



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 11 - 27th November 2015

## Visit to the Pantomime

As you are all aware we are very excited about our visit to the Pantomime in Lichfield on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December**. We will be leaving school at 9.10am so in order for the children to get into school and be registered we will be opening the school gates at 8.40am. Please do not bring school reading bags into school that day as they will not be needed.

On our return at about 1pm we will all be enjoying a sandwich lunch prepared by the wonderful cooks. We are all looking forward to our morning out. Oh yes we are!

Our Christmas Fayre then begins at 3.30pm the same day. Children will be dismissed as normal and you are asked to walk around to the front of the school. At 3.30pm the main doors will be opened and everyone will enter the fayre via the front door where raffle tickets and calendars are being sold. Please do not try and enter the school via any other doors. The PTA and staff have 15 minutes after the children are dismissed to get ready for the fayre so please respect the start time. Thank you for your support.



## Dates for your Diary

**December 4th** - Whole school to Pantomime at Lichfield Garrick

**December 8th** - 2.00pm Reception Nativity play. Maximum of 2 adults per child please.

**December 11th** - Christmas lunch and party

**December 16th** - 2.00pm - 2M and 1K Christmas play. Maximum of 2 adults per child please.

**December 17th** - 2.00pm - 2W and 1S Christmas play. Maximum of 2 adults per child please.

**December 18th** - 2.30pm Christmas Sing a long (1 adult per family please) and last day of school.

**January 4th** - School opens for new term



We raised **£170.44** for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you to everyone who donated.

## Christingle Service

There will be a Christingle service at St James' Church, Barton, on Sunday 29 November at 6.00pm. Every child attending will receive a Christingle. Donations to The Children's Society are welcomed.



## Football fun

Thank you to all year 1 parents who were able to join us this week for a soggy football session. We hope you enjoyed watching the children and their great ball skills, which they have developed this term with the help of Brent from St George's Park. We are lucky to have this free support in school and look forward to working again with Brent next term.

### Family Workshops

In January we are inviting parents/family members into school to work alongside the children in a typical lesson, the theme this year will be maths. Please note the dates below, all sessions will start at 9.15am and finish around 10am.

- RR    **Monday 18th January 2016**
- RL    **Tuesday 19th January 2016**
- 2M    **Monday 25th January 2016**
- 2W    **Tuesday 26th January 2016**
- 1S    **Wednesday 27th January 2016**
- 1K    **Thursday 28th January 2016**

### Attendance

At the end of each term we give certificates to all the children with 100% attendance over the term. We also celebrate the class with the highest attendance. We are subject to register inspections each term from the local authority's welfare officer. She looks at how we record our attendance and children who have 90% or less attendance. If there are not good reasons for absences she may follow these up by contacting parents directly. We are proud of the good attendance of our children at Thomas Russell Infants but can we remind parents that if your child is away because of illness that you phone school as soon as possible the same day, preferably before the start of the school day so we are aware. The answer machine is always on when not manned by staff. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Christmas is coming!

The PTA have very kindly ordered the tree which will arrive in school on Wednesday 2nd December. We always ask the children to dress the tree and we use many lovely decorations we have collected over the years. Each class take turns to come into the hall and put a chosen decoration on the tree. Over the years decorations can get broken so for this reason we invite each child to bring 1 decoration into school on the Thursday 3rd December, which they can hang on the tree. The idea is that these are donated to school so please do not send any special or valuable decorations in as they can't be returned. While we welcome any colour or style please can you avoid glass for obvious reasons. Thank you in advance, the tree will be available for everyone to view over





## PTA

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone for the bottle and chocolate donations on Thursday for the Christmas tombola. We had a great response!

### **Christmas Fayre**

The big event takes place at **3.30pm on Friday 4th December**. There is a wealth of stalls and activities including tombola, Christmas gifts, refreshments, children's games, craft stall, cakes etc.

### Cake Stall

As one of the best supported stalls at the Fayre, we are once again asking for cakes to sell, they will be gratefully received on the morning of the fayre.

### Books

Any donations of good quality books, would be brilliant for our children's second hand book stall. They can be brought into school any day from now until the fayre.

**Please come along and enjoy this event, and bring as many friends and family as you can!**

*Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.*

*Regards*

*Mrs L Farmer and Mrs S Burton*