



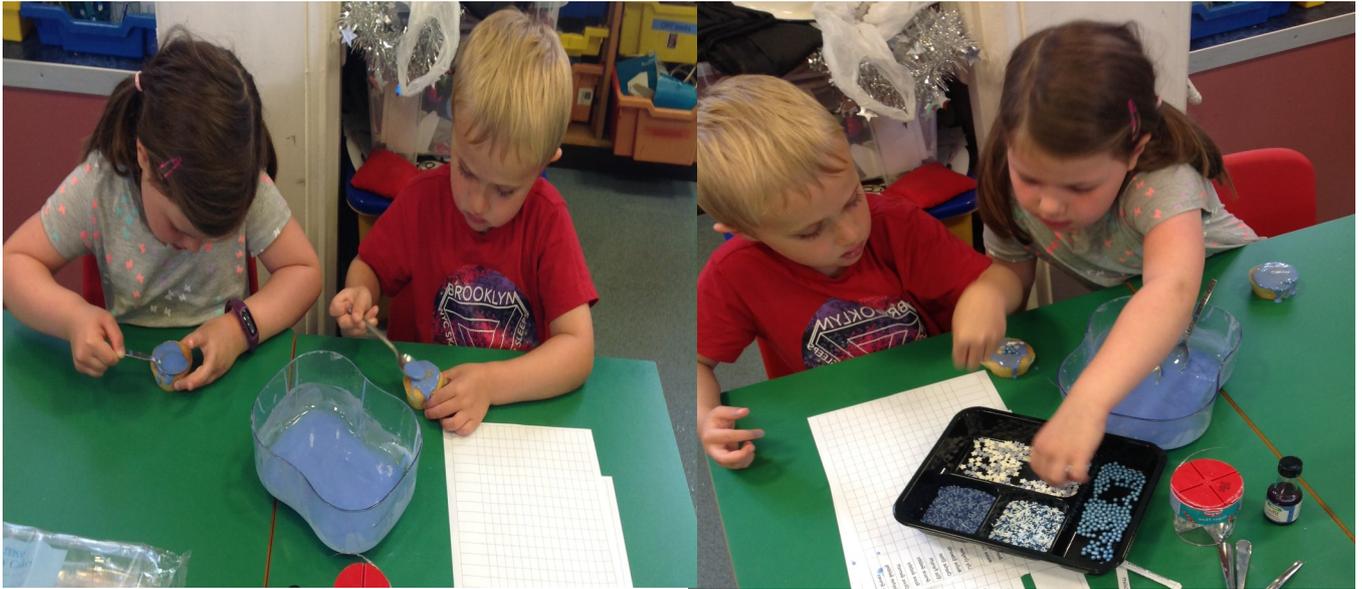
Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 34- 16th June 2017

Reception Cake Decorating

Reception classes have had lots of fun decorating cakes for Father's Day this morning.



Multi-skills Festival

Year 1 and 2 will be attending a Multi-skills festival at John Taylor High School next Monday afternoon. As per the text message sent out on Thursday, please remember to bring a water bottle, hat and use sun-cream if necessary on Monday.

IN YOUR BOOK BAGS....

- ◆ Shake up leaflets
- ◆ Summer Soccer
- ◆ Theatre School
- ◆ Badgers Holiday Club

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 27 June - Sports day
(reserve day Thursday 6th July)

Wednesday 28 June -
Drama/Recorder Concert 9.15am

Wednesday 19th July — Leavers'
assembly (pm)

Friday 21st July—Break up for summer

Tuesday 5th September - Back to
school- new school year starts!



Stars of the week

Alfie Groves Florence Comelio

Isla Poyner William Brennan Daisy Munro

Chloe Watling Charlotte Williams

Jessica Golder Flynn Wright Tilly Bloor

Charlie Elton Poppy Vydelingum

Sid Sherratt Elsie Woodings



Gotta Sing

We were all very proud of our choir children on Tuesday night when they took part in a singing festival at the Lichfield Garrick Theatre. It was an evening which they will hopefully remember for a long time to come; just six or seven years of age and stood singing on a theatre stage to a full audience! They truly were super-stars and made Mrs Smith and Mrs Farmer very proud.



Football for Year 2 girls

Brent Freeman, the FA Skills Coach who comes into school every week, will be holding a half-hour football skills session for girls on a Tuesday lunch time. Girls who would like to take part must bring in a pair of trainers on a Tuesday morning to wear at the session. Thank you.

Change4Life Club

The last session for the Change4Life club will be next Wednesday 21 June. No further sessions will be held this school term. Thank you and well done to all the children who took part!

Transition time

Well it is that time of year when small changes start to take place in readiness for the big changes in September. This week we have welcomed our new, little visitors (our new Reception children) for their first visit but have also welcomed the Year 3 teachers when they came to meet the Year 2 children and chat to the teachers. There are plenty more activities arranged for the next few weeks in order to help prepare all of the children for the forthcoming changes.

Badgers—important notice

When dropping off or picking up children at Badgers, parents and carers are **NOT** permitted to park in the staff car park, even for 'just a couple of minutes'. It causes problems and inconvenience at any time, but with our current building works the problems are even worse. Please park on the road outside. Thank you.

Sports Day Is Fast Approaching

On Tuesday 27 June, the gates will open at approximately 1.00pm for Sports Day, which starts at 1.15pm. Everyone is welcome—but please note that we will be locking the gates this year once family members are on site. If you arrive after 1.15pm, please call at the school office to be admitted. Please do take care when walking down to the field and use the steps, rather than coming down the bank, which can be slippery.

All children will need their PE kits, including a pair of named PE pumps or trainers. Children will also need a sun-hat, sun-cream and full water bottle please.

We hope you can join us!

We need your help!

As you may or may not know, there is no official PTA committee at the moment (more on that later!) but a group of us are still planning to run a scaled down version of the Summer Fayre after sports Day on the 27th (reserve day 6th July) to make the most of the school community coming together one last time before school's out for the summer (and to hopefully raise a bit of money for the school in the process!) We are planning on holding the following stalls:



- BBQ
- Drinks (hot & cold)
- Ice lollies
- Bottle tombola (thank you for all the donations today, they are much appreciated!)
- I spy (a perfect activity to keep younger siblings entertained during Sports day!)
- Strawberries & Cream
- Punch Balloons
- Lucky number board
- Cake stall (run by the school council)

It is planned that most of these will be happening AFTER the Sports Day (running until 5pm) so if you are able to help with looking after a stall, even for just 15 minutes or so, then that would be massively appreciated. Message us on Facebook or via the PTA email address (thomasrussellpta@gmail.com) to offer help—or just to make yourself known on the day! If anyone has any burning ambitions to bring a different stall to life on the day then don't hesitate to get in touch!

The Future of the PTA...

As previously mentioned, at the moment there is no PTA committee. The previous committee all stood down after a fantastic year at the helm and now it needs someone else (or small group of people) to step in to keep the momentum going. The PTA is a huge part of school life and provides amazing opportunities and fun experiences for the children and grown-ups, as well as providing much needed resources for the school itself. This year alone the PTA has offered : Calendars, DVD's, Christmas Cards, Halloween Disco, Christmas Fayre, Valentines Disco, Film nights, Sponsored Conga, Easter Bonnet Parade & treasure hunt, Gin tasting, Wine tasting, not to mention plenty of refreshments offered at various events too!

Without a PTA, none of the above will happen from September 2017. This will have a massive impact on your children's experience at Thomas Russell Infants' School and will also mean there is less money for the school to put towards things such as:

- Subsidised trip costs in particular the Christmas panto trip
- New book bags for incoming Reception children
- Year 2 ipads
- Banks of laptops
- Equipment for the Nurture and Intervention Rooms
- Presents for School Christmas meal
- Y2 Hoodies

We are holding the final PTA meeting of the school year on **Tuesday 4th July at 8pm** (venue TBC) so please come along if you are at all interested in continuing the tradition of supporting events at school. We promise you won't be assigned a role or job or anything! If you are unable to attend a meeting or would prefer not to attend but would like to be involved please get in contact via email, facebook or speak to those of us involved in running the Sports Day events.

MacMillan Sponsored Bike Ride—Update

Carly, Phil, Mike and I would like to say an enormous 'Thank you' for the amazing support we have received and the sponsorship donated over the last few months for 'The Dragon Ride', our long distance (95 miles) hilly (8000ft) bike ride challenge. The good news for us and the bad news for you is that we did complete the ride on Sunday in a very respectable 6 hrs and 38 mins. The sponsorship total is currently sitting at a whopping £1264.99 which I am sure will be very gratefully received by Macmillan Cancer Support.

We had a ride of two halves fine weather and a tailwind for the first 45 miles and driving rain and a 20mph headwind for the last 40 miles. For anyone who is interested this is what we did:

<https://www.relive.cc/view/1032255400>



Congrat

The final sum raised by this fantastic event was £970.60!!!! Thank you to everyone who sponsored the children and took part in this event.



Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.
Regards

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer