

Thomas Russell Junior School

'An expectation of excellence' ofsted June 2014.



Newsletter



Issue No. 15

Headteacher Mrs S Sharpe

6th January 2017

Welcome back! - It was lovely to see the children (and staff) eager to be back at school on Wednesday; to see friends, share their stories and get back into routines.

Tales from the Teapot - Miss Murfin, our Literacy Leader, has arranged some visits to Barton Library over the coming half term. The story time sessions will introduce new children to the library if they haven't been before and support the work we all do to promote a love of reading and enjoyment of books.

We will need some additional adults to supervise the children walking to and from the library; if there are any parents who are able to help we would really appreciate it. We will be leaving school at 2:30 and returning at 3:30 on Wed 11th Jan (3M), Wed 18th Jan (3P), Wed 1st Feb (4S) and Wed 8th Feb (4V).

'Tales from the Teapot' sessions will include a drink and some cake, courtesy of Mrs Brammer.

These sessions are free to all children, but any families wishing to make a donation to the Literacy Trust who are supporting the sessions is invited to do so by popping it in an envelope labelled 'Tales from the Teapot' donation.

Choir - We have a really busy period coming up for choir with our **Young Voices Concert** in Birmingham at the end of January. I am also really pleased to announce the following two opportunities for children - any new faces at choir would be most welcome - you've got to be in it to win it!

Wednesday 1st March - Rotary Club Concert at Lichfield Garrick Theatre. This was a fantastic concert last year and (not being biased) our choir really shone, so we are looking to do even better this time!

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th March - Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat. Following a performance by a group of our choir at John Taylor High last July, which absolutely stunned parents and staff, we have been invited to collaborate with the younger pupils at JTHS to perform Joseph. Our choir will make up the chorus line. This will be an amazing opportunity and should be very exciting.

Lateness - Just in case any parents missed the message on the Newsletter when we broke up for Christmas, I would like to remind you that children should be **ON THE PLAYGROUND for 8:50** each morning. We were noticing more and more children rushing down the lane and over the crossing at the last minute. The gate is now being closed and locked when the bell rings at exactly 8:50. Anyone arriving after this time will be required to sign their children in at the office. Please remember that children can arrive at school any time after 8:30 - this 20 minute window should provide enough flexibility for differing family needs. Thank you for your anticipated support in addressing this issue.

Careers Assembly - Thank you to the small selection of parents who have volunteered their time for our assembly next Wednesday. We still have space for more - please contact Mrs Gahagan if you could offer 30 minutes (at 9am) of your time to talk about your chosen career and the skills you employ.

Diary Dates

Wed 11 th Jan	9:00 - 9:30	Careers Assembly
	2:30 - 3:30	Tales from the Teapot Library visit - 3M
Wed 18 th Jan	2:30 - 3:30	Tales from the Teapot Library visit - 3P
	3:30 - 4:30	Friends Meeting (Childcare & cake!)
Thur 26 th Jan	12:00 - 22:30	Young Voices 2017
Wed 1 st Feb	9:00 - 10:30	Parent Forum
	2:30 - 3:30	Tales from the Teapot Library visit - 4S
Thur 2 nd Feb	9:15	Y6 weighing and measuring
	4:00 - 7:00	Parent Consultations
Tues 7 th Feb	9:15	Mr Holmes (JTHS) visiting Y6 for Maths
	4:00 - 7:00	Parent Consultations
Wed 8 th Feb	2:30 - 3:30	Tales from the Teapot Library visit - 4V
Thur 9 th Feb	am	Y5 Maths Masterclass
Thur 16 th Feb	am	Y6 Maths Masterclass
	3:30	Break up for half term
Fri 17 th Feb		INSET Day
Mon 27 th Feb	8:50	Back to School

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Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please see below the superb selection of extra-curricular activities that we have on offer this term. Thank you to our marvellous staff who are willing to give so freely of their time to provide such great experiences for our children. Clubs are booked on a first come first served basis. In the interest of being fair to all, we are offering the chance to book TWO clubs per child this weekend, and then will open up additional availability on Monday for further bookings.

Many clubs have limited availability, so book early to avoid disappointment:

www.schoolinterviews.co.uk

Booking code: 77fxj

Day	Club	Staff running	Time	Dates running	Classes
Monday	Easter Craft Club	Mrs G Gahagan & Mrs D Preston	3:30-4:30	6/3 13/3 20/3 27/3 3/4	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Monday	Forest School Club	Mrs K Jones	3:30-4:30	6/3 13/3 20/3 27/3 3/4	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Monday	Photography Club 1	Mrs J Mosedale	12:15-12:45	17/1 23/1 30/1 6/2 13/2	5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Monday	Photography Club 2	Mrs J Mosedale	12:15-12:45	6/3 13/3 20/3 10/4	5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Tuesday	Gymnastics Club 1	Progressive Sports	3:30-4:30	10/1 17/1 24/1 31/1 14/2	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Tuesday	Gymnastics Club 2	Progressive Sports	3:30-4:30	28/2 7/3 14/3 21/3 28/3 4/4	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Tuesday	Origami	Mrs S Kerr-Delworth	12:45-1:15	10/1 17/1 24/1 31/1 14/2	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Wednesday	Art Club 1	Mrs S Sanders	3:30-4:30	11/1 18/1 1/2 8/2 15/2	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V
Wednesday	Art Club 2	Mrs S Sanders	3:30-4:30	1/3 8/3 15/3 22/3 29/3	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V
Wednesday	Mario Kart Club 1	Mr R Edwards	3:30-4:30	11/1 18/1 1/2 8/2 15/2	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Wednesday	Mario Kart Club 2	Mr R Edwards	3:30-4:30	1/3 8/3 15/3 22/3 5/4	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Wednesday	Netball Club	Mrs E David	3:30-4:30	8/3 15/3 22/3 29/3 5/4	5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Wednesday	Tennis Club	Mrs L Vardy	3:30-4:45	8/3 15/3 22/3 29/3 5/4	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
<i>Tennis Club is not open to children who attended last term. Please pick up from Holland Sports.</i>					
Thursday	Football Club / Matches	Miss C Marston	3:30-4:30	2/3 9/3 23/3 30/3	5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Thursday	Science Club	Miss K Press & Miss C Murfin	3:30-4:30	19/1 26/1 9/2 16/2 2/3 9/3 16/3 23/3	Invitation
<i>Invited children have a letter from Miss Press and have been spoken to.</i>					
Friday	Bananagrams (Word puzzles)	Miss C Murfin	12:45-1:15	20/1 27/1 10/2 3/3 10/3 17/3 24/3 31/3 7/4	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P
Friday	Choir	Mrs S Sharpe	3:30-4:30	6/1 13/1 20/1 3/2 10/2 3/3 10/3	3M, 3P, 4S, 4V, 5D, 5E, 6M, 6P

All of our clubs run free of charge to all children. When a child signs up to a club we do expect them to attend EVERY week for the FULL session. Tennis and Gym Club are funded from the school budget at a significant cost - we are really happy to do this to enhance opportunities for children, but in return expect a level of commitment as payment has to be made even when children are absent.

We require a written note or telephone call from a parent for all absences.

Best wishes, Mrs Sharpe

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