



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture and challenge'

Newsletter number 7 - 18 October 2019

Dancing masterclass

Children from Year 2 had a fantastic time on Tuesday morning when we had a visit from Vijay who taught the children a traditional harvest celebration dance from the Punjab. He brought with him a traditional drum called a dhol to play, which the children (and staff!) really enjoyed. It was an energetic session that was funded by the school's Sports Premium allocation. We have also just taken delivery of some new sports resources, including a new mini basketball net and balance bikes, also paid for by this scheme.



Dates for your Diary

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| Mon 21 Oct | Pumpkin carving—see PTA section overleaf |
| Wed 23 Oct | Reception sing-along 2.45pm
1F Forest School—parents session 1.15pm-3.00pm |
| Fri 25 Oct | Halloween disco 3.15-5.00 |
| Fri 25 Oct | Break up for half-term |
| Mon 4 Nov | Back to school |
| Thu 7 Nov | Parent consultations |
| Mon 11 Nov | Parent consultations |
| Wed 13 Nov | Open day for Rec 2020 |
| Wed 13 Nov | Y2 trip to Arboretum |
| Thu 14 Nov | PTA Xmas shopping evening |
| Fri 20 Dec | 2.30 Sing-along and break |

PARKING NEAR SCHOOL

We make no apology for bringing this up again, as it is an on-going cause for concern to us. **PLEASE DO NOT** park on Station Road outside school—parking there causes traffic hold-ups, inconvenience to local residents and poses a danger to pedestrians when cars are parked up on the kerb and partially blocking the pavement, as is happening on a regular basis. We understand that the new traffic scheme planned for the spring will incorporate double yellow lines along this stretch of road, which shows that it is considered an inappropriate, potentially dangerous place to park. In the meantime, please show consideration by parking slightly further away and walking an extra couple of minutes. Thank you.

Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who came along to the harvest festival assembly on Thursday morning and contributed to the Burton YMCA Food Bank collection —we were almost running out of space to store all the bags and boxes! As ever, your generosity is much appreciated. We hope you will agree that the children sang and performed beautifully—we were very proud of them!



Stars of the week

Ted Britt William Massey
Isla Bondarenko Iliyas Zaman
Sammy Newstead Esa Khurshid
Amber Whitmore Alfie Woodings
Callum Cope Evie Cooper
Sienna Evans Logan Banks
Evie Rollins Walter Hanstock

PTA News

It is almost the end of a fabulous term and we still have some exciting events to look forward to. We would like to thank everyone who donated uniform and also brought their pennies and brought some uniform on Tuesday we made £38 for the school. We still have some left so if you are in need of anything please don't hesitate to ask, e-mail or post on the Facebook page.

Next week we have:

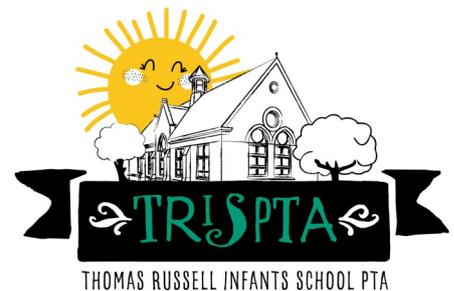
- **MONDAY 21st** -The Great Pumpkin Carve off - £1 for a child and £2 for an adult. Prizes will be given to the best carved pumpkins ☐
- **MONDAY 21st** - Yummy Halloween Sweet Cones will be on sale after school for £1, so don't forget you pennies ☐
- **FRIDAY 25th** - Spooktacular Halloween Disco - If your child is attending Please remember to send your **child's costume in with them on Friday** in a labelled bag. They will get dressed in their classrooms and bring everything home with them after the disco.

If you have any Halloween decorations you would like to donate to the PTA please can you send them in with your child on Friday and there will a box by the office to place them in.

We would also like to ask if any of you have any disco lights that we can borrow please for the Halloween disco? If you have some and will kindly lend them to us please can they be brought in on Friday and left with the office. PLEASE ENSURE THEY ARE LABELLED SO WE CAN RETURN THEM TO YOU thank you.

The PTA calendar order forms will be in book bags this week so look out for them and make sure you return any orders by 25th October please.

We hope you all have a good weekend carving those pumpkins, looking forward to seeing them on Monday.





Goodbye to Vicar Andrew

The children had their last assembly with the Rev Andrew Ridley this week, as he and his wife Carol, who has been a leader in the Barton Rainbows group, are moving away from the area at the end of the month. The children made cards to say 'thank you' for all the lovely assemblies the Rev Andrew has led for us over the past few years—we wish him and his family the best of luck for the future!

Forest School—an invitation!

As mentioned in the first newsletter of the year, we are inviting parents and other family members to join in a Forest School session with their child at the end of each term. This term, 1F have been enjoying their Wednesday afternoon sessions with Miss Rowley and we invite parents from that class to join us next Wednesday from 1.15pm to 3.00pm to learn more about what these sessions have been about. Please come dressed for action in wellies or boots and a suitable coat!

Dates for other classes are provisionally as follows:

1P—11 December

RR—12 February

2W—3 June

RM—1 April

2M—8 July

Clean and Green Team

The team has met to discuss our responsibility in school to recycle everything we can and there are plans in place for new recycling bins as a result. The team felt we should reuse as much as possible and have come up with some wonderful ideas about how you can help us. We would like to make a 'reading igloo' made from plastic milk containers, which we are sure lots of you have at home. We struggled to estimate how many we might need but think 300 would be a good start. They also thought inners of toilet rolls and kitchen rolls would make great bird feeders and planters for seeds. We agreed to make some bird feeders for the school grounds as well as using the rolls to each plant a bulb/seed after half term. So with these great ideas in mind please can you collect and bring to school:



- Plastic milk containers (washed please!)
- Toilet roll tubes
- Kitchen roll tubes

We will let you know by text when we have enough of the items, but thank you in advance!

The team also decided we shouldn't be wasting water and so put up posters in the toilets to remind everyone not to leave taps running.

Wellbeing in school

Last Thursday we embraced national mental health day throughout the day. We started the day off with running club with Year Two being active.

The whole school were set a challenge in assembly to "connect" by making a new friend and finding out their favourite colour or game at playtimes.

In the classroom there was a yoga and mindfulness session, to enhance the children's awareness of themselves and taking notice.

It was also great to share the five main objectives to positive mental health with children through discussion and activities. Which are;

1. Connect
2. Be active
3. Take notice/be aware
4. Keep Learning
5. Give - make time to help others

We were able to highlight activities that we do on a daily and weekly basis here at school.

Healthcare at home, a Burton based Charity are offering a free play event for families who may need support with activities for the children along with a free haircut and many other things. The half day takes place on Thursday 31st October in Burton. If you feel this would benefit you and your family please speak with Mrs Farmer or Mrs Burton asap and further details can be given.

WORLD
MENTAL
HEALTH
DAY



Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer