

## **Issue 25** **January 2018**

### **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 frequently being updated so keep an eye on it for up to date information.

### **Twitter**

You can now follow us on Twitter. Look up '@ThomassAcademy' to receive regular updates about what is going on.

### **Glass Door Charity**

We had a lovely thank-you card from this charity. It read:  
Dear Miss Austin and everyone at Thomas's Academy,  
We are so grateful for your partnership and support. Together we are bringing shelter and hope to men and women who come to Glass Door in crisis. Warm wishes,  
Becky, on behalf of Glass Door

### **More Thank-yous**

The Winter Discos were organised and led by the parents (and DJ Mr Chester). Thank you for the time spent doing this. The pupils really enjoyed themselves. Thank you also to the parents who gathered raffle prizes. We made an astonishing £763.00! This money will be spent on improvements to the playground. The final thank-you is for your contributions to Save the Children by donating on Christmas Jumper Day. £110.00 was donated in total.

### **Reading at Home**

As well as children reading at home, there is significant research around reading to children. Research has found that reading storybooks to children is one of the most important activities for developing the knowledge required for eventual success in reading. Parental reading to children increases the child's reading and other cognitive skills at least up to the age of 10–11. This is an early-life intervention that seems to be beneficial for the rest of their lives. Pupils are allowed to take home a book for pleasure from our library which can be read to children. If you need any advice about books to read, please speak to your child's teacher. Happy reading.

### **Music Courses**

The Tri-borough Music Hub is delighted to announce their half term holiday Music courses, taking place between Tuesday 13-Thursday 15 February 2018. It will include two new ensembles; a Junior String Ensemble and a Junior Wind and Brass Band suitable for children aged 6+ who have been learning their instrument for about 1 year and are grade 1-4 standard.

### **Upbeat**

Upbeat is about having fun whilst making music. They run sessions at Thomas's Academy on Saturday mornings. Pupils at Thomas's Academy are given a 10% discount. If you are interested in your child joining, contact Max on: [upbeatmusic@btinternet.com](mailto:upbeatmusic@btinternet.com)

### **Uniform**

Please ensure that pupils have all of the obligatory school uniform items including the school coat. If your child is wearing a hat, it should be a school one available in Sogans. Pupils in years 4 – 6 also need a Thomas's Academy school bag. Please also label all items so they can be returned to their owner if lost.

Congratulations to Y2 who now have 100% of the class wearing the correct school coat. Y4 are a close second with 92% and Y5 in third place with 85%. Letter have been sent out today to all families who still need to purchase the correct school uniform.

### **Lunches**

If you wish your child to change to or from school dinners, please let the office know in advance. We request that this is only done at the end of a half-term. Packed lunches should be healthy; a small treat is permitted on Fridays.

### **Updated information**

Please remember to let the office know if you change any details such as your phone number. We are increasingly using e-mail as a form of communication so please let the office know your email address if you haven't already.

### **January Dates**

2<sup>nd</sup>: INSET  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Pupils return to school  
8<sup>th</sup>: After-school clubs begin  
22<sup>nd</sup>: (all week) Bikeworks workshops Y5/6  
5<sup>th</sup>: Young Voices Choir at the 02



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5<sup>th</sup>: Science Enrichment Week

8<sup>th</sup>: Parents Meetings (Y1-6)

12<sup>th</sup>: Half Term