

# Thomas Russell Junior School

'An expectation of excellence' ofsted June 2014.



## Newsletter



Issue No. 36

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

11<sup>th</sup> July 2016

### SATs Results 2016

As you will no doubt have heard, SATs results were published last Tuesday, amongst a furore about falling standards.

You will be pleased to hear that results at Thomas Russell Junior School buck that trend and we have come out 'well above' what has been announced as the national standard. I do have to add a cautionary note that no national standard or comparative data has been provided officially (and isn't expected until September) but for now we have to run with what we think we know!

The previous national curriculum levels have been scrapped, and instead children have been given scaled scores. Children have received raw scores (the actual number of marks they got), alongside their scaled score and whether they have reached the expected standard set by the Department for Education ('NS' means that the expected standard was not achieved and 'AS' means the expected standard was achieved).

The expected standard for each test is a scaled score of 100 or more. If a child is awarded a scaled score of 99 or less they won't have achieved the expected standard in the test. The range of scaled scores available for each KS2 test is from 80 (the lowest scaled score that can be awarded) to 120 (the highest scaled score).

### School level results

Expected standard in Reading, SPAG + Maths combined -  
53% National, 65% at TRJS = 12% above  
Reading - 66% National, 72% at TRJS = 6% above  
SPAG - 72% National, 85% at TRJS = 13% above  
Maths - 70% National, 83% at TRJS = 13% above  
Writing - 74% National, 95% at TRJS = 21% above

Overall, these are some very pleasing results against a back drop of very challenging national circumstances in assessment and significant change which the children had to adapt to.

We would like to congratulate all of the children and staff at Thomas Russell Junior School for their hard work not only during Year 6 but throughout their time in school.

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

### Dinner Money and Breakfast Club

We still have a number of people with outstanding debts on Parent Pay. It is essential that these are settled by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

The last week of the term is used to finalise all accounts which have to have a balance of zero at close of school on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Any debts which have not been paid MUST be passed to SCC for Debt Recovery after this point.

### Year 6 at John Taylor High School

Most of Year 6 spent three days on their Transition visits to JTHS from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July. They coped admirably well and Mr Donoghue called the school on Wednesday morning to congratulate them on their behaviour and the positive impression they made. We hope that transition runs smoothly in September for these and all other children who are leaving us.

### PGL

Congratulations to the Year 6 children who went to PGL at Boreatton Park last week for an action packed 3 days of activities. They tried raft-building, abseiling, trapeze, giant swing, riddle shooting, high ropes and zip wire. They also had a disco and campfire. We were so impressed by the resilience and determination shown by the children and some who were keen to push themselves out of their comfort zone and give every new opportunity their best shot - well done!

The quality of food was the best we have known it with three delicious hot meals a day! Overall a brilliant adventure which we hope leaves the children with some fantastic memories to treasure.

## Duathlon - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Fingers crossed the weather will be kind to us on Wednesday and it will be third time lucky for the Duathlon.

If you are able to help for an hour between 4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30 or 6:30-7:15pm, please do get in touch with Steph or Jayne direct or email [friends@trjs.co.uk](mailto:friends@trjs.co.uk)

Any help running a stall is really appreciated.

### Visitors

On Thursday last week we had two visitors from Mellors. Danielle delivered a brilliant assembly to Y3 to 5 children. She was impressed by the children's knowledge of healthy life styles and the role that they play in making well-informed life choices.

Prompt a conversation around your dinner table with some of these questions:

*How many glasses of water a day?*

*Tell me about a rainbow plate of food...*

*How many times do you need to try a new food?*

*What foods did parents not like as a child, but now like as an adult?*

Rick, a chef in charge of designing the Mellors menus, also came to deliver an impromptu bread making session. The Y3 children all made a small loaf of bread to take home and share with family members; what a lovely treat!

### Annual Eco-Warriors Cream Tea

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, the Eco-Warriors (otherwise known as 'cake club') held their annual cream tea to celebrate their year of achievements. Thank you very much to them for all of their hard work in keeping the school grounds looking so wonderful.

Thanks to Mrs Brammer in the kitchen who baked some delicious scones, and also to Mrs Hearn for a lovely chocolate and courgette cake and Mrs Jones for the gorgeous chocolate brownies.

## Choir and peripatetic string performance

We were treated to a superb show of talent this morning when the choir performed the pieces they have been working on this term and our string players demonstrated their skills from those just beginning to play this year, up to those who have just successfully passed their Grade 2 exam.

Amazing performances which moved many parents and staff to tears - you sounded fantastic and we are really proud!

### *Diary Dates*

<i>Tues 12<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Choir performing at Infants at 10:30am</i>
	<i>Y6 Transition Evening at JTHS</i>
<i>Wed 13<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Duathlon – FULL Personal race information as previously circulated.</i>
<i>Fri 15<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Summer Term Reports</i>
<i>Mon 18<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Move up Morning Dove Valley Cricket</i>
<i>Tues 19<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Music Concert at JTHS Selected choir and Y6 musicians</i>
<i>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> July</i>	<i>Y6 Leavers' Disco - Helpers required: <a href="mailto:friends@trjs.co.uk">friends@trjs.co.uk</a></i>
<i>Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July</i>	<i>10:00am – Leavers' Assembly 3:15pm – Leavers' Parade Break up for Summer</i>
<i>Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>Back to School</i>

*Best wishes, Mrs S Sharpe*