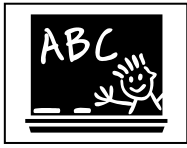


Thomas Russell Junior School

'An expectation of excellence' ofsted June 2014.



Newsletter



Issue No. 4

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

30th September 2016

Parent Forum

For many years now at Thomas Russell Junior, we have run a very effective and productive Parent Forum. We would now like to extend a warm invite to parents to form the new Parent Forum for the next academic year; whether you are new to the school, a previous volunteer or just have some great suggestions that you think could help us to get even better.

The remit of the Parent Forum is to focus on whole school improvement and wider issues. It is an opportunity to gauge parental opinion on a range of aspects of school and to take feedback from both members and the wider parent body.

You can keep up to date with current topics and progress of the Parent Forum, via our noticeboard in the entrance hall and the Parent Forum section of the website. If you have an individual or personal issue / comment, we would still encourage you to come directly to us, either through your child's class teacher or to myself, in order that we may be able to discuss and address this as quickly as possible.

We are asking parents to e-mail an 'Expression of Interest' to [questions@](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk) if they would be interested in forming part of the Parent Forum. All nominations will go into a hat and two representatives from each class will be randomly selected, to give a forum of sixteen parents plus governor and staff representation. We intend that the Parent Forum will meet 3 times during the year, once per term. These meetings will be during the school day, starting at 9:00am and lasting approximately 60-90 minutes. The dates have been set as Wednesday 23rd November, Wednesday 1st February and Wednesday 14th June.

We would also welcome your input if you have an item that you would like discussed at the Parent Forum, but do not wish to be a representative. Pleasingly we already have two topics for discussion that have been raised, but the more the merrier!

The deadline for submission of 'Expression of Interest' e-mails is Tuesday 18th October. All parents submitting messages will be contacted in writing to inform them of the outcome of the draw. The names of successful nominees only will go on the weekly Newsletter.

Harvest and Christmas Experience Dates

As in previous years, Y3 and Y4 will be visiting St. James' Church to spend time reflecting about the religious significance of these Christian festivals. Rev. Andrew's team of volunteers always make us very welcome and we look forward to seeing them again.

Y3 - Tuesday 18th October

Y4 - Monday 5th December

First Friends' Meeting of the year

Wednesday 19th October 3:45 - 4:45pm

Don't forget there's cake and childcare!



Don't forget you are invited to our Helping Hands Coffee Morning Thursday 6th October 9:30 - 10:30am. Please do book via [questions@](mailto:questions@thomasrussell-junior.staffs.sch.uk) See Newsletter 2 for more information

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

Fundraising Fashion Show and Shopping Event

Favourite brands at up to 75% off
Barton Bowls Club - October 6th - 7:00 for 7:30
Tickets £2 from Ark Furnishers, Bowls Club or on
the night. Call 07897 365650

CENSUS 2016

This year it is necessary for school's to include within their census more detailed information than has previously been collected from parents. We are required to add **Country of Birth** and **Nationality** to all pupil's records. For ease of data collection we intend to add:

Country of Birth - United Kingdom

Nationality - British

Please inform us via 'questions@' if you require details other than these to be added to your child's records.

This information must be provided by Wed 5th Oct.

Parent Consultations - Autumn 2016

Don't forget consultation evenings are next Thursday (6th October) and the following Tuesday (11th October) We currently have 167 of our 205 families booked - please log on asap to book.

Electronic booking for consultations can be completed following these steps:

- 1) Log on to www.schoolinterviews.co.uk
- 2) Enter **Parent Consultations code: KD4CZ**
- 3) Enter e-mail, child(ren)'s first **AND** surname.
- 4) Chose the exact date and time(s) to suit you.
- 5) Receive instant e-mail confirmation of booking.
Bookings EXTENDED to Tuesday 4th Oct.

Please see last week's Newsletter for more detail.

Behaviour

I am pleased to report that since we returned to school, the children's behaviour has been consistently good.

We have 5 Golden Rules in school which are:

We try our best and work hard

We are friendly, kind and helpful

We respect property

We listen to people

We are polite and have good manners

96% of children have retained all of their Golden Time during this first month, which we believe is testament to the high standards of behaviour we see on a daily basis.

At Thomas Russell Junior School, we believe passionately that ALL of our children have the right to come to school and feel safe every day. They should be free from fear of being hurt, physically or emotionally, by anyone; and safe to blossom in an amazing learning environment.

We have a zero-tolerance policy on fighting (including play fighting), bullying and swearing.

Please see our Positive Behaviour Policy in the Parents' Information section of the website.

When we receive reports of children having difficulties, these are dealt with by speaking to the children involved, monitoring playground behaviour closely, liaising with class teachers and parents. Please be assured that we encourage our children (and you as parents) to report any incident to us so we can investigate thoroughly. However, as I'm sure you appreciate, the more time that lapses between an incident and report, the more difficult investigation becomes. Sometimes investigation leads us to the conclusion that two children have a very different recollection of a sequence of events; this can be difficult to bring to a satisfactory conclusion for both parties. We encourage children to report any problems to a member of staff as soon as they arise. If you are aware of a problem, please do not allow it to build up before bringing it to us. We will always do our best to resolve issues promptly.

We know that sometimes the children we see at school can be very different to the children that parents see at home. We also understand as parents it can be difficult to hear that your child has been involved in poor behaviour, but sadly it does happen. We will endeavour to deliver the information as sensitively as possible and by dealing with issues consistently and fairly, with good communication between home and school, we hope to help our children to modify their behaviour and thrive in a happy, safe and positive environment.

Best wishes, Mrs S Sharpe

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