



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No.20 8 February 2019

## What's in your lunchbox?

Packington Farm came to see Year 1 today to talk about what food is in your lunchbox and where the food comes from. Year 1 have learnt how the wheat is grown, how it is ground to make flour to then bake bread in order to make your sandwich. The children also made butter and looked at a model combine to see how a combine harvests the wheat to make our bread.



## Country Dancing Monday 11 February

Please note there will be no country dancing after school next Monday due to parent consultations. Thank you.

## In Book Bags

- ◆ Primary Times

## Dates for your Diary

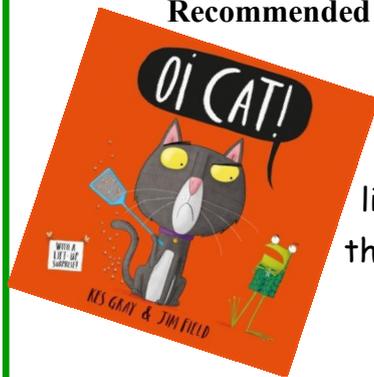
- Mon 11 Feb — Parent Consultations 2.45-6.45pm
- Thu 14 Feb — Reception visiting St James Church
- Fri 15 Feb -Break up for half-term & PTA disco — NO DANCE CLUB
- Mon 25 Feb - Inset Day
- Tue 26 Feb - Back to school
- Tue 5 Mar — Pancake Day Race
- Thu 7 Mar — World Book Day
- Fri 15 Mar — PTA Film night
- Thu 11 Apr — 2pm Easter church service
- Fri 12 April — Easter Bonnet parade & activities & break up for Easter
- Mon 29 April - Back to school
- Mon 6 May - School closed
- Mon 27 - Fri 31 May School closed

## Book corner



Don't forget that World Book Day is on the 7<sup>th</sup> March and we will be asking the children to dress up as their favourite book character on this day. There are some great costume ideas here - <https://www.worldbookday.com/ideas/dressing-up-gallery/> As mentioned in last week's newsletter we're also going to be holding a competition for the children to bring in a photograph of them reading in an unusual place. We would like people to send in photographs by the 1<sup>st</sup> March so that we can put them all on display in school. There will be prizes for the most unusual and creative places that people can find to read.

**Recommended read: This book has been recommended by George in RR**



Oi Cat by Kes Gray and Jim Field

This is a hilarious rhyming picture book that you will enjoy if you like rhymes, animals and funny stories. George says that the best thing about the books is when the cat sits on the dog!

## NSPCC National Safer Internet Day

Thank you to everyone that came to the meeting today. If you were not able to make the meeting we do have some NSPCC safer internet and share aware booklets in the front office reception area available, so please feel free to call in and pick up a copy. There is a really good website called "Netaware" where you can check the age range and content of apps before downloading them. Please see the attachment to the newsletter showing the different age checklists.

## Mental Health Week

The children have taken part in a range of activities this week and we look forward to a report from the children in next week's newsletter.

## Stars of the week

Kieran Thomas  
Braydon Lawrence  
Archie Hunt  
Alexander Kenny  
Adam Golder  
Scarlett Forden  
Luke Wildgoose  
Hettie Pearce  
Billy Groves  
Sophie Marshall  
Emilia Brewer  
Clayton Golding  
Alfie Burton  
Zachai Khan

### Extra funding for pupils - are you eligible?

Although every child of infant school age is entitled to free school meals, there is additional funding available for many individual pupils. Over £1300 per year can potentially be allocated to children whose parent(s) claim any of the following benefits:

Income Support

Income based Job Seekers Allowance

Income based Employment and Support Allowance

Child tax credit and no working tax credit with a household income of less than £16,190

Universal Credit

The 'Guarantee' element of State Pension Credit

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you are eligible for any of the above, please go to the Staffordshire County Council - [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmealsapplication](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmealsapplication) and complete the quick and easy online form. Your information will be checked and an immediate answer given. If the application is approved, the extra funding is allocated to school and used to directly benefit your child, either in extra teaching time or resources. As school budgets are squeezed, this extra source of funding can make a huge difference to what schools can offer their students.

Please spare a few moments to look at the online information if you think you may be eligible. The process is entirely confidential. If you have any questions, please speak to one of the Co-Heads or ask at the office. Thank you.

## Maths Shed

Following on from the Spelling Shed website we've shared with the children, we have now purchased Maths Shed which can be accessed using the same login details as your child uses for Spelling Shed. The games are designed to develop children's maths fluency and fit in with the Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFs) that the children bring home each half term. If your child needs a login or has lost their login, please see the office for a form to gain access.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

*Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer*