



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

'Our children blossom through nurture and challenge'

Newsletter number 09 17.10.2023

## Year 2 Trip The National Memorial Arboretum

Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the National Memorial Arboretum yesterday as part of their history topic about Remembrance. The children found out a lot of new information to support their learning. Thank you to all of the volunteers who joined the trip to support the staff.



## Road Safety- Parking Outside School

We are aware that the roads around school can get very congested in the mornings and parking is very difficult for people who do need to drive to school. Unfortunately, with 3 schools in Barton drop off and collection times are always going to be very busy.

Wherever possible, we always encourage our parents to walk or to park a little bit further away and walk the last part of their journey. We know many of our families do this and we appreciate them doing so. We also know with the colder morning and gloomy days, it is much more tempting to drive to school rather than walk.

Where you have no alternative to driving, we would ask you to park considerately, being mindful of pedestrians and local residents.

We do have parents who have been given special permission to park in front of our school gates while they drop off but if this doesn't apply to you then please do not park there.

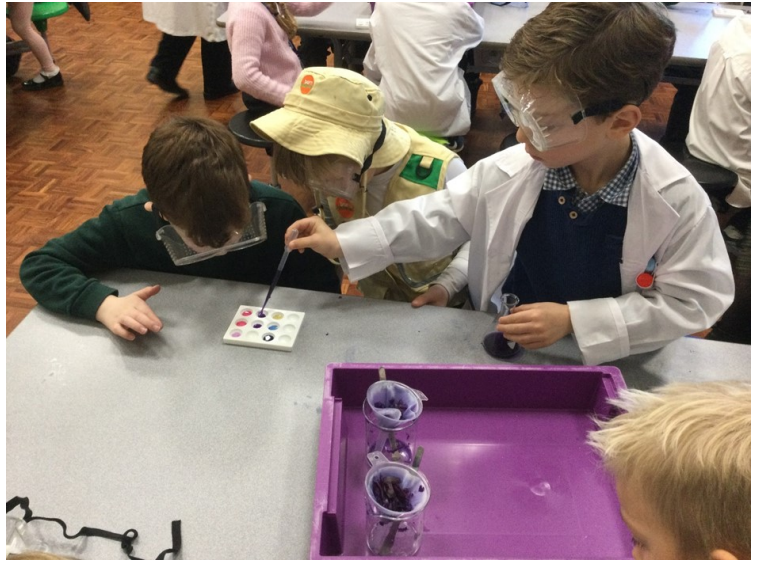
**If your child attends Badgers can we please ask that you do not use the staff carpark to drop off in the morning or pick up at the end of the day. With the darker evenings we are concerned for the safety of children who are leaving Badgers and cars entering and exiting the carpark.**

## Year 2 Science Day

On Wednesday Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic Science day led by Mrs Jelley - a Science teacher from John Taylor Free School. There was lots of awe and wonder in the hall as the children carried out a range of different experiments dressed up as lots of different scientists!

We would like to thank Mrs Jelley and Mrs Locker, her technician who came to school for the day and inspired our children.





## Children in Need - SPOTACULAR!

Thank you to everyone who bought in a donation to this fantastic cause - together we raised £265.40! The children looked amazing in their spotty outfits!



## PTA News

Embrace the Spirit of Giving: Bottle Donation for the Christmas Fair bottle tombola!

We're seeking your support to contribute bottles of all kinds - from alcoholic drinks to bubble bath, and everything in between! Your generous donations will form the heart of one of our most popular stalls amongst parents.

To sweeten the deal, we're introducing a Non-Uniform Day on December 1st. In exchange for your bottle donation, pupils are invited to swap their uniforms for their favourite festive attire.

Please drop bottles at classroom drop off areas- there will be designated bottle baskets. If your child is at Badgers there will be a basket in reception.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and enthusiasm.

Thank you

From Thomas Russell Infants' School P.T.A.

Becky, Gemma, Hardeep, Kirsty, Lily, Mae, Rachael and Sarah



## The importance of regular eye tests

We would like to remind parents of the importance of taking children for regular eye tests. Eye tests for children are very important to ensure your child's eyes are healthy and that they have no vision problems that could interfere with school performance or potentially affect their health.

Eye tests are no longer routinely carried out in schools like they used to be.

Early eye tests are also important because children need the following visual skills that are essential for optimal learning:

- Not straining to see the whiteboard or teacher.
- Accurate eye movement skills
- Accurate and comfortable focusing skills
- Excellent visual clarity at a distance

Remember that appropriate vision testing at an early age is vital to ensure your child has the visual skills they need to perform well in school.

A child who is unable to see print or view a whiteboard can become easily frustrated, leading to poor academic performance.

Some vision problems, such as lazy eye, are best treated if they are detected and corrected as early as possible while the child's vision system is still developing.



### Stars of the week

RT - Zara for growing in confidence in phonics!

RC - Connie for confidently overcoming your worries

RC- Oscar for confidently using new vocabulary in maths

1SB - Max for having the confidence to write independently in English

1SB - Sophia for growing in confidence when working independently

1SB - Jacob for growing in confidence during class discussions

2MS - Ben for confidence asking and answering questions on our trip to the National Memorial Arboretum



### Dates for your Diary

*Lunch menu from Monday 20th November will be Week 2*

**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

### Reminder

All Year 2 children should have had a letter recently from admissions at Stafford County Council. Please apply online for your child's place at Junior Schools. We have been asked by SCC to send a reminder. Thank you.



*Have a lovely weekend*

*Mrs Burton and Mrs Moore*