**Issue 15**

**February 2017**

**Website**

The address of our website is: [www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk](http://www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk) and includes a calendar and blog. It is constantly being updated so keep an eye on it for up to date information. For any questions, please speak to Anna or Yasmin in the office or to the relevant teacher.

**Absence**

For your convenience, we have set up a new e-mail address specifically for absence. If your child is away, you can now e-mail with all the relevant details to:

[absent@academy.thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:absent@academy.thomas-s.co.uk)

**Parents in the building**

Keeping children safe is of upmost importance to us. We have many systems in place to ensure that children are safe at all times. For that reason, we cannot let parents wait in the building for their children to finish their after-school clubs.

**Year 1**

We are pleased to welcome a new teacher to our team: Ms Austin. Ms Austin is very excited to meet and teach Y1 after half term. Two trips have been organised so lots to look forward to.

**Safer Internet Day**

On 7th February, pupils will learn about online safety. If you have any concerns about this area, please speak to Mr Winsloe or take a look at some of the many websites that offer support such as: [www.commonsensemedia.org](http://www.commonsensemedia.org)

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

**500 Words Competition**

We are so pleased with the response to this competition. Congratulations to all the pupils that have entered already. The closing date for this is **23rd February**. Remember 50 entries means a whole school celebration! For more information, please go to the BBC website: [www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1)

**Bikeworks Year 4 - 6**

Bikeworks are here this week increasing our pupil’s cycling fluency on the roads! As well as giving pupils’ bikes an up to date safety check, pupils will be taught the skills to ensure they stay safe on the roads. Pupils will spend the first few days of the training on the school playground learning new cycling proficiency skills. As pupils become more confident, qualified trainers from Bikeworks will be taking pupils out onto the quieter roads surrounding Thomas’s Academy to see their skills in action! Have a look on the Thomas's Academy blog to see how we got on!

**Y5 / Y6 Residential Trip**

**Wildchild Adventure**

**22nd March**

For those parents whose children are attending this trip, you are invited to a meeting on **7th February at 3.15pm** where you can find out more. You will be provided with a kit list, find out about activities that will be happening, and be given the opportunity to ask questions. Please be reminded that full payment for the trip is due by Friday 3rd February.

**Science Week**

Week beginning 6th February is an enrichment week. The theme is 'Science' and we will be celebrating the wide variety of scientific processes that can take place in our own homes. We want the children to see the awe and wonder of the world and how accessible science is out of school as well as in school. This weekend, all children will receive a card detailing an experiment that children can conduct with family at home - see the 'science week' letter for more details. We will have visitors to the school on this week and some classes will be on outings all related to their scientific learning in school. It should be a fun week!

**Humanism**

On 21st and 22nd February, all pupils will be learning about and from this religion. This religion promotes a positive attitude to the world, centred on human experience, thought and hopes. For any questions, please speak to Mrs James.

**TAPs**

**(Thomas’s Academy Parents)**

Thank you to all the parents who are helping to organise this terms events including cake sales, Movie Magic sessions and an Easter Egg Raffle. Please ask in the office if you require more information on these events or you would like help. Please come along to the next meeting on Thursday 21st March at 9am to discuss and get involved with the Summer Fair – there will be lots to do to make this a success.

**Year 4 Art Buddies**

Year 4 pupils met their art buddies from Thomas’s Clapham last term. They created amazing collages in the style of the famous artist Matisse which are on display around the building. Their next session is on 27th February.

**World Book Day**

The National celebration of books is on 2nd March. All children are invited to dress up as a book character on this day. They will also receive a £1.00 book voucher.

**After School Care**

Our Aktiva After-School club is open form 3:15pm-6pm every day on the school premises. Children attending this are having a great time. This childcare provision is available to all children from Reception upwards and can be used for regular days each week or for 'one-off' care when it is needed. Please contact Anna at the school office if you would like more information.

**School Meals**

If you think you may be entitled to free school meals – even if you choose to eat a packed lunch, please speak to Anna/Yasmin in the office.

**E-Mail Addresses**

We are increasingly sending communication to parents by e-mail. If you haven’t already done so, please provide your email address to the school office.

**Uniform**

Pupils look so smart when dressed in the school uniform. We request your support to ensure uniform standards do not slip. Pupils are expected to dress in full school uniform at all times. This includes T shirts, jumpers and cardigans with the school logo plus **school shoes**. Black trainers and boots are not part of the school uniform. On very wet/cold days, pupils may wear boots to school but then change into shoes once they arrive. In years 3 – 6, school bags are also part of the uniform rather than children’s own rucksacks. Please ensure all items have your child’s name in so they can be returned if found.

A letter will follow shortly containing **new information about school coats**.

**PE Kit**

Please can you ensure that your child is wearing correct PE kit for lessons (years 1 – 6).

The correct kit is **a house coloured top with the logo TA on** and **grey tracksuit bottoms also with TA on the leg**, dark blue shorts are also acceptable.

Children are encouraged to wear sports trainers as these are more comfortable than plimsolls. Black school shoes are not appropriate for PE lessons.

Please do not encourage your child to wear their tights, they will be asked to remove them for hygiene reasons so please pack socks in the PE bag.

If your child does not own the correct PE kit please make arrangements to get it.

**February Dates**

2nd: Year 5 class assembly

2nd: Outside Chance – Year 6

3rd: Cake Sale EY, Y5, Y6 (TAPs)

6th: Science Week

7th: Y2 - Science Museum

7th: Residential Trip Meeting

7th: Safer Internet Day

**13th-17th: Half Term**

20th: INSET Day

23rd: Y6 – Fulham Cross School

24th: Y2 – History Museum

24th: Y1 – V&A Museum

27th: Y4 Art Buddies session

**March Dates *(subject to change)***

2nd: World Book Day

3rd: Cake Sale Y1, 2, 3, 4 (TAPs)

3rd: Nurse visiting Reception

6th: Parents Evening Y1-6

7th: Y1 – Woodland Adventure

9th: Movie Magic (TAPs)

13th: Readers Cup – Y5, Y6

14th: Y4 – Wetlands Centre

14th: Fire Brigade Y2, Y5

16th: Debating Club – Houses of Parliament

21st: TAPs Meeting

22nd: Y5, Y6 Residential Trip

22nd: WE Day Y5,Y6

23rd: Road Safety Show Y1,2

24th: Red Nose Day

27th: Oracy Week

28th: MEND parents workshop

30th: Easter Egg Raffle (TAPs)

**31st: End of Term – 2pm Finish**