



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 13 - 11th December 2015



Reception Nativity

All the Reception children performed wonderfully this week in their version of 'The Nativity'. They sang, spoke and acted with confidence and brought a tear to the eyes of the audience. I am sure parents and family members who watched will agree that they were all 'little stars'. Keep an eye on the Burton Mail on December 23rd where we hope our photo will be included in their Nativity supplement. Thank you to parents who provided a costume and to the staff for working hard in the run up to the show.

Dates for your Diary

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

Family workshops 9.15am

- RR Monday 18th January
- RL Tuesday 19th January
- 2M Monday 25th January
- 2W Tuesday 26th January
- 1S Wednesday 27th January

Christmas Party Lunch

In your child's book bag today there is a menu for next Tuesday's Christmas Party lunch. Please ignore the price of £2.10 printed on it - the leaflet was produced for all primary schools, not just infants, thank you.

Young Leaders' Training

As part of our link with the School Sports Partnership, eight children from Year 2 have begun Young Leaders' Training. They are coached each week by Mrs C Smith, the school Games organiser who has already got the children to think about the qualities they will need to be a young leader. The children are in the process of learning and trying some games, thinking of ideas to share, so that they can pass this onto other children during lunchtimes. Once the training is complete, in the next few weeks, Isla Brittle, Lucas Joubert, Harley Butler, William Griffiths, Oliver Russell, Abigail Patrick, Olivia Seagrave and William Yates will be more than equipped to encourage children to join in with games at lunchtime and stay active. Well done to the children for participating with such enthusiasm.

Mrs Gower

It is with a heavy heart we announce that Mrs Gower is leaving the school next week after 12 years of dedicated service. Mrs Gower who works in the school office has been a friendly, supportive face to many children, parents and visitors over the years and we know she will be sorely missed. As well as expressing a huge thank you to Mrs Gower for all she has done for the school we wish her a very happy and restful Christmas and hope she will pop in to see us from time to time.

Science News

If your child watched CBBC's Newsround program you may already know that Astronaut Tim Peake will be blasting off to the International Space station on Tuesday the 15th December.

He will be the first British person ever to visit the International Space Station and there are two main aims to his mission - taking part in experiments and inspiring future generations of British astronauts and scientists.

We will be following his mission in school during the 6 months that he is there and we hope to have a series of exciting events linked in with the mission in school next year.

Head Lice

Can all parents please be vigilant of head lice and check your children's hair regularly for eggs using a comb. We are having recurring problems across the school, especially in Year 1, with some children being infected every month, so please help all the children by checking and treating if necessary, thank you.

After school clubs

There will be no Year 2 after school clubs next week, the last week of term.



Christmas Parties and A special visitor

Mrs Cullen and the ladies in the kitchen cooked up a fabulous Christmas feast today, to serve to all of the children and staff. The staff, the kitchen staff and lunchtime supervisors worked as a team to ensure all of the children were served in one sitting so it was lovely to see the whole school sat down to lunch together. Many thanks to the PTA who kindly donated the tableware and crackers.

After lunch the children enjoyed a party and a visit from the special man in red. We are sure the children are ready now, in the Christmas spirit and excited for the big day.



PTA

Thank you to everyone, parents and teachers alike, for your help, support and spending at this year's Christmas Fayre! The fayre was packed and it was great to see so many smiling children. The Fayre, raffle tickets and entry fee combined, raised just over a fantastic **£2,000**, which covers all the costs of Christmas for the school. This includes the cost of the new Christmas Tree in the school hall, a donation towards every child's ticket for the panto, the coaches to and from the panto, crackers and party wear for the Christmas lunch and presents for each child after lunch.

We couldn't have achieved these things and created such special memories for the children at school without you all giving your time, baking cakes, donating prizes, selling tickets and spending your hard earned cash.

The PTA will be selling a few remaining calendars and some decorations which the children made at the craft club, next Friday after the sing-along.

A special 'thank you' goes to all the PTA members for organising the fayre and working so hard last Friday preparing for the event. We really do appreciate all the hard work everyone gives.

DVD's

Thank you to Mr Paul Anderson for volunteering to burn the Christmas plays and Nativity to disc. They are a wonderful keepsake and now you will be able to buy them at a cost of £3.50 each. Order forms are in book bags tonight.

Wishing you an enjoyable festive weekend.

Regards

Mrs L Farmer and Mrs S Burton