



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture and challenge'

Newsletter number 28 03.05.2024

## Barton and Dunstall Key Trust

We have been very fortunate to have been given a very generous donation from the Barton and Dunstall Key Trust. As you know, our Reception children play outside in all weathers but the muddy area was causing a lot of issues for us so we are delighted to have been able to replace it with an all weather surface. As you can see the children certainly think it's a big hit!

The donation has also enabled us to buy sensory equipment for each classroom and some planters for the quad area (outside the Co-Headteachers office). We're looking forward to planting these up with some scented plants and herbs over the coming weeks.

We would like to give a big thank you to the Key Trust for this donation and for their support.



## Forest school



At last it was a very sunny Forest School this week! The children were practicing knots and building a tarpaulin shelter and a zip wire for the woodland friends! In geography 2W had been comparing houses in Barton with houses in Nairobi, some children decided to try and recreate a traditional mud hut.

## Uniform Expectations

Please could we remind all parents that on PE days only school jumpers or cardigans or tops in the team colour should be worn to school. Cropped t-shirts are not suitable for PE or Forest School. Could we also please ask that fancy hair accessories are not worn to school. Accessories in school colours or simple headbands or bobbles are acceptable. Hopefully, we are now heading into the warmer months so children can wear grey school shorts or green and white school dresses if they so choose. Sensible sandals are acceptable, but we would suggest these are worn with socks for comfort.

## Warmer weather

As the weather promises to get better over the coming week or so, please can we ask that you apply sun cream before your child comes to school when sunny days are forecast. Please also ensure that your child has a named water bottle and sun hat in school.

If your child needs to reapply cream during the day then they can keep a tube/bottle in their tray, but please note that staff are not permitted to put cream on for them.

We make as much use of our field as possible when the weather allows and we will always keep an eye on weather conditions and restrict time outside in the sun as the temperature rises.

As we all know, living in the UK we can experience all weathers in one day so please could children still bring a rain coat to school for showery weather.



## The JTMAT Exceptional Achievement Award

The JTMAT Exceptional Achievement Award can be nominated for at any point in the academic year, based on the following criteria:-

Primary
County, National or International status in any given activity in the last 18 months
Grade 1 at KS1 or Grade 3 plus level in music or singing at KS2. Performing in televised programme/ film or National stage production
Fundraising for a charity over £2000
Success in overcoming adversity



Parents, carers and staff can all make a nomination using the above criteria. If you would like a nomination form or more information then please speak to Mrs Moore or Mrs Burton. If successful, pupils will be given a very special gold pin badge award and certificate of exceptional achievement.

We very much look forward to seeing our school community embrace this opportunity and celebrate those who achieve the award.

## JTMAT Subject Excellence

We are delighted to announce that Aemilia in Year 2 is the overall winner of the JTMAT Subject Excellence Business project. This is actually the second subject excellent award that Aemilia has won—last year she won the science subject excellence project!

This afternoon Jon Newbold from Hawkins Logistics will be coming to our achievement assembly to present Aemilia with her award. Jon was the judge for the award. We'll have some photos in next week's newsletter.

Well done to Hugo and Ben in Year 2 who were runners up in the Business project.

## Recommended Reads

Our recommendation this week is from Mrs Garratt. The book is I am Oliver the Otter by Pam Ayres.



I love books about animals and nature. This book is interesting as it has information about different types of otters and the environment they live in. I love the idea of being a mud detective and spotting animal footprints on the river bank.

You can listen to the book being read at

[https://youtu.be/Ij\\_KGMsym4g?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/Ij_KGMsym4g?feature=shared)

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Can Learn from the OFCOM MEDIA REPORT 2024

Each year, Ofcom - the UK's regulatory body for communications - produces an overview of children and parents' media experiences over the course of the previous year. At the time of writing, the latest of these reports, 'Children and parents: media use and attitudes 2024' has just been published, and we've plucked out some of its most thought-provoking findings regarding online safety.

## ONLINE LIVES



## SCREEN TIME

By children's age group, the percentage of parents who felt less able to manage their child's screentime were ...



## POPULAR PLATFORMS

Most used by children ...

Under-12s

Over-12s



## ONLINE GAMING

**68%** of children played video games online

Who did these children most commonly play with?



## PARENTAL CONCERNS

The things that most commonly worry parents and carers about their child being online include ...



## ONLINE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS



## DEVICES MOST USED TO GO ONLINE



#WakeUpWednesday

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### Achievements from home

Well done to Henry in 1L who ran his personal best time of 11 minutes and 17 seconds at Junior Park Run, beating his previous best time by 50 seconds. He's going to keep running on Sundays to try and better this time and earn his marathon wristband next. We'll look forward to him bringing this into school to share with us.

Please don't forget that we are always keen to share the children's achievements from outside of school in our Friday afternoon assembly.

### Country dancing and whole school singing

Next Friday afternoon the whole school will be singing while the country dancers perform for everyone. We will open the gates at 2.20pm with the children starting to perform at 2.30pm. After we have finished children will be dismissed from their classes in the normal way. Unfortunately, if the weather isn't on our side then we will need to cancel the event but we will let you know as soon as we can on Friday morning. Fingers crossed for sunshine!

### Barton Rovers FC



### Girls Football

~ Exciting Opportunity to play Girls Football ~

Are you looking for a new activity or already interested in Football and looking for a local, friendly club?

If you are in School years 3 or 4, this opportunity could be for you!

Spaces now available in the U9's team!

Free taster sessions for you to try

**Plus, other age group opportunities**

**for years 1 to 11**

For more information, please contact Claire: [girls.brffc@gmail.com](mailto:girls.brffc@gmail.com) or 07814-469858.

### Stars of the week

**RC** - Matthew for persevering with putting finger spaces in his writing


**1L** Leo for persevering with sewing in DT

**1L** - Isla - Grace for persevering with sewing in DT

**2W** - Hugo for showing fantastic perseverance during Forest School

**2W** - Ted for showing fantastic perseverance during Forest School

**2MS** - Iga for perseverance in writing and building your writing stamina. Well done.



Dates for your Diary

*Lunch menu from Tuesday 7th May will be Week 3*

**Mon 6th May** - Bank holiday

**Fri 10 May** - Country dancing and whole school singing to parents 2.30pm

**Thurs 23 May** - 1SB parents invited to forest school 1.30pm

**Thurs 23 May** - Crazy hair day (bottle donations for Summer fair tombola) and after school tuck shop

**Fri 24 May** - Inset Day school closed to pupils

**Mon 27 May - Fri 31st May** - Half term (school closed)

**Tues 4 June** - 2MS parents invited to forest school 1.30pm

**Thurs 6 June** - 1L parents invited to forest school 1.30pm

**Wed 12 June** - Sports Day & Summer Fair

**Wed 26 June** - Reserve Sports day

**Fri 5 July** - Inset Day - JTMAT Staff Training Day (school closed to pupils)

**Wed 17 July** - Year 2 leavers assembly to parents 2.00pm

**Thurs 18 July** - Year 2 leavers party 3.15-5.00pm

**Fri 19 July** - School closes last day of term

*Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend*

*Mrs Burton and Mrs Moore*