



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture and challenge'

Newsletter number 37 10 July 2020

## Parent questionnaire

We are sending out the annual parent questionnaire with this weeks' newsletter. This is a really valuable way of measuring how we are doing and getting a feel for any concerns you may have. Please complete and return to school via the post box by the school gate. Feel free to add any comments but please do give your child's name if you have a particular concern - we can't address issues if we don't have a name. Thank you.



## Sports afternoon for ALL

Our usual wonderful sports day cannot go ahead this year but we don't want our children to miss out and so whether your child is at home or at school we have a plan!!

We are holding a sports afternoon in school on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July for the children currently here and invite the children at home to join in - it will be fun!

If your child is in school next Wednesday, please make sure they are wearing suitable clothes and shoes.

If you are at home these are the activities we will be doing in school, if you could do the same at home and send us some photos and videos to [office@thomasrussell-infants.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thomasrussell-infants.staffs.sch.uk) we would love it. We will make a video collage for us all to watch and keep.

1. Sprint race - Each child to run as many laps or lengths of the garden or park as possible in 5 minutes- tell us how many you manage.
2. Hurdles - jumping over a few hurdles such as boxes, cones or other things at a safe height- tell us how many you jumped over on 5 minutes.
3. Long jump - from a standing start how far can you jump with your feet together?
4. Star jumps - How many can you do in 3 minutes?
5. Hoop Jumps - if you don't have 3 hoops can you make 3 circles on the ground using sticks, leaves, paper, markers of any sort and jump from 1 to the other and back- how many times can you do this in 3 minutes?

We hope you agree this will be a lovely way to end the term together; being active and having fun no matter where we are.

## Year 2 Leavers' Video

Mrs Newstead has been putting her editing skills to good use again and helped us to make a little video to wish our year 2 children well for September. If you would like to take a look just follow the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5XjJOugH3MQ&feature=youtu.be&safe=active>

## Weekly Challenge

Please see the attachment for the sports challenge this week.

## Water saving poster

South Staffordshire Water are running a competition for children to design a poster - see the attached flyer for full details!

## Summer Reading Challenge

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



The Summer Reading Challenge 2020 is here! This year's Challenge is called Silly Squad and is all about funny books, happiness and having a laugh! The Silly Squad is a team of animal friends who love to go on adventures and get stuck into all different kinds of funny books.

This year, the Challenge features extra special characters designed by the award-winning author and illustrator Laura Ellen Anderson, who you'll know from amazing reads like Amelia Fang and Evil Emperor Penguin!

Because of Covid-19 some things about the Challenge have changed this year...

- You can only join the Challenge online, not at the library. Join the Challenge at [www.sillysquad.org.uk](http://www.sillysquad.org.uk).
- You can decide how many books you want to read for the Challenge. They can be books you have read before or new books. Audio books and comics also count!
- There are a wide range of children's e-books, e-audio books and e-comics that can be downloaded free from the library catalogue at <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Libraries/Library-services/eLibrary/eLibrary.aspx> using your library card and PIN. If you don't have these or have lost them, you can call 0300 111 8000 and they will help you get new ones.
- From 6 July you will be able to 'order and collect' books from Burton Library. Because of social distancing rules, you can't come in and choose your own books though. Parents and carers will need to order them for you using this form <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Libraries/Children-book-sorter.aspx> or can call 0300 111 8000. The library will let you know when you can collect the books you have ordered from them.
- If you read the number of books you set for yourself, you'll be able to print a Summer Reading Challenge certificate from the website. If you don't have a printer at home then you can collect a certificate from Burton Library.
- Sorry, there won't be any activities at the library this summer but on the Silly Squad website, you can find heaps of super silly activities, quizzes, videos, games and more to keep you entertained at home! From 16 July, Staffordshire Libraries' will also be sharing lots of fun content through Facebook. This year's Challenge is open until 7 September, so there's plenty of time to take part and get silly this summer!



### End of Year News

This week we have welcomed back Mrs Smith after a break from school while on maternity leave. This has enabled us to open up a further Early Years' bubble for the last couple of weeks of term so it has been lovely to see Mrs Smith and our additional Reception children back in school.

Next week is the last week for a few of our staff members. We say a very big thank you and goodbye to:

Mrs Davies- Wort, Mrs Newstead and Miss Dunmore who have all been with us for the last year or more. We are sad that they won't be with us next year but wish them all the very best for their new adventures.

### September Opening Information

Hopefully everybody has now read the information regarding the details of our opening in September. We will be reviewing everything regularly and keeping parents informed of any ongoing changes. A few things we would like to specifically remind parents about are:

- Please ensure only one adult is bringing and collecting your child / children to and from school to limit the number of people on the school site.
- Please do not congregate on school grounds or outside the school gate in order to chat to friends – ensure families can get in and around school safely
- Please ensure you are parking courteously and safely around school; not blocking driveways or parking on bends which makes it dangerous for other vehicles and pedestrians.
- Ensure the dropped kerb opposite school is kept clear for pedestrians crossing.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

*Mrs S Burton and Mrs L Farmer*