



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 7 - 23rd October 2015

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

2M - Krystal Trinh for great measuring work in maths

1S - Martha Ashton for being so enthusiastic with writing a pirate poem

1K - Annabelle Dierker-Dunkanson for a positive attitude to learning in all her subjects

RR - Isaac Pick for fabulous addition work

RL - Mia-Ann Fisher for good try with some addition

Well done everyone!

Dates for your Diary

November 2nd 1.30-5.00pm Parent / teacher consultation meetings

November 9th - 9.00am photographer in school

November 27th - School closed for staff training

December 4th - Whole school to Panto at Lichfield Garrick

December 8th - 2.00pm Reception Nativity play

December 11th - Christmas lunch and party

December 16th - 2.00pm - 2M and 1K Christmas play

December 17th - 2.00pm - 2W and 1S Christmas play

December 18th - Last day of school

January 4th - School opens for new term



Vets on tour!

Year 1 had a very interesting Wednesday afternoon this week when two vets joined them to talk about caring for their pets. They even came with a giant inflatable flea! This helped with Year 1's project on 'Super Seasons and Amazing Animals'.

Photographer in school

Advance notice that on Monday 9th November the photographer is in school from 8.30am. From 8.30 till 9am he is available to take photographs of all children and their brothers or sisters WHO DO NOT attend the school. You are therefore welcome to bring in your older and younger children to have a family photo during this time. (If your children are at the Juniors or John Taylor please advise them they may be late in).



Then from 9am until 11am each child in school will have their photograph taken. If they have a sibling in school we also take one of them together. You will then have the opportunity to buy the photographs which make lovely Christmas presents.

Harvest Assembly

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend today's whole school harvest assembly. The children enjoyed performing for you and we were all pleased to share the message of giving. Thank you also to everyone who contributed to the food donations, it is greatly appreciated.

Replacement Windows

We are very lucky that the local authority have agreed to pay for the older windows in our school to be replaced. This will ensure energy is saved and classrooms are warm and cosy during the colder months to come. Over half term all windows in the kitchen, school office and front of school will be replaced. The first week back after half term will see the reception classroom windows replaced, which will mean some disruption for the staff and children. We have planned for this and your children's learning and safety will not be compromised. As we go to print the reception children will come into school and leave in exactly the same way as they do now. If this changes and any doors are not accessible we will make this very clear on the first day back; we will also post an update on the school website on Saturday 31st October. Thank you for your understanding

7 October
2015

**No Pens Day
Wednesday**

Please find attached a separate document and letter explaining what No Pens

Wednesday is and why we think it is important to focus on speaking, listening and communication skills with all our children. The letter is direct from the Communication Trust who organise No Pens Wednesday and we hope you can find some time to try some of the activities at home. For those parents who attended the curriculum evenings earlier in the term you will know that we are placing an emphasis on children being able to talk through their thinking in all subject areas. Thank you for your support. Please let us know what you tried and what went well.

PTA

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th November at 8pm at the 3 horseshoes. This is our Christmas planning meeting where we organise the Christmas fayre, one of our biggest fundraisers. Please come along as we'd love to try some new things this year & welcome all ideas.



The theme to Children in Need is 'Champions of Change', so this has prompted our school council to ask that on Friday 13th November all children are invited to dress up as a superhero. They are really excited to see the adventurous outfits. If you are struggling for ideas then visit the 'Children in Need' website which has some great ideas. Think along the lines of shorts over tights or leggings, a superhero mask, a belt containing your superhero powers, super hero gloves and or cape! The list is endless.

We are also holding a playtime cake stall. We would appreciate the donation of any cakes to support this (either homemade or shop bought). In exchange, we ask for a small donation of £1.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2015

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. We have been sent a few wristbands which we suggest you donate a slightly larger amount, but these are on first come, first served basis.

Thank you to all of the PTA members and parent volunteers who are helping at tonight's disco. The plans for the evening sound fabulous with a lot of hard work having gone on behind the scenes to make it a success.

Wishing you an enjoyable half term break.

Regards

Mrs L Farmer and Mrs S Burton