



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 1 - 8th September 2017

Welcome to the new term!

After what we hope was a restful and relaxing holiday for everyone, it was lovely to see so many smiling faces on Tuesday, despite the awful weather. Welcome to all our new Reception children, who took everything in their stride, being very grown up indeed. We also welcomed new children into Years 1 and 2, so all in all, Tuesday was a busy day! The children have been settling very well into their new routines in the classroom and getting to know their teachers, so it has been a very positive start to the school year.

We also welcome new staff Mrs Olbison and Mrs Garratt to our team of classroom assistants in school and Mrs Chantler to our team of Lunchtime Supervisors. We are also very lucky to have Mrs Williams - who is training to be a teacher - with us this year in 1S.

Attachments with newsletter:

- ◆ Information from Barton Rovers
- ◆ Free Parent Skill Share Workshop's for help with young people with special needs
- ◆ Governor's newsletter

Safety in school

Please can we remind you that children are not permitted to run around the car park or up and down the ramp and steps at the front of school. This is for their own and other's safety.

Can we please also inform new parents that we request children to hop off their bikes and scooters at the school gate and wheel them to the shelter. After school we request that parents do not allow children to play on the school equipment on the adventure play area or the school field.

Thank you for your support with this.

Reception parents coffee morning

All Reception parents and carers are invited to join us in the hall for teas and coffees after drop-off on Friday 15th September. Come along to meet other parents and enjoy a cuppa and chat. Look forward to seeing you there!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 25th September - Early Years Curriculum Evening 7pm (all Reception parents welcome)

Wednesday 4th October - School Photographs

Wednesday 11th October - 1S Trip to Packington Farm, 2M Parent Lunch

Thursday 12th October - 1P Trip to Packington Farm, 2W Parent Lunch

Thursday 19th October - 9.15 Harvest Festival assembly, Halloween disco 3.15pm. Break up for Autumn half-term

Friday 20th October - School closed to pupils

Monday 30th October - Back to school

December -

Friday 8th - 2pm Reception Nativity

Tuesday 12th - 9.30 2M & 1P Christmas Play

Wednesday 13th - 9.30 2W & 1S Christmas Play

Friday 15th - Pantomime Trip to Derby Arena

Tuesday 19th - 2.30 School sing a long and last day of term!

Families First courses

There are a number of free parenting and lifestyle courses being run in East Staffordshire this autumn. For more details, please contact Debbie Fogg, lead tutor for delivery of ACL contract held with Families First at East Staffordshire Children's Centre, Waterloo Street, Burton upon Trent, telephone 01283 233400.

Building works

As you will have seen, our roof replacement and associated works are still on-going, although we do now have a lot more new tiles on the roof! We have been told that the scaffolding will be up for at least another 6 weeks due to certain changes in the planned ridge system being installed and the unfortunate weather over the summer. We can then hopefully start the big clear-up operation and unveil our new roof to all. New Reception children are still having to use the front entrance for the time being, but we will keep you updated on any changes to routines where necessary.

Volunteer meeting



With so much to fit into the modern school day, we always welcome any additional help from parents to either hear children read, support with display work, work with groups of children, practical help around the grounds, etc., etc. If you feel you could offer an hour or more a week then a short meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20th September at 9.15am**. If you are interested in volunteering but cannot attend the meeting then please email or call in to the school office and the information will be forwarded to you.

Don't become preoccupied with purely your child's academic ability but instead:

teach them to sit with those sitting alone

teach them to be kind

teach them to offer their help

teach them to be a friend to the lonely

teach them to encourage others

teach them to think about other people

teach them to share

teach them to look for the good

This is how they'll change the world

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Regards

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer