



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

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Newsletter No. 21

Friday 14th February 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

Please can we remind parents that as the weather continues to become colder, all children do need to come dressed in a warm coat every day; hats and gloves are also useful. Please remember to name every item as many gloves look the same. We have also had a request from the lunch time supervisors to remind parents to name lunchboxes and items included in them. Many thanks.

Gymnastics Competition

A huge well done to our 8, year 1 and 2 gymnasts, who represented the school in the first key stage 1 gymnastics competition, at Greenbank Leisure Centre in Swadlincote on Wednesday. The children competed in floor and beam exercises and were amazed and thrilled when they were announced as the champions of the competition. They were a credit to the school and their families and the staff are extremely proud of them. This is just one example of how the Government Sports Premium funding is helping to increase the opportunities available to our children.

Bedtime Story Sessions

A reminder that the reception children's bedtime story session will be at 6.30 on Friday 28th February, thank you to everyone who has sent their reply slip back in.

Pancake Race

On Tuesday 4th March at 11am, all year 2 children will race along Main Street in Barton, tossing and catching a pancake (or at least that is the aim). This is a school tradition going back many, many years and one which we all look forward to. Year 2 children are asked to bring into school a frying pan and a pancake which is not too heavy as they have to carry it while running. All year 1 and reception children and staff walk down to cheer on the children. We invite all family members to come along. The race starts at the post office and ends past the flower shop. Please keep to the pavements. The traffic is stopped for the length of the races and the police are there to ensure safety for all. We are delighted that local resident and ex school lunch time supervisor Margaret Fitchett supports the event and personally buys



prizes for



the winners. She will present these to the children in school on Friday 7th March. We would be grateful of any parents who would be willing to walk down with the classes to and from school. If you are available to support us in this way then please speak to the class teachers directly. Many thanks for your support.

World Book Day

For World Book Day, Thursday 6th March, we are asking the children to dress up as a book character for the day. We have a wonderful array of characters each year and are hoping this year you have the same enthusiasm. We look forward to seeing all the different costumes.

Dinner Money

For the parents who wish to pay dinner money for the next half term, the amount is £73.50. This is for the period Monday 24th February to Friday 11th April inclusive. If your child is in Year 1, they have a trip booked on Friday 7th March, so if they normally stay for lunch on that day, please deduct £2.10. The cost of a school lunch remains at £2.10 per day for the children who stay on a daily basis. Please make cheques payable to Staffordshire County Council and for those of you who wish to pay by Parent Pay and need further information about how to do this, please contact the school office. This is by far the easiest option as it allows you to put a lump sum onto your account. As and when your child has a school dinner, it is deducted. You can also set up an alert to make you aware when your account is running low.

Lunchtime Menu

Week beginning Monday 24th February will be week 1 on the school menu.

Workers of the week

Workers of the week this week are:

2M - Georgina Hiatt for excellent pictogram work in maths

2K - Jasmine Simmonite for her great ideas in her 'Stuck' story writing

1S - Emelia Walker for working hard all week

1W - Lucy Farrell for excellent capacity work

RR - Chloe Pick for fantastic pirate story writing

RL - Evie Allen 'Pirate Adventure' writing

Well done to all of our hard working children this week.

We break up today for half term and return on Monday 24th February. Wishing you all a lovely week.

Kind regards

Mrs Farmer & Mrs Burton

