



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

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Newsletter No.11

Friday 22nd November 2013

Dear Parents, carers and guardians

Year 1

The children and staff enjoyed their time at Meadowside this morning. They tried out a variety of sports and learnt new ways to keep fit. They were very well behaved as always.

Year 2

We are always finding ways to build confidence and independence in our children to prepare them for the next stage in their lives. We would like to encourage year two children to start making their own way onto the playground and into class on their own. To begin with many parents in the past have walked towards the playground and then stopped to let their child walk over to year 2 by themselves. In time, this can work up to parents leaving their child at the school gates and the child walking round on their own. As long as you cross them over the road and watch them onto school premises we are happy to support their growing independence and encourage them to walk into school, carrying their own bags and preparing themselves for the Junior school. Thank you.

What happens when it snows?

It is inevitable that it will snow on a school day, in fact it has a knack of arriving early in the morning just as everyone is getting ready for school, and this throws up lots of questions. The school are obliged to stay open if: 1) we have enough members of staff who can get to work; this means at least 1 adult to teach each class. 2) We are sure the site is safe and we have full access to water and the heating is working. Therefore school will only ever close if there is no running water, the boilers freeze and school drops below the legal working temperature or we physically have too few teaching staff to teach.

In the event of bad weather we will post all messages on the school website, so please read it regularly. We will also text parents by 7.30am. Please assume school is open unless you hear otherwise. We always try and make the same decision as the Junior school although staffing and boilers can sometimes dictate otherwise.

We have very occasionally had to send children home during a school day, but this decision is never taken lightly. If this was to happen we would phone you so please ensure all new numbers are given to the office.



Polite Requests!

Please can you ensure that every item of clothing your child wears or brings to school is clearly marked with their name. It helps to avoid lost property and children going home with the wrong things and makes sorting out any mix-ups much easier for the staff. Thank you. Could we please also ask that any children coming to school on a bike or scooter dismount at the school gate before pushing them to the shelter. Children will be reminded as they arrive at the gate but we would appreciate your support in reminding them to do this. Thank you.

Christingle Service

There will be a Christingle service at St James' Church, Barton, on Sunday 1 December at 6.00pm. Every child attending will receive a Christingle. Donations to The Children's Society are welcomed - collecting tubes will be available from the school office next week.

Photographs

Can we remind you that all photograph orders have to be returned to school by Monday 2nd December for a delivery date before Christmas. Thank you in advance.

Samaritan's Purse She Box Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated a Shoe box for Operation Christmas Child. We now have 31 boxes on their way to children overseas in time for Christmas.

School Lunches

In your child's book bag tonight, you will find the new winter menus which will commence week beginning Monday 2nd December. These menus have altered slightly to the summer menus. Firstly, there is no week date showing, so we will inform you on the newsletter, the correct week to follow. Secondly, the menus do not show we have a daily salad bar, which is very popular with the children and thirdly, the choice of puddings will be limited to one daily, either hot or cold, but it will be the choice of our cook as she knows which will be the enjoyed and chosen by the children.

PTA News

A huge thank you to everyone who has offered help and donations after the shed break-in - it is really, really appreciated!

Christmas Card orders have been placed, so many thanks to everyone who has ordered cards, gift tags or mugs. Thank you also to Steph Cartwright for processing them all! We hope to have them back in school to distribute by the end of November.

All Northbrook Trading orders have been received, so please collect from the office if you have not done so already. Many thanks to Aly Church who processed all the orders and to everyone who placed an order - we raised £65.



Quiz - Good luck to all the teams taking part in the Quiz night this evening and to the Quiz Masters, Sarah and Simon Pick. Hopefully we will raise lots of money for the school and everyone will have a fun filled evening!

Bag2School - We are pleased to announce that the school has organised a textile collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for Thomas Russell Infants School and Thomas Russell Junior School. You will find a bag in book bags this afternoon.

Bag2School are the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 2001 they have now paid out over £16 million.

As well as raising vitally needed funds for our school, it also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill.

By getting involved in our **Bag2School** collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles in the bag provided - this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, bags, soft toys, curtains and bedding (not duvets or pillows). We will receive **£500 per tonne or £0.50/kg** which will be a great boost for our fundraising. In addition it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.

If you fill the donation bag and still have more then you can use any other bag to donate your items and don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort out as well!

Bag2School will be collecting from Thomas Russell Junior School on Wednesday 4th December. Please bring your bag (or bags!) to TRJS on Gilmour Lane before 9am on that day. We will be having another collection from Thomas Russell Infant School in June next year.

Workers of the week

RR - Dylan Campbell for counting in 2's to 30

RL - Ethan Jones for good number formation

1S - Amelia Whiteford for giving 100% in all she does

1W - Louise Moore for writing a super story

2K - Jack Butler for writing and performing a 'Remembrance Poem'.

- Harry Johnson for writing and performing a 'Remembrance Poem'.

2M - Levison Sherratt for fantastic work in gymnastics

Well done to all our workers of the week!

Books recommended for the weekend are:

Tinder by Sally Gardner Illustrated by David Roberts

Yeti and the Bird by Nadia Shireen



Herman's Letter by Tom Percival

The Slightly Annoying Elephant by David Walliams Illustrated by Tony Ross

Dot. By Randi Zuckerberg Illustrated by Joe Berger

The Letter for the King by Tonke Dragt

Wishing you a good weekend.

Kind Regards

Mrs Farmer and Mrs Burton

