



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 22 - 4th March 2016



## World Book Day fun!

We had wizards and witches, pirates and princesses, super-heroes and even a giraffe or two walking through the school gate this morning to celebrate World Book Day! Well done to all the children (and staff!) for entering into the spirit of the event and modelling some amazing outfits. Look out for your £1 book token in book bags—there are several special books available from shops priced £1 that are linked to World Book Day.

## School Dinners

Thank you for the comments regarding the new menu, which began last week. We have been slightly altering some of the ingredients to those we know the children enjoy and eat; any significant changes will - as always - be communicated to you.

## IN YOUR BOOK BAGS...

Everyone should have a World Book Day token. Please can Reception parents and carers look out for a letter and form from the school nurse about the Child Measurement Programme—thank you!

## Dates for your Diary

Monday 7 March—parent consultations

Friday 11 March—Year 1 trip to Shugborough

Friday 11 March—2M parent lunch 11.30

Friday 11 March—Year 2 Bedtime Story

Friday 18 March—2W parent lunch 11.30

Tuesday 22 March—Easter Egg hunt and bonnet parade

Thursday 24 March—Easter church service 9.30

Thursday 24 March—Break up for Easter

Monday 11 April—back to school

### Looking ahead...

Thursday 28 April—Year 1 assembly 9.15

Tuesday 3 May—Maypole dancing

Wednesday 29 June—Sports Day & summer fayre

## Sport Relief

We will be wearing red for Sport Relief and having a penalty shoot-out on 18 March—more details in next week's newsletter!

## Reception stars!

Well done to all the children in RR and RL who performed in their class assemblies this week. They sang and spoke beautifully and thoroughly deserved the enthusiastic applause they received!

## WORKERS OF THE WEEK

RR— Monty Castle for working hard with his news writing

RL— Elsie Hood—for beautiful cursive writing

1S—Seb Jones—for excellent effort in English

1K— Olivia Boulter—for always working independently and trying hard

2M—Ellisia Reeves—for excellent effort and progress in maths

2W— Elliott McNichol for writing a super descriptive story

*Well done, children—  
keep up the good work!*

### Pupil Premium - is your child missing out?

Now that all infant-aged children receive free school meals automatically, many parents might be unaware that they 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, 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](http://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 you're eligible, take a couple of minutes to fill in and submit the form - a successful application will directly benefit your child individually. Thank you!

### Community News

#### *Easter Fun camps at Barton Tennis Club*

Children aged 5-18 welcome to half-day tennis camp at Holland Sports Club—£12 a session, running on March 29 & 30 and April 5 & 6 from 9.30-12.30. For more details, call Zoe on 07971 898645.

#### *Light Factory*

The Churches Together 'Light Factory' will be open for business today (Friday 4 March) and on the first Friday of every month. It is held at the Methodist Church in Crowberry Lane from 6.00pm-7.30pm with activities for children aged 5 to 10 years old for 50p a session per child. All welcome!

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Regards

*Mrs Farmer and Mrs Burton*



### Bedtime stories

Lots of fun was had last week when Reception children came back to school in their pyjamas for reading and hot chocolate. Year 1's session is tonight and Year 2 next Friday, 6.30 to 7.30pm.