



Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture and challenge'

Newsletter number 27 21.04.2023

Welcome back!

It was lovely to welcome everyone back to school after the Easter break. The children (and staff!) all looked well rested and we have enjoyed hearing about the adventures that the children have had. Over the Easter break the roofers finished the work on our bell tower and removed the scaffolding. The work was paid for by JT MAT to ensure our school premises are well maintained and we were really pleased with the work that took place.

After a long wait, we finally had new hall curtains hung during the holidays. This was to complete the first phase of our hall refurbishment and again funded by JT MAT. When you next attend a school event in the hall you will have to admire how smart they make it look—we all felt like we'd walked into a different school when we arrived on Monday morning.

On Wednesday Mrs Burton spent the day with Mrs Farmer who is the primary school improvement lead for JT MAT. They observed lessons, talked to staff and children, and looked through the school improvement plan. Mrs Farmer (who was the previous Co-Headteacher for people who don't know her) was delighted to be back. She said that she had a lovely day and it was a pleasure to see how hard everyone had been working to continue on the school improvement journey.

Don't forget to have a look at the JT MAT Design and Technology activity on the next page. It would be lovely to send some entries from our school.

King's Coronation

Tonight you will be receiving information about the Lawn Party that the PTA are planning to mark the King's Coronation. We hope that it will be an enjoyable afternoon for everyone—keep your fingers crossed for good weather. We have tried to outline the arrangements for the afternoon below, but as we are still in the planning stages some of the finer details may change.

On the afternoon, the school gates will open at 1.45pm to allow everyone to find a space to set up their picnic blanket. At 2pm the Year 2 country dancers will perform and the whole school will sing. You are then welcome to enjoy the PTA activities with your child.

We will take the children back to the classroom at 3.15pm to dismiss them in the usual way but the gates will be open until 5.00pm if you would like to stay and carry on enjoying the activities. Older children are welcome to come along and join in when they have finished school.

If you are unable to come along then please don't worry—children will be able to join in the event with their class teacher and we will make sure that they have some refreshments during the afternoon.

The children are welcome to come in non-uniform on the day—they might want to dress up as a king or a queen, or to wear red, white and blue!

We are really hoping that it will be a lovely event that will help the children remember the Coronation.



Reminder—Get your DT thinking caps on and become a designer of the future!

As part of JTMAT Design Technology subject excellence, an exciting competition has been launched, giving your child the opportunity to get creative and design a product to 'make the world a better place', judged by the London Spy Studios Design Company. This idea can be as weird and wonderful as they wish, let your child's minds get creative!

Take a look at some of the examples below of 'blue sky thinking' products.

The can opener has been designed to help people with arthritis, it allows them to go about simple daily tasks like opening a can with ease. They would not be able to do this without this product being designed. [Weblink](#).



No power, no problem. Pull the cord. Generate electricity. Never run out of power. NowLight turns your effort into electricity. A minute of pulling will generate up to 2 hours of light or enough power for a 15-minute phone call. NowLight can also be charged from USB power sources or using a solar panel. [Weblink](#).



Adiff. A "jacket that can turn into a tent" (a.k.a. the trench & bomber), one of our first solution-based items designed to provide assistance to homeless and refugee populations. [Weblink](#).



Biscuit Pocket: The Cup That Holds Your Cookies. Perfect place to keep your biscuits safe and makes it easier to carry your cup of tea and biscuits to the sofa where you can relax.



Products can be drawn, modelled from junk, Lego or any other materials. All your child needs to do is submit their entry to tri-office@tri.jtmat.co.uk by Friday 12th May 2023.

Entries need to be on an A4 PowerPoint Slide saved as a PDF with your full name and school as the file name e.g. joe.smith_ThomasRussellInfantsSchool.

Make sure you answer the 3 questions fully. No more than 100 words per question.

- Who does your product help?
- How does it help them?
- Why is the product needed?

Include a visual representation of your idea (Maximum 3 images). These could be drawings or photographs of 3D models that you have made.

Have fun getting creative! Let your minds run wild!

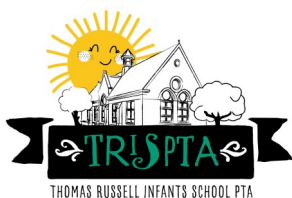
Book Recommendation

This week's book review comes from Hugo. He has recommended Daisy and the Trouble with Maggots by Kes Gray. Hugo says that he loved the story about Daisy going fishing for the first time with Uncle Clive. His favourite part was where Daisy catapulted maggots into Jack Beechwhistles and Harry Bayliss's canoe! They wriggled into their life jackets and then pants!

It sounds like this was a very funny story that would provide you with lots of laugh out loud moments, thank you Hugo.



PTA News



We are so excited to be hosting our Lawn Party to celebrate the Kings Coronation. This will take place on Friday 5th May at 2pm for some family fun on the field. Please bring along your picnic blankets and if anyone has some spare bunting or royal props please bring this along. This event has been kindly supported by The Boathouse and

Silver Tree Bakery so please get ordering your delicious scones! Pre order forms will be placed in the children's book bags.

The Easter Bonnet was a great success. Your kind donations raised £400, which will go back into supporting the school to enhance our children's learning experiences. This, alongside our previous fundraisers, contribute to improvements to the outdoor forest school, installing interactive white boards and also special days out for the children. Our goal, at the PTA, is to not only support the school, whilst our children are currently at TRIS, but to leave behind something beneficial for others to enjoy when our children move on.

Thanks for all your support.

The PTA





Stars of the week



- RT - Nancy for always working so hard!
- RT - Dexter for excellent independent work
- RC - Alyssa for an amazing 'wanted' poster in literacy
- RC - Isla for super work on teen numbers
- 1L - Josie for being brave and trying new things
- 1L - Woody for creating a super melody in Music
- 1RS - Arthur for writing a fantastic thought bubble for Cyril
- 1RS - Freddie for excellent ball skills in PE
- 2MS - Georgie for an excellent newspaper report about 'the thing'
- 2MS - Isaac for excellent reasoning in Maths
- 2W - Toby for a super prediction as to what our whole class reading book was about
- 2W - Leo for showing fantastic knowledge when beginning to compare Barton with Nairobi



Dates for your Diary

Lunch menu from Monday 24th of April is Week 3

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| Thu 27 Apr - Y1 trip to Twycross Zoo | Thu 8 June - Sports Day 1pm |
| Mon 1 May - Bank holiday | Thu 22 June - Reserve Sports Day 1pm |
| Fri 5 May—Non uniform day—dress in red, white and blue! | Thu 29 June - Y2 visit to Tamworth Castle |
| Fri 5 May - Coronation Celebrations , singing and country dancing from 2pm | Fri 7 July - Inset Day School closed to children (Staff JTMAT Training Day) |
| Mon 8 May - Bank holiday | Tue 11 July - Y2 music performance pm |
| Wed 24 May - Reception parents Forest school | Wed 19 July - Y2 Leavers assembly to parents |
| Thu 25 May—Break up for half term | Thu 20 July - Leavers party |
| Fri 26 May - Inset Day school closed to children | Fri 21st July - Last Day of term |
| Mon 5 Jun—Back to school | |

Have an enjoyable weekend

Mrs Burton and Mrs Moore