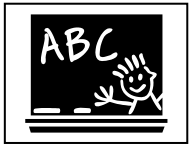


# Thomas Russell Junior School

Inspiring all, achieving together.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 28

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

6<sup>th</sup> May 2016

### SATs Week

Next week children in Y6 will be taking their SATs tests - or as they have affectionately taken to calling them - the bobs! Evolved from Bob the Builder - **Can we do it? Yes we can!**  
We are now officially: #ready4thebobs!

The children (and staff) have worked exceptionally hard and we are already so proud of the way they have conducted themselves; staying calm, focussed and determined.

We have seen huge changes this year in the standards expected, the way the tests will be conducted and how results will be reported. Through all of this change the children have remained positive, flexible and driven; admirable qualities in adults let alone children so young!

All that remains is for us to actually sit the tests:  
Monday - Reading paper  
Tuesday - Two SPAG papers  
Wednesday - Two Maths papers  
Thursday - Final Maths paper

Tests will all be conducted during the mornings and as is tradition Y6 children will be swimming and having a range of fun activities in the afternoons.

### Sponsored Skip / Spell / Times tables Challenge

Thank you for your support for this school fund raising event. Please keep collecting your sponsor money and upload it to ParentPay. It would be great if you would return sponsor forms to school once this has been done so we can celebrate all of the children's hard work.

### Staffing

Parents of children in Y5 may be aware that Mrs Cuthbert is due to return from her maternity leave on 27<sup>th</sup> May. She will return to teach 5C for their final half term. After this time Mrs Cuthbert has decided she will be taking a break from teaching to look after her daughter Emma. This is obviously sad for us all at Thomas Russell Junior because we were very much looking forward to her return, however we absolutely respect her decision and wish her the very best.

Mrs Jones has done a stunning job teaching 5C for the past two terms and we are pleased that we will be able to reintroduce the three class split into the year group for the final half term of Y5 in preparation for Y6.

Governors are pleased to announce that following interviews this week we have appointed Mrs Kate Jones as a permanent member of staff. She will be taking on a part time teaching role and the responsibility of SENCO, and we look forward to her positive impact in this area.

We have also appointed Mrs Debbie Preston, an NQT, who will take over Mrs Cuthbert's full time teaching responsibility from September.

And finally, you will also be familiar with Mr Richard Edwards who has been with us on a temporary contract, who is now appointed on a permanent basis.

Over the next few days and weeks, we will be finalising decisions regarding the staffing in each year group ready for September. As is always the case, in the interests of fairness to all, we do not accommodate any personal requests for certain teachers so please do not ask.

Receive Newsletters by e-mail, or ask a question: [questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk)



### Friends' Meeting

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Friends Meeting this week or sent apologies. Please find minutes attached to the Newsletter e-mail.

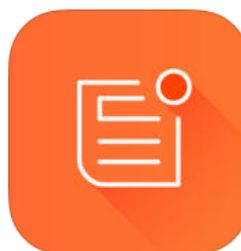
Thank you to Mrs Vardy for attending the meeting on behalf of the school, the ladies in the kitchen for a delicious cake (although the children saw much more of this than the grown-ups) and to Mrs Sanders who ran childcare for us - very much appreciated thank you.

We will holding a raffle at the Duathlon and would like to ask any parents who work for companies that make charitable donations to approach them and see if they are willing to donate a prize - thank you.

### Want to be the first to know.....?

Sometimes it is hard to keep up to date with everything that's going on in busy schedules at work, school and social events.

Back in February we launched a new app which links to our website and can help parents keep abreast of all news events and diary dates. We thought we'd send out a little reminder in case anyone missed it.



By following a few simple steps and installing the **'School News' app** you will be able to receive automatic notifications each time a news event or date is added to the school website.

Even better than that you can then choose to sync with your mobile device so you never need miss another date!

[http://academy.e4education.co.uk/files/resources/parents\\_help\\_compressed%202 .pdf](http://academy.e4education.co.uk/files/resources/parents_help_compressed%202.pdf)

To find this guidance you can also go to the front page of Parents' Information on our website.

### Weather

In this delightful British weather it would be really helpful if parents could ensure children are prepared for all weathers by having a coat in their bag on colder days as well as sun cream / hat for hot days!

*Best wishes, Mrs S Sharpe*

<u>Diary Dates</u>	
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> May – Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs Week #ready4thebobs
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Circus Skills Day & Y3 to Poole's Cavern
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Laches Wood DVD order deadline
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> May 9am	Bags2School
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Class and Whole School photographs
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> May	A-Z of Maths order deadline
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> May (all day)	Sports Day
	<b>HALF TERM</b>
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Back to School
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> June (after school)	Duathlon
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Parent Forum
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Barton Open Gardens Weekend (inc. Scarecrow Competition)
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> , Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 to JTHS Transition Days
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 to PGL
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Term Reports
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Move up Morning
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	10:00am – Leavers' Assembly 3:15pm – Leavers' Parade Break up for Summer
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Back to School