



Thomas Russell Infants' School
'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'
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Newsletter Number 13

Dear Parents

Winter procedures

As our winter weather continues to worsen please be reassured that school will remain open whenever possible. Our staff have usually managed to make it in to school even through the worst of the snow in previous years and that will continue to be our aim. If you are ever in doubt because of bad weather then please check our school website for information as this will be updated with any changes by Mrs Moore. Alternatively, snow closures will also be phoned through to Radio Derby.

Reception Nativity

Well done to all of the Reception children on Wednesday afternoon for performing and retelling the Christmas story. It is a big ask for such young children to perform in front of a hall full of adults but all of them managed to overcome their initial nerves to perform brilliantly. We are proud of each and every one of them.

Mini Enterprise Week

The children and staff have had a very busy week making all of their festive goodies to sell at the Enterprise sale on Thursday. Thank you to the many parents who were able to attend or who sent in a donation to purchase products. Each class chose very different products so there was certainly plenty of variety to choose from. We would like to congratulate all classes for working so hard with the making and selling of their products and we will let you know the class who made the largest profit margin next week.

Christmas Cards

If your child wishes to send Christmas cards to their friends can we please ask that they are posted in the Christmas postbox which is located in the library. The name and class of the



child they wish it to be delivered to should be clearly written on the envelope. Year 2 children will then sort and deliver the cards to the respective classes.

Health and Safety External Audit

Every couple of years a member of staff from the Staffordshire County Council Health and Safety team carry out an external audit of our procedures and practice. The most recent one took place on Wednesday morning when a very thorough inspection took place. Since achieving a grade 3 in the last audit we have been working hard on achieving the actions on our action plan. We are now pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grade 4 with features of grade 5, (grade 5 being the highest level you can achieve).

Parent Governor Vacancy

As you are aware our deadlines for nomination forms for the Governor vacancy was by the end of school today. At the time of writing we have had two nomination forms returned to school and thank both of the candidates for their interest. On Monday each family will receive a ballot form to complete with information about each candidate. Please note that each parent is able to vote in the ballot so if you would like a second ballot paper, then please ask at the school office. With the vacancy being for a parent governor then it is entirely in the parents' hands as to who is appointed. Once you have completed your ballot papers please return to school in either your child's book bag or place in the ballot box in the Reception area. Ballot papers will be counted before the end of term and the result announced in the last newsletter before we break up for Christmas. Good luck to both candidates.

End of the School Day

Can we please ask that parents with younger siblings ensure that the children are not making a nuisance of themselves while waiting for brothers and sisters coming out of school. We ask that they do not climb on railings or play on equipment. Thank you.

Whole School Pantomime Visit

Can we remind you that next Friday, 14th December the whole school will visit Derby Assembly Rooms to see 'Peter Pan'. We have asked that all children bring a packed lunch on this day, as our exact return time to school is uncertain and ask that all children arrive a little earlier to school. Gates will be open from 8.35am and we need all children to be at school for 8.45am. Your child will not need any money on the day, as the school will provide a drink and a snack for the interval. Thank you

Contact Details

Could we please ask parents to inform school of any changes to their contact details: new addresses, home telephone numbers and especially mobile telephone numbers. All these details have to be kept up to date in case of emergencies. Thank you.

Head lice

We have been informed of four cases of head lice in year 1 this week. Can we ask all parents to be particularly vigilant this weekend and check hair carefully.

Thomas Russell Junior School

Thomas Russell Junior School will be holding an Open Morning on Tuesday 18th December from 9am - 11am. They will be operating a booking system to ensure a quality experience for all parents wishing to look around the school. Please contact them on 01283 239360 to book your tour. They envisage the tour will last 30 minutes.

Workers of the Week

Our well deserving children for 'Worker of the Week' this week are:

2K - Charlie Ehlen for working so hard on calculation in Numeracy

2K - Logan Cuthbert for working really hard in Literacy and Numeracy

2M - Benjamin Rawlins for using speech marks correctly in his writing,

1W - Amy Chuck for working hard to write a story

1S - Riley Widdowson for excellent sewing on his animal puppet

RR - Jay Holden for super polar bear writing

RL - Sofia Oleksiej for working so hard with her reading and her numbers

Keep up the super work children!

TRISPTA

Thank you very much for all of the bottles and chocolates donated today. It always makes for a very popular stall at the Fayre.

The PTA still require help with the Christmas Fayre if anyone can spare any time. If anyone can spare any time between 9 - 12 in the morning, 4.30 - 6pm in the afternoon or during the Fayre itself it would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to a PTA member or Mrs Burton or Mrs Farmer. Thank you.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs Burton and Mrs Farmer

Co-Headteachers