



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No. 5 6th October 2017

Three cheers for Mrs Cullen!

We celebrated a special anniversary in school this week - Mrs Cullen, our Catering Manager, has been working at Thomas Russell Infants' School for twenty five years. She started when her son and daughter were in the school and now helps prepare lunches for her two grandsons!



(see photo) The children made her a special card to mark the occasion and we'd like to say a huge 'thank you' to her for all the delicious meals over the years - at a very rough estimate, we'd say approaching half a million!!

Dates for your Diary

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

Friday 13th October - Year2 Sponsored Event

Tuesday 17th October - KS1 Curriculum Evening - Y1 and Y2 parents -7pm

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 (INSET)

Thursday 2nd November - Parent and Teacher Consultations

Monday 6th November - Parent and Teacher Consultations

Friday 17th November - PTA Quiz Night

Friday 8th December - 2pm Reception Nativity

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

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

Friday 15th December - Pantomime Trip to Derby Arena followed by Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 19th December - 2.30 Sing a long

Last day of term!

PE safety update

In light of changes made in the AFPE Safe Practice in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity 2016 regarding the wearing of earrings during PE, earrings in the first instance will not be allowed to be worn. If children are unable to remove earrings they should be made safe by taping, front and back. This is to help prevent the stud post penetrating the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received. We would ask that you either remove your child's earrings at home on the days they do PE or tape their earrings before coming to school. If your child is able to they can also bring tape into school to do it themselves before the lesson. **Members of staff are unable to remove or tape earrings for children.** If the taping of earrings is found to be unsatisfactory, alternative involvement in the lesson will be considered for your child. Guidance has also been given for children wearing fitness trackers during PE. Whilst these can be worn, they **must** be covered with a fabric sports wristband or similar padding.

If your child has long hair this will need to be tied back on their PE days to prevent it from getting entangled in the apparatus and to prevent vision from being obscured.

Thank you for your co-operation.

PTA News -

Thank you to everyone who came to the PTA meeting on Monday. It was lovely to welcome some new parents and we were able to plan some exciting events for the term ahead. We look forward to sharing our ideas with you and will publish minutes of the meeting shortly.



Reminder! Please ensure that you return slips for the Halloween party by Monday 9th October. We have a fantastic party for your children, with games, crafts, stories, films and a disco planned so far, don't miss out! Any offers of help also gratefully received, make a note on the return slip or speak to one of the committee. Thanks!

Save the date!! Friday 17th November will be QUIZ NIGHT!!! Book your baby sitters now and don't miss out on what promises to be a great evening!

Print My Ride! Make sure that you return your forms to the PTA box by Friday 13th October.

Messy church - A family event, this Sunday the 8th of October at the Methodist Church on Crowberry Lane. An activity, followed by songs and praise, sandwiches and cakes. 4pm to 5.30pm. The theme is MESSY MESSAGES.

ParentView

Every year we ask parents and carers to complete a survey about the school which gives us a 'snapshot' of how you feel about yours and your child's experience with us. In addition to this, you have another way of giving your opinions via Parent View, a website which gives parents the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. The survey can be accessed at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Parent consultations

On Monday, you will be receiving a text from Teachers2Parents inviting you to make an appointment for the autumn parent consultation meetings on Thursday 2nd and Monday 6th November. For parents who are new to the school, we have been using this system for about a year and have found it to be very popular. Please follow the instructions in the text and **don't forget to keep a note of the time and date of your appointment** when you make it, as the system does not currently send reminders!



Stars of the week

Liberty Pearce Tarrin Stansbie

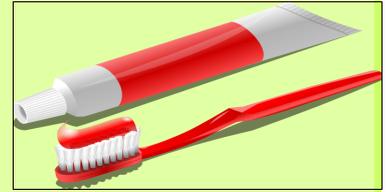
Giles Taberner Beatrix Brooke

Isaac Pick Erin Campbell



Cleaning teeth in Year 1!

Please can all Year 1 pupils bring a tooth-brush and



toothpaste into school on Tuesday 10th October? As part of their work in English, the children are learning to write instructions and will be producing a set of instructions for brushing your teeth!



New data protection rules

In May next year, the Data Protection Act 1998 will be replaced by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This will affect every school, as it means an increased responsibility to ensure any information held is managed in the right way to comply with the new regulations. This includes any paper and electronic data we hold on pupils, staff and parents, such as addresses, contact details, medical history etc. The aim of the new law is to strengthen and unify the safety and security of all data held within an organisation. Under current legislation, we already have a duty of care to ensure that all data is kept safe and secure, but we will be reviewing our procedures to ensure we're compliant with the new law. This will involve auditing the data we have and letting you know what information we hold on both you and your child.

This will be happening over the next few months and we will keep you informed on progress - as you can imagine, it's a large task even for a small school like ourselves!

Car park safety

Can we please remind parents and carers that the car park area at the front of school is not somewhere children should be allowed to play. We have noticed that some children are allowed to run around the cars and even been seen crawling under cars to try to reach conkers. This is clearly not safe behaviour - and risks damage to vehicles - and we ask that all parents and carers keep children close by them while passing through or waiting in this area. Thank you.

Crossing patrol update

You will have noticed that our crossing patrol has been missing on a couple of occasions over the last week or so. We have been advised that this is due to on-going staff shortages, so please be aware that there may be times that the zebra crossing on Station Road is unsupervised. We will of course let you know if we are told of an absence, but please take extra care in case there are times when we are not told in advance.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.
Regards

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer