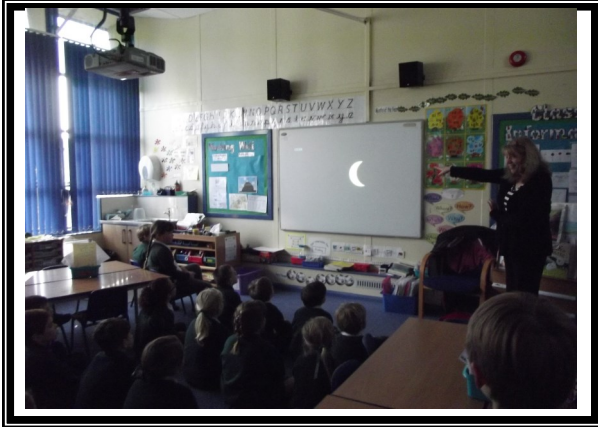


Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 25 - 20th March 2015



The children were wowed today by the solar eclipse. We had hoped to watch it by live feed and witness the darkening effects, but due to lots of buffering with the internet plan A didn't work.

Fortunately, plan b was much more successful and with 2 pairs of special glasses (meeting British safety standards), we were able to take the children one by one to show them the actual eclipse.

It was a really exciting time and there we had lots of sensible questions from the children. Many couldn't believe that the moon like shape was actually the sun! It is hopefully a phenomenon they will remember for years to come.

Dates for your Diary

24th March - Parent Consultations

26th March - 2M Parent Lunch 11.30am

30th March - Easter Service in church, parents invited

31st March - Easter Bonnet Parade

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

2K - **Amelia Whiteford** for her outstanding progress in literacy

2M - **Harry Meadows** for good ideas for a balanced meal in Science

1W - **Cassandra Parry** for fantastic division work

1S - **Ebony Morrison** for excellent division

RR - **Evie Allen** for fabulous Mother's Day writing

RL - **Zoe Banks** for beautiful Mother's Day writing

Well done to you all!

Barnardo's Assembly

We welcomed Amanda from Barnardo's to our assembly on Monday. She talked about the work of the charity to the children and has set them a task; to decorate a real hard boiled egg and look after it without breaking it. The eggs can be brought into school on the 1st April when Amanda will return to school to choose 2 overall winners. We will be displaying them in the hall for all the classes to see throughout the day. Please label your child's egg with their name and class, many thanks.

COMIC RELIEF

Thank you all again for the effort put into last week with costumes and cake making.

The final total raised was

£298.41 which included a £25 donation from Ellisia Reeves 1S, who made and held a cake sale at home. Thank you.

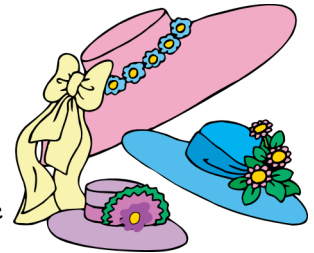
Class Photos

These were taken on Tuesday and the photographer praised the children for being the best behaved he had ever seen, we hope you like the photos.



Easter Assembly

On Monday 30th March the children will lead an Easter assembly in St James' Church starting at 2pm. It will last about 40 minutes. All children will be taking part and we invite all families to come along and join in. We walk the children to church for 1.50pm and get them settled in before we open the doors for other family members. Each class will need help walking the children to church. If you would like to help please contact your child's teacher personally. We are sorry but once we have the specified number of adults we will not be able to take any more volunteers. We thank you in advance for your support with this event.



Easter Bonnet Parade

On Tuesday 31st March the annual Easter egg hunt led by the PTA will take place. Cakes and drinks will be available in the hall from 9am. This is followed by the hunt. As we have a lot of children we are splitting the time as follows. Reception 9.15am Year 1 9.45am year 2 10.15am. Parents are welcome to come along and enjoy the hunt with their child.

At approximately 10.30am the Easter bonnet parade will begin, hopefully on the playground in the sun (or the hall if it rains). Prizes will be given to those which show a creative flair and have been created by the children themselves. There will be a toddler show of hats too so 'Get making!' Please do not bring the bonnets in until the morning, many thanks.

PTA News

Thank you to the 9 parents who attended the PTA meeting on Monday night. The active members of the PTA give up a lot of their time to plan, organise and deliver all of the events they do for both the children and adults, not to mention all the hours spent asking for raffle prizes, wrapping presents, designing craft activities, and collecting money just to name just a few of the endless tasks. However we appear to be having problems attracting adults to adult events and are struggling to get helpers to many events. This means the same people are giving up their time. Many of these ladies will be leaving the school in July and unless we get some new volunteers willing to lead events and do jobs behind the scenes we will have to cease to operate. As a result of these concerns the PTA will be sending a short questionnaire out on Monday to ascertain your views. We would very much appreciate your responses so we can ensure the successful future of our PTA. Thank you for your support with this very important part of our school.

PTA Appeal

Any secret bingo enthusiasts amongst us who might have a bingo machine or bingo equipment we could borrow for the Chocolate Bingo event after Easter? Please contact the office if you can help, or know anyone outside of school who would be willing to lend us theirs. Many thanks.

We need as many egg boxes as we can for the PTA craft sessions next week, please just leave in the main porch area of school by the reception hatch, thank you.

We will be holding a used school uniform stall at the Easter bonnet parade on the morning of 31st March if you have any clean uniform your child has grown out of please drop off at school any day leading up to the 31st, once again thank you.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs L Farmer and Mrs S Burton