



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

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Friday 13th September 2013

Newsletter No.2

Dear Parents

Well done to all our reception children who completed their first day in school today, you have all done really well and we are enjoying getting to know you all. We are sure there will be some tired little ones this weekend!

Apologies that last week we wrongly advertised the school Christmas Fayre for the wrong date, it is in fact to be held on Thursday 12th December.

We would like to welcome teaching assistant Miss Cottrill to the reception team.

Home School Diaries

Each week staff will write a comment in the home school diaries to share with you something about your child and their learning that week. We do appreciate it when parents write a comment or a question back. If you feel unable to make a comment please sign so we know you have read it. Thank you.

Mrs Kelly

Unfortunately Mrs Kelly will be away from school for the next 3 weeks due to her broken arm, we wish her a speedy recovery.

Holidays in Term time Guidance

As you know the local authority issued notice in July that all holidays taken in term time are to be unauthorised. At that time we had no further advice from the Local Authority. This week we have received guidance stating Headteachers are to still follow the national guidance relating to exceptional circumstances. The Governing Body will be agreeing on the protocol to deal with these requests, but in the meantime if you do wish to request time off for a special purpose, please see a member of the office staff for our school request form.

PTA

The first meeting of the year is next Wednesday at 7.30pm in school, please come along for drinks and nibbles and to meet new people.

Reception Class Photo

On Thursday 19th September the Burton Mail will come into school to take a lovely photo of each of the reception classes. This is the children's first official class photo and they are always a lovely memento to keep. They will be placed in the Burton Mail along with every other



reception class in Burton and surrounding villages. We don't know the date of this release yet but will let you know when we find out.

We are aware quite a few reception parents have not allowed consent for photos to be taken of their child on the original consent forms you completed last term, if this still is your wish then these children will not be included in the photo. If however you have changed your mind and would like them to be in the Burton Mail you need to speak to a member of the office staff to clarify this. (Those parents who gave consent to photos do not need to speak to anyone).

School Improvement Information

In book bags next week you will find an information sheet which provides a summary of our school improvement achievements and our school's attainment figures for the last year. The staff and Governor team strive for excellence in the education we provide for our children and we hope this provides an insight into some of the aspects we have been focussing on and will be continuing to focus on this coming year.

Headlice

Please be aware that we have had a number of reported cases of Headlice in school. Please can we ask that you check your child's hair on a regular basis and treat accordingly if they are found.

Lunchtime Clubs

We are now able to offer a number of exciting opportunities to our children thanks to the increased funding known as Sports Premium. This week we have seen 2 new lunchtime clubs start, these being Yoga and Movement for year 1 and Table Tennis for year 2. These have been very popular so we will therefore ensure that these or similar clubs are offered on rotation throughout the year so that all children get the opportunity to join at some point.

Due to a clash of days please note that the year 1 French lessons have now been moved to a Friday so that children attending the Thursday club will also have the opportunity to do French if they wish. This club will only go ahead if numbers permit. If you are interested then please see the information below.

La Jolie Ronde Year 1 French Club

Year 1 French Club sessions are now due to start next week, running on Friday lunchtimes. This club has been rescheduled in order to offer all Year 1 children the opportunity to join French Club, including those who already attend the new Year 1 Yoga club on Thursday lunchtimes.

La Jolie Ronde French Club is a structured course taught to children in a small group and involves a mixture of stories, games, action rhymes, songs, role play and conversation to encourage children to become confident French speakers with an authentic accent. It costs £4.50 per session. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you are interested in your child learning French the fun way in a small group, please contact Sharon Kingston for more information as soon as possible and no later than next Tuesday 17th September, using the following contact details:

sharonkingston@hotmail.co.uk; 07780 635926; www.lajolieronde.co.uk



Book Bags

Please can we urge you to check book bags daily and empty them out weekly. Year 2 children are expected to empty their own book bags in class each morning and check for forms which need to be handed in. Thank you

Volunteer meeting

On Friday 20th September at 11.30am in school, Mrs Burton will host an informal meeting for those of you who wish to become involved in helping out in school. Class teachers always love an 'extra pair of hands' for a variety of reasons. You may want to help with the children's learning, hear children read, support their development. However we also need people to help organise resources, photocopy, prepare things for learning and a whole range of other 'jobs'. Whether you can spare an hour or a day a week nothing is turned down. We are very grateful to anyone who can offer some time to help in school. Before anyone can do this however lots of checks need completing, so please come along to the meeting to find out more.

Workers of the Week

We have had many children visit us this week with good work or good news. For all of our new parents when children are sent to the Headteachers for 'Good work' their name goes in the Golden Book, they receive a Headteacher sticker and a star on their class record, held in our office. At each Friday assembly all children who are in the Golden Book stand up to be congratulated. After 5 stars they receive a certificate in assembly. Children are also welcome to bring along certificates, trophies or other achievements from home to share with the rest of school. In addition to this each teacher awards a 'Worker of the Week' whose names go on the weekly newsletter. The Friday after their parents are invited to the Assembly to share their success.

This week's workers of the week are:

2M - George Griffiths for a great first week in Year 2

2K - Two children next week

1W - Caitlin Cuthbert for working hard with her writing

1S - Emily Wright for excellent independent addition

Badgers Out of School Clubs

Barton Badgers (managed by Humpty Dumpty Day Nurseries) are looking to recruit an enthusiastic, motivated and reliable Before/After School Care Team Leader for a busy Out of School club based at Thomas Russell Infants school, 7.50 - 8.50am and 3.00 - 6.00pm term time only. There will also be opportunities to work at their Playschemes during most school holidays. NVQ3 in Childcare/Playwork is essential. For more information and an application form please contact Justine on 01543 416002

Wishing you a happy weekend.

Kind Regards

Mrs Farmer & Mrs Burton



