



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 16 - 13th January 2017

Family workshops

Thank you to family members who have joined us this week for the workshops - it was lovely to see so many of you were able to attend. We have received lots of positive feedback from you about these sessions. The aim was to give you an opportunity to work alongside your child in school and learn more about how we teach certain concepts. We look forward to Reception workshops in a couple of weeks.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 30 January - RR Family Workshop

Tuesday 31 January - RM Family Workshop

Friday 3 February - 1P Parent Lunch 11.30

Friday 10 February - 1S Parent Lunch 11.30

PTA Valentine's disco 3.15-5.30

Thursday 16 February - Break up for half-term

Monday 27 February - Back to school

Tuesday 28 February - Pancake Race

Thursday 2 March - World book day

Friday 3 March - PTA Wine tasting

Friday 17 March - RR Parent Lunch 11.30

PTA Film night 3.15 - 5.30

Friday 24 March - Comic Relief day

Friday 31 March - RM Parent Lunch 11.30

Tuesday 27 June - Sports day

(reserve day Thursday 6th July)

IN YOUR BOOK BAGS....

- Parent Lunch letter - Class 1P only
- Central Dance leaflet
- Outside lessons letter - Reception only

Parent governors needed!

We are still looking for candidates to stand as parent governors - if you are interested or would just like to know a little more about the post, please have a chat to either Co-Head or drop into the school office for a nomination form.

Attendance Update

As you know, we take attendance at school very seriously, so we are delighted to inform you we are getting closer to our 98% target. To date, overall school attendance is 97.5% (this is the percentage of total possible number of sessions for which all the children in total could be present) and we are pleased to have received a glowing report from Sian Hickey, our Attendance Inclusion Officer.

Extra funding for pupils

If you are on a lower income, your child/ren may be eligible for Pupil Premium. This is a sum paid to school (currently £1300 per year) to be used to raise the attainment of that child. This could be one-to-one teaching time, targeted educational resources or other equipment/provision beneficial to the pupil. The application process is quick and easy, so even if you're not sure that you are eligible, it's definitely worth trying. For the application form and more information, go to: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-Online.aspx

Could your family be TV stars?

We have been contacted by two separate TV shows looking for volunteers to take part. If you fancy a shot at TV stardom, these are the details:

BBC 'Eat Well for Less?' - "on the lookout for fun and lively families who would love to save some money on their weekly shop and eat more healthily." Telephone 0117 970 7698

or e-mail: eatwell@rdftelevision.com or www.facebook.com/EatWellForLess

ITV 'The Money Saving Good Food Show' - "we are currently looking for families from Staffordshire to take part in the show, which gives them the opportunity to help reduce their food shopping bill and learn some tasty new recipes." Tel: 0203 761 4659 or email foodshow@crackitproductions.co.uk

Stars of the week

Kaybie Powell-Johnson

Poppy Vydelingum

Thomas Rhead Amillie Timbrell

Freddie Johnson William Lloyd-Jones

Anna Thorp George Johnson

Alfie Groves Eleanor Motley

Sian Gower

School Review

We welcome two consultants into school on Monday to undertake a whole school review. Head teachers and other leaders will observe lessons and feed-back, look at pupils' books, the school's self evaluation and school improvement documents and talk to leaders and teachers throughout the day. Mr Donoghue (CEO of the JT MAT) will also be joining us for part of the process. We look forward to sharing the outcomes with you in next week's newsletter.

Year 2 Parents

Please be aware that there is a clash on the Year 2 calendar which is unfortunately out of our control. On Tuesday 28th February our Year 2 children will be taking part in the annual village pancake event. The races are held mid-morning (times to be confirmed) on Main Street and parents and relatives are most welcome to attend.

At the same time though our Year 2 dancers will be visiting the Lichfield Garrick theatre for their dance rehearsal so unfortunately will not be able to take part in the pancake event. Both times are set in stone due to road closures and pre-planned arrangements with the dance festival organisers.

Reminders

French classes -

Thursday lunch times , French classes are available . Please refer to the letter sent out last week or visit the website www.lajolieronde.co.uk for more details.

Year 2 Football

Children need to bring an outdoor P.E. kit to wear.

(Children who do not have a kit will not be able to take part.)

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Regards

Mrs L Farmer and Mrs S Burton