



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 21 - 13th February 2015



Magic Monday

We had a fantastic start to the week. The whole school enjoyed a magic show from our favourite magician, Jack from JD Magic. Lots of our year 1 and 2 children already know Jack from the lunch time magic club but by the end of the performance we were all in awe of his magic tricks and left wondering 'how did he do that?'.

World Book Day

For World Book Day on Thursday 5th 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 that this year you have the same enthusiasm. We will have lots of book and reading related activities going on throughout the day and the children will be bringing home a £1 book token. We look forward to seeing all the different costumes.

As part of World Book Day this year, all pupils are being invited to design a book-themed National Book Token on the template sent home tonight. A panel of judges will select a winner and runner-up in different age categories. Plus, one overall winner could see their design turned into a real National Book Token and distributed to bookshops nationwide in time for Christmas!

If your child would like to enter then please return their entry to school by the 27th March, with their details clearly printed on the reverse of the sheet.

Dates for your Diary

- 23rd February - Return to school
- 24th February - Pancake Race Year 2's
- 26th February - 1S Class Lunch
- 5th March - World Book Day
- 12th March - 2K Class Lunch
- 13th March - Red Nose Day
- 17th March - Class Photo's
- 19th March - Parent Consultations
- 24th March - Parent Consultations
- 26th March - 2M Parent Lunch
- 30th March - Easter Service in church, parents invited
- 31st March - Easter Bonnet Parade

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

2K - Laura Lloyd for fantastic maths

2M - Caitlin Cuthbert for super story writing based on the 'Stuck' book

1W - Holly Budge for trying hard at everything, especially reading

1S - Max Campion for an excellent rhyming poem

RR - Bradley Carey for working hard with his reading

RL - Florence Comelio for a good try with her phonics writing

Well done to you all!

1S Parent Lunch

We look forward to welcoming 1 family member for each child in 1S on Thursday 26th March at 11.30am.

Pancake Race

This year, as Shrove Tuesday falls in our half term break, we have decided to hold our Pancake Race on Tuesday 24th February on the school playground. This event will take place at 11.00am and will take the same format as is usually held in the village. The races involve all the Year 2 children participating in at least one race and we ask that each child bring into school a frying pan and a pancake, which is not too heavy as they have to carry it while running. We would like to invite parents of the year 2 children to come along to this traditional event to cheer their child along! Many thanks for your support.

Pupil Premium Funding- is your child missing out?

Now that all infant-aged children receive free school meals automatically, many parents may be unaware that their child may still be eligible for extra funding - the 'Pupil Premium' - that will benefit both their child and the school. This funding, which currently stands at £1,300 a year per pupil, is available to children whose parents receive certain State benefits, such as Job Seekers Allowance, Income Support and Child Tax Credit. It is spent directly on the eligible child, either on resources or teaching time. The application process is very quick, easy and discreet - just go online to www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals and complete the form.

If you don't have access to the internet, please ask at the school office for a paper copy. You should have an answer very quickly.

The extra funding allows school to provide resources and allocate teaching time that otherwise we couldn't afford. Please, even if you're not sure if you will be eligible, take a couple of minutes to fill in and submit the form - a successful application will directly benefit your child individually. Thank you!

PTA NEWS - Quiz Night

It's time to swot up on your trivia knowledge as we prepare for the annual TRISPTA Quiz Night! We'll be sending out more information after half term, but for now get the babysitters booked for Friday 13th March, and get your team sorted. Tickets will be £20 per team of four, with fish and chips at an additional cost and there'll be a cash bar too. Hope to see you there!

Message from Brent Freeman our FA Skills Coach who comes to school every week

A FANTASTIC FOOTBALLING OPPORTUNITY!

Every Friday (during term time)

Venue: St. George's Park Football Centre

Time: 4.30-5.30pm (5-7 year olds) / 5.30-6.30pm (8-11 year olds) Boys & Girls

Cost: £2

Note: Both sessions require prior contact with myself as there could be a waiting list due to demand.

Half Term (February)

Date: Friday February 20th 2015

Ages: Boys & Girls aged 5-11 years

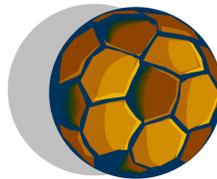
Venue: St. George's Park Football Centre (Outdoor 3G)

Time: 10-12pm OR 1-3pm

Cost: FREE

Note: Places can only be booked online via our website www.thefa.com/skills <<http://www.thefa.com/skills>>

Hope this is of great benefit to the children at Thomas Russell Infants School and look forward to seeing some familiar faces in future.



We break up tonight and return to school Monday 23rd February

Wishing you a lovely half term break.

Mrs L Farmer and Mrs S Burton