



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No.10 17th November 2017

A week of giving!

We've had two opportunities this week to think about people who are facing difficulties and/or challenges in their lives—and two chances to dress up and raise money!



TypeOnsie

We were delighted with the response of the children on Tuesday, supporting Diabetes Awareness Month by wearing their onesies or pyjamas and donating £163.

The children learnt a little more about Type 1 diabetes, a condition close to our hearts here at TRIS. Thank you for your support.

Pudsey Mania!

And on Friday, we were a sea of spots and colour for Children in Need, raising over £243 so far for this fantastic charity through donations. Thank you to everyone who brought in cakes and who donated money.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 20 November—Wear odd socks for Anti-Bullying Week!

Tuesday 21 November— 9.15 Reading session for Reception parents & younger siblings

Wednesday 22 November—Open day for September 2018 Reception starters 9.30am and 1.30pm

Friday 1 December—Year 2 to Meadowside for Multiskills activities

Friday 8 December - 2.15pm Reception Nativity

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

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

Friday 15 December - Pantomime Trip to Derby Arena followed by Christmas Fayre (3.30 pm)

Tuesday 19 December - 2.30 Sing-a-long, and last day of term!

Governor update

On Monday 6th November, I spent a very busy day in school talking to children, attending assembly, having lunch with the children, spending time in a classroom and meeting parents. As Governor responsible for SEND (special educational needs and disabilities), I spent time talking to children to find out how they feel about school in order to make sure they are happy and motivated within school. All staff work extremely hard to make sure that all children can access the curriculum at their own level, and it was lovely to see how much these children enjoyed school.



Thank you to all the parents who chatted to me whilst waiting for their Parent Consultation meeting, and a particularly big thank you to those parents who managed to access the Parent View questionnaire. We would love more parents to have their say on our school, so if you have not yet had the chance to log on, please visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and spend a few minutes answering the questions.

Ali Cotterill

Stars of the week

Ava Elsigood Eleanor Parkes

Emilia Brewer Zachai Khan

Oliver Campion Layla Morgan

Arthur Newton Walter Hanstock

Samuel Dierker-Duncanson

Jonathan Wildgoose

Sophie Marshall Arthur Mitchell

Evie Allison Harry Elsigood

Joshua Drayton Mia-Ann Fisher

A polite reminder...

Can we please remind parents and carers who drop off at and pick up from Badgers that they should park outside school, **NOT** in the staff car park. After school hours, we try to limit vehicular movement in the carpark as much as possible so that Badgers children and families are able to walk home safely across the carpark. With the dark nights and building works in school this is even more crucial. Thank you.

Bags2School

Collection bags will soon be going out in book bags and the collection date is Tuesday the 12th of December. Please bring the bags to school on the collection morning. The bags will have a list of items that can be donated printed on them and include good quality Men's, Ladies and Children's clothing, shoes, handbags, belts etc.

Anti-Bullying Week

This week has been national Anti-Bullying Week with schools around the country talking about and learning more about the effects of bullying.

On Monday the children had an assembly about caring for others and, over the course of the week, children have been noticed for their kindness. The Anti-Bullying Alliance website www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk is a great resource we have used in school. We want to teach our children that although we are all different, we are all equal and should be treated so. To support this idea we will be asking the children to wear odd socks on Monday 20th November if they like. This will be to show that we are 'all different, all equal'. Teachers will be reading stories about being different to the children, which is something you can do at home to support this work in school.

Admissions to Reception

Please remember if you have a child due to start school in September 2018 or know someone who does, don't forget that the online application system is now open at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions—closing date for applications is 15th January 2018. Our Open Day for prospective children and families is on Wednesday 22nd November; please come along to see our lovely school in action either at 9.30am or 1.30pm. No need to book!

Multi-skills at the Meadowside

Year 2 will be going on a trip to Meadowside Sports Centre on Friday 1 December. They will have an opportunity to take part in different multi-skills activities.

The trip, including coaches, is fully funded by Sports Premium funds, so there will be no cost to parents.

Posting early for Christmas!

Barton Library will be having a special post box for those very important letters to Father Christmas! Get writing early and take your letters along from Friday 1 December. If you put your child's name and the name of the school on the letter, we've been told Santa will be replying!!



Reception parents' workshop

Don't forget the reading workshop on Tuesday 21st November in the school hall at 9.15. It will be led by our fantastic education psychologists Jodie and Vanessa. Toddlers are very welcome—there will be toys to keep them occupied! - and coffee and cake too. Please let us know if you can come, it will be a very useful session.

Sickness

We have had quite a high number of children absent with a sickness bug over the last day or two and it seems to be particularly rife in year 1. If your child presents with any symptoms over the weekend then please bear in mind that they must remain off school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. Thank you for helping us to keep the remaining children as bug free as possible and good luck over the weekend!

PTA News

Quiz night!! It's nearly here and we're looking forward to welcoming the teams tonight! Doors and bar open at 7:30 ready to start the quiz at 8pm. We will be running a CASH ONLY bar so please visit the cash point before arriving!



Christmas DVDs - there is a pre-order form for the Christmas productions that the children perform each year in your child's book bag. I know it seems early but there is so much going on in the run up to Christmas we're trying to get organised early! Please return to the PTA box if you'd like a copy.

Christmas Fayre!! The fayre planning and organisation is well underway and we're excited to invite you all (and your family and friends!) to our Christmas Fayre. It is taking place on Friday 15th December straight after school and will be a fun-filled, festive affair with lots to keep everyone entertained. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Christmas Raffle - thank you so much for all the pledges for the raffle so far. We are incredibly grateful for all the offers we have received, we are very lucky to have such a supportive group of parents. If there are any last pledges could you drop them into the PTA box or email them through to thomasrussellpta@gmail.com

Christmas Cards - The children have finished making their Christmas cards and they have been sent off for processing. We hope to have the order forms in soon for you to be able to order them, and other gifts, should you wish to do so. The order forms will be sent out in book bags as soon as they are received. Thank you.

Maths focus



This week in maths:

Reception have moved on to looking at the number 6 this week recognising which number comes before it and which number comes after it. They have been practising their number bonds to 6 using concrete resources including Numicon to find different ways to make 6. They have also been recording their answers pictorially. The children have been practising their number formation for numbers 0-6.

Year 1 have been learning to recognise and name common 3D shapes including cuboids, cubes, pyramids and spheres. They have been making different 3D shapes with equipment and naming the 2D shape for the face name. The children have also been looking at 2D shapes naming rectangles, squares, circles and triangles. They have been discussing the properties of the different shapes and using this to sort the shapes appropriately.

Year 2 have continued to add together two 2-digit numbers including those that bridge 10. They have been using different methods to find the answers including partitioning and recombining, pictorial representation, number lines and the column method. The children have been answering true or false questions to decide if number sentences were correct and explaining their reasoning.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Regards

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer