



Newsletter

March 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

First of all, I would like to thank you for your patience last week with the snow. The decision as to whether to close the school or not is never an easy one to make but we always have to think about the safety of not only the children but for the staff, especially as so many of them travel long distances to get here each day.

As you can see from the dates opposite, we have decided to rearrange our World Book Day to this Thursday as I know so many of you have spent time and money in getting costumes for your children and it would be a shame for these to go to waste.

Finally, this will be the last Newsletter to come from me as I will be moving on to Harrogate in April so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support over the eleven years I have been at John T. Rice. I will miss the school and its community very much.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Zoe Anderson
Head Teacher

Contact Details

As we have seen in the past week, it is vital that we have the correct contact details for you so that we can get in touch in an emergency or send out important information. If you did not receive the messages regarding snow last week it could be because we don't have the most up to date number for you. Please can you let the office know asap.

Website

This is a reminder that our school website is www.johntrice.notts.sch.uk. There are always copies of the newsletters on there as well as other information and important dates. Each class also has their own page on the website where you can see what has been going on in school.

Diary Dates

8 th Mar	World Book Day (rearranged)
9 th Mar	Red Class to visit Allotment
16 th Mar	Green Class to visit Allotment
20 th Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews
20 th Mar	Book People Book Fair
22 nd Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews
22 nd Mar	Book People Book Fair
23 rd Mar	Pink Class to visit Allotment
23 rd Mar	Sports Relief
26 th Mar	KS1 visit to Bolsover Castle
27 th Mar	Easter Fundraiser
29 th Mar	Break up for Easter
16 th Apr	Children back to school
20 th Apr	Purple Class to visit Allotment
27 th Apr	Blue Class to visit Allotment
4 th May	Red Class to visit Allotment
4 th May	May Day Picnic
7 th May	May Day – No School
8 th May	Class Photographs
11 th May	Green Class to visit Allotment
18 th May	Pink Class to visit Allotment
22 nd May	Parent Morning
25 th May	INSET Day

Sports Relief

Sports Relief is on Friday 23rd March. The School Council have asked if the children can dress up in **sports kit** for a minimum donation of £1. We will also have a box of wrist bands for sale from the school office closer to the time.



Book People Book Fair

During our Parent/Teacher Interviews, we will be holding a Book Fair with books supplied from The Book People. This will be a great opportunity to purchase both fiction and non-fiction books from as little as £3. The school will get a percentage of the books sold to be able to spend on books for our own library.

Reading Books

The majority of children are now reading regularly at home and completing their reading diaries. We are seeing the impact of this support in school when the children receive their weekly guided reading sessions. However there are still some children who are not reading at home and although we try to put extra provision in school for them, it is not always possible. Please can you ensure your child reads little and often and brings their book/diary into school every day.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews are being on 20th and 22nd March. Please sign up to an appointment on the sheet that will be outside the classroom door from Mon 12th March. We would like to see every parent/carer at this time to review your child's progress. If you are unable to make these times, please speak to your child's class teacher who will happily try to accommodate you at another time.

Easter Fundraiser

We will be holding our Easter Fundraiser on Tuesday 27th March. After the success of our Christmas event, the Friends of John T. Rice group are keen to make this a fabulous occasion that is not to be missed!

Details of what we will need as donations will be sent out shortly.



Attendance / Punctuality

Although our attendance target for this year is to get over 96%, the Supreme Court have ruled that good attendance is every day that the school is open. For February we reached **96.1%** which is in line with expected attendance.

Class Attendance for February

Red Class	95.2%
Pink Class	95.7%
Blue Class	96.4%
Purple Class	96.7%
Green Class	96.8%

Well done to **Green Class** for having the best attendance last month! Let's try and get all our classes over 96% next month.

Some of you will have already received letters if we are concerned about your child's attendance or punctuality and we will continue to monitor this closely. Obviously we understand that your child is unable to come to school if they are ill, however if their attendance is below 90% they are a cause for concern for us.

Please make sure you phone the school before 9.00am on the first day of your child's absence. If you do not phone or give us a reason for the absence, it will be marked down as unauthorised.

Punctuality continues to be an issue, with over 13 hours of learning time being lost in February alone. Please can we also remind you that our doors open at **8.40am** to give the children time to put their coats and bags away before they start at **8.45am**. The children have important 'morning jobs' that they do at this time to consolidate and improve their learning.

We also finish the school day at **3.15pm** and staff often have meetings after school so we would appreciate your promptness in collection.

