



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Station Road, Barton under Needwood, Burton on Trent, Staffs, DE13 8DS



Tel: 01283 239350



Fax: 01283 716834

Co-Headteachers: Mrs S Burton & Mrs L Farmer

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs J Kelly



E-mail: office@thomasrussell-infants.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.thomasrussellinfants.co.uk

Newsletter No.8

Friday 24th October 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians

Harvest Festival

Well done to all the children on their brilliant performance in our Harvest Assembly this week and also a huge thank you for all the donated food. We were able to provide Burton YMCA with a fantastic amount of tins and packets for Burton Food Bank. If you would like more information on the work of Burton and district YMCA, leaflets are available from the school office.

However, there was one aspect of the assembly which was very disappointing. Our children worked very hard to learn their songs and lines and it was a huge shame that their voices were so often drowned out by the crying and shouting of young children in the audience. Several parents also raised the issue with us after the assembly and we agree that it's unfair on the pupils - and on the parents trying to hear them - to have their performances spoiled.

We understand completely that it can be difficult to keep younger children still and quiet for an extended period of time and we equally understand that you want to see your child's performance. However, in future, we will ask that if children in the audience start to become noisy or restless they be taken out into the foyer area so as not to disrupt the performance. Thank you.

Year 1 Class Assemblies

A second reminder that these will not take place on the dates provided on the original list. Instead of individual class assemblies, year 1 will celebrate Mother's day with a whole year group assembly in the Spring.

Parent Consultations

Thank you to all of those parents who attended and to those who were able to complete a feedback form. On our annual parent questionnaires, the question which asks, 'do we keep you well informed about your child's progress?' can sometimes receive a less positive response than others. We have tried to address this at this, and the previous parent consultation, introducing a revised format for our annual reports and sending home regular targets. The feedback form asked for your opinions about these with the vast major stating that they are



more than happy with the information they receive and that they feel well informed. The second aspect we asked about is the current, longer appointments for parent consultations. Many said that they find these much less rushed and find the daytime appointments convenient. Some would still prefer the option of an evening appointment so this is something we will discuss as a staff when planning future consultations.

Children in Need and World Diabetes Day

This year we have decided to collect for both of these charities as they fall on the same day. Having a little diabetic girl in school and seeing how she has learnt to manage her condition over the years, it is a charity which is close to our hearts.

The theme to Children in Need is 'Come and be a Hero', so this has prompted our school council to ask that on Friday 14th November all children are invited to dress up as a super hero, or if they wish they can wear their pajamas and bring their favourite teddy bear! In exchange, we ask for a small donation which can be brought in anytime during the week, as the school council will be taking donations in their fabulous Pudsey shaped collection box. Tonight, all children will be bringing home a colouring competition which they are invited to participate in. We ask for a 50p donation to be taped on the form when entering, which will also go towards Children in Need. Can we please ask all competition forms to be returned to school by Monday 10th November. Thank you in advance.

Poppy Appeal

If your child wishes to bring a small donation to purchase a poppy for the British Legion Poppy Appeal, they will be on sale daily after half term.

Workers of the week

2K - Amelia Whiteford for writing a creative story based on *George and the Dragon*

2M - Johnny Thompson for using super, imaginative story language

1S - Evie Hollender for a super painting using cold colours

1W - Oliver Fraser for writing a fantastic story about Elmer and Wilbur

RR - Ella O'Brien for shape repeating patterns

Joshua Round for fabulous addition

RL - Abigail Cramp for amazing news writing

Well done children.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

We break up for half term tonight and return to school on Monday 3rd November.

Kind regards

Mrs Farmer & Mrs Burton

