



Thomas Russell Infants' School

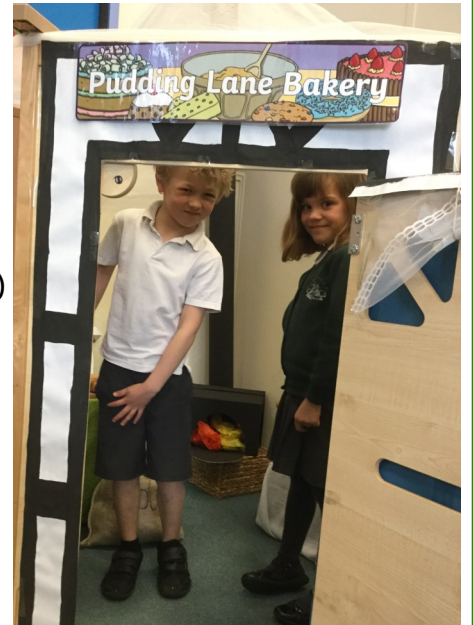
'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'

Newsletter No.22 1 March 2019



New term—new topics!

The children came back to school this week to some surprises in the classes! Reception discovered some mystery footprints (dinosaurs) and Year 1 found that a bakery (the Great Fire of London) had opened. See further on for what Year 2 have been up to...



Pancake Day!

Next week it will be Shrove Tuesday and our Year 2 children will be taking part in the village traditional pancake race along Main Street. We will be walking all the children (from Year 1 and Reception as well) from school in time for the start of the races at 11.00am. Please come along if you can to cheer them on! We will also need some volunteers to help walk the children to and from school—please let your class teacher know if you can help. Thank you.

In your book bags...

- ♦ Soccer Stars flyer
- ♦ TRISPTA Family Film Night

50/50 Winner

Congratulations to the February winner - Susie Miller number 67.

Dates for your Diary

Tue 5 Mar — Pancake Day Race

Thu 7 Mar — World Book Day

Fri 15 Mar — PTA Film night

Wed 20 Mar—Reception visit to Derby Mosque

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—May Day

Wed 8 May—Y2 visit to Tamworth Castle

Fri 17 May—Y1 visit to Twycross Zoo

Mon 27 - Fri 31 May School closed

Tue 18 June - Sports Day

Key Instant Recall Facts

A main focus in maths is for children to be able to recall number facts quickly so that they can apply them to their learning in the classroom. Being able to remember a range of facts will help them to solve number problems and develop their general fluency in maths.

In order to help the children develop these skills, we have adopted a new whole-school approach and are asking for your continued support at home.

Each half term we are sending home a KIRF (Key Instant Recall Facts) sheet which we would like you to help your child with. Each sheet will have a different focus but all are aimed at helping children to develop their mathematical confidence and fluency. The maths learning for each term will also be taught in the classroom during that half term; what you do at home will enable your child to practise and reinforce these maths skills. The maths homework for Years 1 and 2 will also focus on the KIRFs your child is learning.

All these maths skills will be taught at school as part of our daily maths lesson but your additional support at home will really make a difference. Please try to practise at least 3 times a week if you can. Just a few minutes each time is fine.

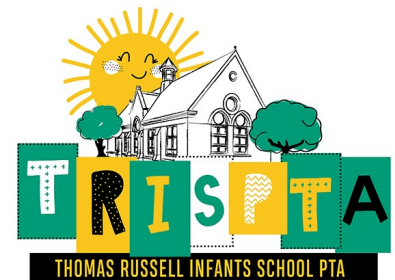
PTA NEWS

VALENTINES DISCO

A huge thank you to everyone who came to the Valentines disco before half term. We hope everyone had a great time! The children had lots of fun listening to a story with a snack, completing craft and colouring activities, watching a film and dancing in the hall!

Particular thanks to all the adult helpers who helped us set up and clear away or stayed and helped during the disco. We wouldn't be able to run these events without your help and support and it is always very much appreciated so a big thank you from us!

The event raised over £600 which will ultimately be going back to our school and children - so a huuuuuge thank you!



FILM NIGHT

We will be holding another popular family film night on the 15th March and invite you to join us with your little ones to watch a film together! The School Council chose 'Incredibles 2' to watch. Letters should be in book bags today and the deadline for returning them is **FRIDAY 8th MARCH PLEASE!**

Your ticket includes either pizza or a hot dog and a choc ice! In addition to this drinks, popcorn and sweets will be available to purchase at our tuck shop!

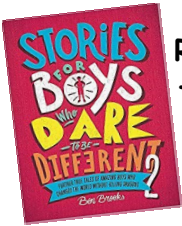
We look forward to seeing lots of you there and wish to thank you in advance for once again supporting your school PTA.

Amanda, Lauren and Tee x

Book Corner

Remember—World Book Day is on the 7th March and we will be asking the children to dress up as their favourite book character on this day. Don't forget that we'll still be going outside during the day when you plan your outfit and shoes!!

Thank you to everyone who has started to send photos in to show us the exciting places where you have been reading. Don't forget to send yours in as soon as possible.



Recommended read: 'Stories for Boys Who Dare to be Different' by Ben Brooks

This book has been recommended by Freya in 1S who says that you will be interested in the book if you like learning about different people. She thinks that the best thing about book is learning about other people's lives.

Keeping safe online

As the internet becomes more and more a part of everyday life, it is getting harder to keep track of what children are accessing. In school, it is our responsibility to ensure that the children can only access appropriate internet content, which we do through software controls to limit access and close adult supervision. We strongly urge all parents and carers to monitor all of your child's use of the internet, enable parental controls as appropriate and always be aware of what they are accessing. The information sheet we sent out earlier in the week was taken from www.nationalonlinesafety.com which is an excellent website with lots of useful information for parents and carers.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer

Absence in term time

We are really proud of the consistently high rate of attendance at our school—so far this academic year, we have an attendance rate of over 97% across the school. Consistent and uninterrupted school attendance is linked to higher attainment and ensures that children don't miss out on vital parts of the curriculum. Please can we remind you that holidays in term time cannot be authorised and may attract a penalty notice from the local authority. For full details, please see our Attendance Policy, which can be accessed via the school's website.

African Arts in Year 2

Following on from Kenya Day before half term, Year 2 have spent some fun time getting messy to create some fantastic African masks.

