2025-2026

### Autumn Term 2025

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

### Spring Term 2026

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

### Summer Term 2026

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