



Thomas Russell Infants' School
'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'
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Newsletter Number 33

Dear Parents

Welcome back!

Welcome back after the half term break. We hope the children all enjoyed their time off and are ready for the final weeks of the year. The children will continue to work hard while at the same time enjoying all the exciting events which come in the summer term.

Gardening

Our gardening team continue to work hard, planting, weeding and watering. We now have lots growing in various locations around school but the biggest transformation must be in the courtyard area in the centre of school where we now have tomato plants, geraniums and hanging baskets in abundance. Keep up the good work team.

We hope you have had lots of inspiration for your recycled planters on the theme of Space and have remembered that these are due in to school on Monday 17th June. These will then be on show for Open Gardens (school will be open to the public between 1 - 5 pm on Sunday 23rd June with refreshments available). A few will also be chosen to form part of our Garden Olympics display at Shobnall Fields on Saturday 29th June. Can we request any old suitable newspapers to be sent to school for the children to use as papier-mache in the display for the Garden Olympics.

Can we also ask for any budding writers out there (children, not adults) to have a go at writing a Space themed poem on A4 paper. These need to be decorated. Again some of these will be chosen to use in our Gardening Olympics display. These need to be back in school by Friday 21st June.

French Club

Our first lunchtime French lessons got underway yesterday and today with Mrs Kingston. If you are still interested in your child joining then please speak to the school office for more information. Merci!



Sponsored Cycle / Scoot

Thank you to all of the children for their fantastic efforts during this event today and for the money they have helped to raise for the school towards iPads for next year. Mrs Kelly coordinated the event, ensuring it all ran smoothly. Each class spent some time in their classrooms, initially thinking about the safety aspects of riding or scooting, particularly when out and about on the pavements or roads. It was then out to the playground for the action! There were definitely some future 'Bradley Wiggins' to be seen. The most competent of our riders even tackled the assault course. Well done to all of the children and to the staff and PTA volunteers. If there is any outstanding sponsor money could this please be brought back to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Reception Father's Day Assembly

We hope to welcome as many Reception parents / relatives as possible next Friday morning (14th June at 9.20 am) for our Father's Day assembly.

Annual Questionnaires

Thank you to all of those parents who have completed and returned the annual questionnaire. We really appreciate the many positive responses and any constructive criticism. If you still have a form to return then please do so as soon as possible so that we can collate the results. The main findings will then be fed back to staff, Governors and parents and future actions considered.

If you do have any aspects of your child's education which you are not completely satisfied with then we would find it extremely useful if you were to put a name on the form so that we can respond or enquire further in order for us to hopefully rectify the situation.

Alternatively, if you do have concerns about any aspect of your child's education then please discuss this with the class teacher or either Headteacher with the aim of working towards a solution.

Holiday Dates

We have an amendment to the Holiday Dates 2013/2014 which were sent to parents of Reception and Year 1 a few weeks ago. The inset day of Monday 24th February 2014 has been cancelled and to replace it we now have Monday 21st July 2014. A new list of the holiday dates will be sent to parents shortly.

Workers of the Week

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

RR - Holly Hearn for fabulous mini beast painting

2M - Maisie Robinson for amazing alliteration

Keep up the super work children!

TRISPTA

A reminder that there is a PTA meeting in school on Monday 10th June, beginning at 7.30pm. This will be to finalise arrangements for the Summer Fayre which is quickly approaching. Our next film night will be on Friday 14th June beginning straight after the finish of school.

School council chose "Lorax". The film will be finishing at approximately 5.00pm. Please be patient on collection as we will ask one class of parents into the hall at a time to collect their children.

Thursday 20th June is non-uniform day in return for a bottle or chocolates from the children. All donations collected will then be used on our popular tombola stalls at the Summer Fayre.

Sport's Day

Our school Sports day is planned for Thursday 27th June. Fingers crossed all goes to plan and we have a dry day after the disappointment of last year! Parents are welcome to arrive from 1.15pm but we ask that you sit well back from the track side and away from the Elizabethan garden area, as this is where the finish line will be and it gets extremely busy with staff and competitors. It would be greatly appreciated if any parents or friends of the school have a gazebo or marquee they could lend us for the afternoon for the children to use. If you have, please inform the office staff. Thank you in anticipation.

After the sports all children will return to classes where they will be released to parents in the usual way. The summer fair will begin when all children have been collected to allow for the adults to return to man their stalls. Please do not attempt to buy from stalls before this time. Additional help is still required to run stalls or to help set up at lunch time, so if you are able to help for even half an hour then please speak to a member of the PTA or a member of staff. These events cannot run without your help and we really do appreciate it.

If the weather does not enable our Sports to go ahead on this day, the Summer Fayre will still go ahead as planned (although stalls would have to be brought inside). The reserve date for the Sports will be Tuesday 2nd July.

Have an enjoyable weekend

Kind regards

Mrs Burton and Mrs Farmer

Co-Headteachers