



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

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## Newsletter 26

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who attended RR's class family lunch this week. We hope you all enjoyed spending time in school with your children.

As you know there are lots of events coming up over the next couple of weeks. Please refer to previous newsletters to be reminded of these. The school council recently met to decide the film for next Friday's film night. They had a selection to choose from but voted for Monsters University after much discussion. There will soon be a meeting again to discuss colour and design choices for the year 1 and 2 toilet refurbishment which is to hopefully go ahead over the summer.

### Ofsted Update

We have now received the final report which will be distributed in book bags on Monday. The report will then go live on the Ofsted website from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

### Class 1S

We would like to wish Mrs Byers a speedy recovery as she recuperates at home after a recent operation. She will be away from school for the next 4 weeks and we welcome qualified teaching assistant Mrs Towlson, who is covering some of Mrs Byers work while she is away.

### Gardening Club request and summer Gardening Olympics

As always we will be entering the East Staffordshire Gardening Olympics competition run by the borough council and held at Shobnall sports centre in June. The theme this year is 'Under the Sea' and we need to do lots of work beforehand to be ready for the big display.

There are several categories which we enter and while most of the work is completed at school we would very much appreciate your support. We would like all children to write a poem over the Easter holidays about 'Under the Sea' and copy or type it up, accompanied by illustrations or decorations. A4 size would be preferred so we can display as many as possible. In addition we will be holding a 'come and help us plant' morning on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April. On this morning we will have a range of tasks, many involving all the classes and some which only



adults can



do. We need as many adults as possible to offer an hour or more to help us prepare the planters and pots needed for the competition. If you can offer any help at all please email us at [office@thomasrussell-infants.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thomasrussell-infants.staffs.sch.uk) thank you in advance for your support.

### Below are some dates for your diaries for the summer term.

Monday 28th April -back to school

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May- 2.15pm year 2 country dancers dancing in the playground for all parents to come and watch.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May- school closed for May Day bank holiday

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May - School Nurse talking to reception children about healthy lifestyles

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May - class RL parent lunch (1 relative per child can attend)

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May -PTA sponsored event, details to follow

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - school breaks up for half term

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June- school closed for staff training

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Bags2school

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June - class photographs

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Sports afternoon followed by summer fayre

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July -Reports to parents

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July - Year 2 leavers disco

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July - 2pm Year 2 leavers assembly

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July - Break up for summer holidays

### Home time lateness

We are getting an increasing number of incidents of parents and carers arriving late for school dismissal at 3.15pm. Whilst we understand that there may be occasional, unforeseen circumstances - such as being stuck in traffic - when a late arrival is unavoidable, in the normal course of events we do expect parents to be on time to collect their children. If you know you are going to be late, even by five or ten minutes, please make arrangements for someone else to collect them, and let school know in plenty of time. If you would like details of the after-school care facilities, please ask at the School Office. Thank you.

### PTA News

**Cinema Night - next Friday 4th April.** Everyone should have received a letter in book bags this week, if not please ask at the office. All forms must be returned via the PTA post box by Tuesday 1st April. \*\*\*\*\***We still need volunteers to help out on the night in order for the event to take place. It is a reasonably easy stint of volunteering as it just needs the required amount of adults to sit in the hall with the children to watch the film. It is certainly a lot more relaxed than the disco. If you can help then please speak to Sam Cowgill (Monty 2K) or let the school office know as soon as possible please. Thank you. Unfortunately, if we don't get enough helpers we will be forced to cancel, which would be a real shame as the children love this event. \*\*\*\*\***



Just a reminder for those children who normally go to Badgers on a Friday, please make sure that Badgers know whether your child is attending the Cinema Night and that you have returned your letter to school. Please do not just assume that they can attend. Badgers staff will not allow children into the film if they have not received proper notification.

**Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee Morning - Wednesday 9th April.** Hopefully everyone is busy making Easter bonnets for the parade! The Co-operative in the village have kindly donated the Easter eggs for the prizes. We need lots of volunteers to help out on the morning, serving tea and coffee and cakes. It is important to get people from across all the school years so everyone can go out with their own children to help with the egg hunt. As this is always such a popular event, we would really appreciate as many cake donations as possible. These can be, brought into school on the morning of 9th April. Many thanks in advance for your help with this.

With many of the PTA members having year 2 children, our team will be few and far between for September. We really need some additional numbers to boost our existing team in order to still have an effective PTA up and running in September. The PTA do a fantastic job in supporting the school but it can only continue with the help of willing parents. We would love to hear from you if you are interested in joining now or in the new school year.

### **Lunchtime Menu**

Week beginning Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March will be week 3 on the school menu.

### **Workers of the Week**

RR - Isla Brittle for working very hard and improving her writing

- Oliver Fraser for fantastic subtraction

RL - James Spurrier for amazing reading

- Oliver Hopkins for fabulous 'Billy Goats Gruff' acting

1W - Child absent

1S - Matthew England for trying really hard to read with expression

2K - Child absent

2M - Joshua Harrington for a super newspaper report

Well done to all our hard working children this week.

Wishing all Mums and Grandmothers a very special and happy Mother's Day for Sunday.

Kind regards

Mrs Farmer & Mrs Burton

