



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 3- 22nd September 2017

Summer Reading Challenge - 3rd Place!



Well done to everyone who took part in the Library Summer Reading Challenge and put the school into a fantastic 3rd place in the area! The Challenge finished on 11 September and the results were the best ever this summer, with 1366 children completing the challenge. Scientia Academy in Stafford were the winners of the trophy. A ranking table will be displayed at Burton and Barton libraries for children and families to see.

Governors

We will soon be looking to recruit a new Governor to join our existing team in supporting and challenging the Co-Headteachers and school leaders. After considering the skills of our current team, we would be looking for someone with an educational background to support learning and standards. The role consists of two evening meetings per half-term and an occasional monitoring visit to school in the day. If you think you might be interested or would like to find out more, then we would love to hear from you, so please do speak to one of us on the gate or drop us an email.

Lost Property—Bicycle Helmet

We have a Raleigh Spiderman children's bicycle helmet without an owner! If you have lost one and you think it may be your child's please collect it from the office. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

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

Tuesday 26th September— RR Trip to Packington Farm

Monday 2nd October - PTA meeting 7.00pm

Wednesday 11th October - 1S Trip to Packington Farm, 2M Parent Lunch , 7 pm e-safety workshop for parents

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

Tuesday 17th October - KS1 Curriculum Evening
Y1 and Y2 parents

Thursday 19th October - 9.15 Harvest Festival assembly, Halloween disco 4.45 pm.

Break up for Autumn half-term

Friday 20th October - School closed to pupils



Stars of the week

Clayton Golding Charlotte Elkin

Jacob Clamp Thomas Whitby

William Crowden Charlotte Williams

Bohemia Howes Lucia Thompson



Sponsored Race for Life Event

Year 2 will be taking part in a sponsored event on Friday 13th of October at 2.30 pm. They will be either walking, jogging or running around the school field three times and will be presented with a medal once they have finished. Any parents or carers and family members who would like to come and support the children are welcome and if you also take part there is a medal for you at the end! More information and sponsorship forms in book bags next Friday.



Year 2 - Reminder

Don't forget—clubs start next week!



PTA news

Last Chance! Make sure that you return your 50/50 club slips to the PTA post box by Monday 25th September. Numbers will be allocated next week and the first draw will take place on Thursday! There is already over £30 in the monthly prize fund! A copy of the form can be found on the PTA Facebook page if you can't find yours!

Reminder! Calendar competition! Get your budding artists on the case to help design the cover page for the 2018 Calendar. Deadline for entries is Friday 6th October. More information on the Facebook page.

Reminder! PTA meeting on Monday 2nd October, 7pm at school. Your chance to meet other parents and help shape events this term. All welcome! Did we mention there will be CAKE?!

Finally, great to see so many faces at the PTA social last night! A lovely evening spent meeting new parents and catching up with friends. Thanks to all who came along!

PTA

At the end of last term the previous PTA members very kindly made a generous donation to school from PTA funds which had accumulated over time from various events. This was unexpected, and in addition to the donations we had earlier in the year. It was a significant amount of £6000 which has been raised from parents attending events and purchasing Christmas cards and calendars etc and for which we are very grateful. As you are aware, school budgets have had a real hit this last year which has affected our staffing levels. Unfortunately we are unable to use the PTA donations to help with staffing as this is an unknown figure each year and cannot be relied upon but it is lovely to be able to use the money to support other aspects of our school budget.

On this occasion we will be using a large proportion of the money to purchase new iPads for Year 2. This will mean that all children in school will get greater access to iPads (as we currently share one trolley between all classes) to support their learning and to further develop their IT skills. Our children are very fortunate that you all support school and enable us to afford these additional learning resources. Thank you for your generosity.

Diabetes Fund Raising

Brodie Horler, one of our Year 1 pupils, is taking part in the JDRK 5k Midlands One Walk again this year with her sister Morgan (who is a former pupil) on 24 September, to help raise vital funds to assist in the research into and development of a cure for diabetes. A Just Giving page has been set up - [Horler's one walk](#) - if anyone would like to make a donation.

Reminder Photographs are being taken on Monday morning. Doors open at 8.30 if you wish to have siblings photographed together. If there are older siblings then please let the relevant school know if your child may be late as a result of having photographs taken.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.
Regards

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer