



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture and challenge'

Newsletter number 07 20.10.2023

## Harvest Assembly

On Monday- Rev Andy from St James' Church will be coming in to school to hold a harvest assembly for our children in school.

As we have done in the past, we would like to collect food to donate to Burton Hope. Burton Hope is a local charity helping families and individuals in Burton and the surrounding area with food parcels. With the current cost of living crisis, their services are in unprecedented demand. Donations of tinned or packed foods would be very gratefully received (nothing fresh please). Any contributions can be brought into school next week.

You can find out more information about Burton Hope at <https://www.burtonhope.co.uk/>

Thank you for your support.



## Halloween Disco

On Friday 27th October it is the PTA Halloween Disco after school for children who have booked a place. All children (whether they are attending the disco or not) are able to come to school in their Halloween costume on the day—we ask for no masks or scary face paints please.

The disco will finish at 5pm—please can we ask you to be patient while we dismiss the children because it does take a bit longer after the event to do this safely.

Thank you!



## Raising awareness

Jacob in Year 1 and his family would like to share some information with everyone to raise awareness of achondroplasia. Your child may have talked to you about Jacob's condition after a recent assembly where we explained more to them. Please see the attached information sheet to find out more.

## Open day

It was lovely to welcome so many families to our open day on Wednesday. There were lots of familiar faces as well as lots of new ones! If you know anyone who is considering a school place for their child in September then please ask them to give the office a ring to arrange a tour.

## Reception's visit to Packington Farm

RC had a wonderful time down on the farm yesterday, learning all about the different animals and crops that grow there. Despite being a very muddy day the children loved learning all about where their food comes from. Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to join the trip.



## PTA news

Friday 20th PM/Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> PM: Halloween costume swap shop at drop-off



Incentive to swap Halloween costumes within our community to reduce waste/get different sizes etc. Please drop off in advance clean, decent fancy dress or bring along on the day. The success of this will be down to how many people donate/swap within our school community.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October

- Halloween disco 3.15-5pm
- Fancy Dress costume (**no scary masks or face paint please**)
- Pumpkin carving contest £1 entry; leave your pumpkin creations on the top playground (in your allocated class location). One prize per class (Colour Changing Cup donated by Starbucks)

### Half-term fun

There is a Halloween trail around the village throughout half term. There will be posters in the windows of local businesses for children to discover. If the children find all of the clues it will create a spooky phrase. This will give everyone a great opportunity to get out and about in the village during the holidays and it costs nothing! A map of the trail and details will be sent out next week. Happy spooking!!!



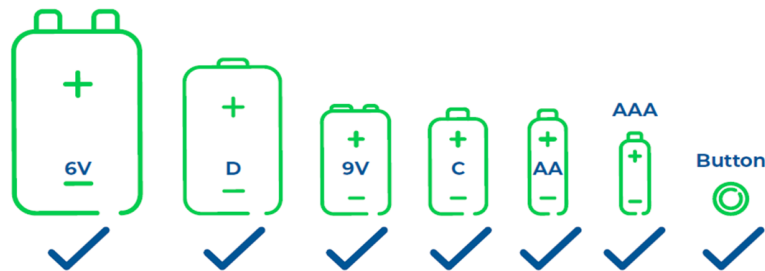
## Eco Team News

Our battery recycling box is now full! Thank you to everyone who has recycled their batteries at school. Valpak, a waste-management company, will be collecting and safely recycling the batteries.

We now have a new battery box to fill! Please could old batteries be placed in the box by grown-ups. The box is still located in the main entrance. Don't forget that we still recycle ink cartridges too.



Batteries cannot be disposed of with normal household waste as they contain harmful heavy metals that are toxic to the environment and human health. Car batteries, industrial batteries and batteries with connecting wires cannot be accepted at our recycling point. Damaged or leaking batteries cannot be accepted. Where possible, lithium batteries should have their terminals taped over. Thank you.



## Naming clothes

Could we plead with everyone to make sure that their child's name is on any and every item of clothing or footwear (and water bottles) that they bring to school. We have already collected a large pile of lost property that isn't named and as you can imagine, one unnamed green jumper looks very much like another! Thank you.

## Message from Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service

The Fire & Rescue Service are seeking community views via a survey (link below) about the Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Safety Plan, as they want to get the views of as many people as possible. Any members of the community completing the survey will be included in a prize draw to win a £100 Amazon voucher. The survey will run until 26 November; [click here to complete the survey](#).





SAY NO  
TO NEW



SHOWER  
POWER



CH THE  
RIVE

WE'RE TAKING PART IN

# CUT YOUR CARBON



VEGGIE  
VIBE



PASS  
ME ON

Throughout November, we're challenging pupils to complete 9 small carbon-cutting activities at home. These actions will reduce your emissions and benefit our planet.

To find out how you can get involved, speak to a member of the school's Eco-Committee or scan the QR code below.



DROP IT LIKE



YOUR  
LEFTOVERS

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW.

IT'S TIME TO  
CUT YOUR CARBON!





### Stars of the week



2W— Holly, Josie, Riley & Frankie for fantastic co-operation when playing in the mud kitchen during Forest School



### Dates for your Diary

*Lunch menu from Monday 23rd October will be Week 2*

**Mon 23rd Oct**—1SB parent session 2.15pm

**Tue 24th Oct** - RT to Packington Farm

**Tue 24th Oct**—2W parents forest school session 1.30pm

**Wed 25th Oct**—1L parent session 2.15pm

**Thurs 26th Oct**—2MS parent session 2.15pm

**Fri 27th Oct** - School closes for half term.  
PTA Halloween Disco 3.15-5pm

**Mon 6th Nov** - Inset day.

**Tue 7th Nov** - School reopens.

**Thu 16th Nov** - Y2 trip to the NMA

**Fri 17th Nov** - Children in Need non -uniform day

**Wed 29th Nov**- Pantomime in school

**Thur 30th Nov**—PTA wreath making workshop

**Fri 1st Dec**—PTA Non uniform day—bottle donation

**Thurs 7th Dec**—PTA Christmas Fair

**Fri 8th Dec** - Christmas jumper day

**Wed 13th Dec** - Reception Christmas play to parents 2.00pm

**Thu 14th Dec** - Y2 Christmas play to parents 2.00pm

**Mon 18th Dec** - Y2 Music performance to parents 1.30pm & 2.10pm

**Tue 19th Dec** - JTMAT Christmas concert

**Wed 20th Dec** - Y1 Christmas play to parents 2.00pm

**Thu 21st Dec** - Christmas lunch

**Fri 22nd Dec** - Last day of term

**Mon 8th Jan** - Back to school first day of term

### And finally

After over 13 years, next Thursday will be Mrs Shorten's last day as our office manager. We will all be incredibly sad to see her leave us. Although she always likes to go unnoticed, we have never underestimated just what an important role she has played keeping our school safe and running smoothly. We have already welcomed Mrs Crowden to the team, as our new office manager, and she has been working alongside Mrs Shorten this half term. We would like to wish Mrs Shorten lots of happiness with the new adventures she is going to be enjoying.

*We hope you have a lovely weekend*

*Mrs Burton and Mrs Moore*