

The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter  
Friday 21st September 2018  
Issue: Autumn 1: 3

**Contact us:** Phone: 01283 840206  
Email:  
Mrs Haywood: office@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk (Mon-Wed)  
Mrs Lowther: finance@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk (Tues-Fri)  
Mrs Hanson: headteacher@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk (anytime)

**Dates for the diary: (could be subject to change. Always check newsletters & website)**

5.10.18 School Disco 5.30-7pm  
22.10.18 Early reading and phonics Parent Workshop run by Mr Welsh, 6pm  
24.10.18 Last dance club Y3/4 - show for parents at 4.15pm  
26.10.18 Harvest Festival (all parents and friends invited) 2pm, in the school hall  
Break up 26.10.18  
5.11.17 Staff Training Day. **Children return to school on Tuesday 6th November**  
12.11.18 Y4 Viking day (details to follow)  
13.11.18 or 15.11.18 Parent/Teacher Meetings (save the date - details to follow)  
16.11.18 Children in need (details to come)  
14.12.18 Christmas Play Performance, St Nicholas Church, 2pm (all parents and friends invited)  
7.12.18 3-5pm Christmas Fair  
18.12.18 Christmas Dinner  
19.12.18 Christmas Parties (with a special guest!)  
20.12.18 Break up - no uniform/Christmas jumper day £1

**Parent Workshops**

All parents and carers are invited to our workshops that we hold intermittently through the school year. We have had excellent feedback from previous workshops. We do encourage you to attend if you can. We would like to offer the following workshop for all parents, especially all our new parents:

**Parent Workshop - Early Reading and Phonics 22nd October, 6pm**

On Monday 22nd October Mr Welsh will be delivering a phonics workshop aimed at year one and reception learners. This will be an interactive opportunity for parents/ carers to find out more about how phonics works and how you can best support your child to achieve their potential in reading and spelling. Mr Welsh and the team will go through the expectations for reception and year one as well as the strategies that can be used at home to support your children in becoming secure in phonics. Please come along, we promise it will be fun!

**School Photographs**

Academy Photography informed us today that all the photos taken this week were taken on corrupt memory cards and unfortunately none of the images have been saved. They are very, very sorry and have asked if they can come back in to rectify.

New date: Friday 12th October 2018.

As a gesture of goodwill, they will be offering re-takes to families at 50% discount.

## **HARVEST CELEBRATION**

Friday 26th October 2pm  
In the School Hall



You are all invited to come and hear the children sing at our Harvest Celebration.

As part of our celebration we make a collection of food to donate to the Rugeley food bank to support local children and families in need.

Donations of foodstuffs would be greatly appreciated. If you feel that you would like to contribute, then please deliver your donation to your child's class teacher before the event.

Please use the list on the right as a guide. We have also been advised that packets of chocolate biscuits are nice as treats for children.

*Thank you very much.*

Milk (UHT or powdered)  
Sugar (500g)  
Fruit juice (carton)  
Soup  
Pasta sauces  
Sponge pudding (tinned)  
Tomatoes (tinned)  
Cereals  
Rice pudding (tinned)  
Tea bags/instant coffee  
Instant mash potato  
Rice/pasta  
Tinned meat/fish  
Tinned vegetables  
Tinned fruit  
Jam  
Biscuits or snack bar

## **Uniform reminder**

Please can you ensure all children's uniform is labelled with their names. It is hard for us to get lost sweaters and cardigans back to the right children without names. Please ensure all children bring a coat to school. It is turning cooler and we do try to go outside wherever possible. Jewellery and hair accessories should be minimal. Nail varnish and tattoos are not school uniform.

## **Community News**

### **ABBOTS BROMLEY SPORTS ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY MEETING**

Held in Hall of The Richard Clarke First School On Tuesday 25th September at 7.00pm

Everyone welcome.

Come and see how far we have come and how far we have got left to go.

### **ABBOTS BROMLEY NOSTALGIA TEAM QUIZ NIGHT**

AT THE COACH AND HORSES

On Wednesday 17th October 2018

£5.00 Per Person

Arrive 7.00pm to start at 7.30pm

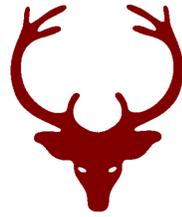
Raffle on the night

Includes food

For tickets please contact:-

Elaine - 01283 840 031 / Jean - 01283 840 481

Tom - 01283 840 096 / Theresa - 01284 840 627



## **School Funding**

Mass Head-teacher Action – 28 September 2018

You are obviously aware of the growing pressures facing many schools created by inadequate funding from Central Government and, in the case of Special Needs provision, from the Local Authority. The austerity initiative pursued by the Government started from the premise that the National Debt and Budget Deficit must be reduced. It is, however, approaching a point at which children's education could become unsustainable in its current form. It is claimed that increases in school funding and the National Funding Formula will mitigate the problem but this is not likely to be the case. The Funding Formula still has unfair anomalies and the increase in funding grants has not kept pace with inflation or the increase in pupil numbers. The financial challenges are generally acknowledged, even by those who have determined the level of funding, but the most important question for our parents is probably the likely effect of future school funding on RCFS. I have to be honest and say that, in the longer-term I do not know. In the medium term, however, I wish to reassure you that RCFS is managing the situation. We have been financially prudent and thrifty, have identified and exploited many sources of extra funding, have benefitted from the foresightedness of Richard Clarke and the generosity of our parents through the PFTA. We have also, of course, been quite lucky with regard to unexpected demands upon our funds.

It would be disingenuous to claim that financial pressures do not impact upon the class room experience of the children; but they are being managed effectively by the leadership team and the governors. I wish you to know that in this highly-charged political climate RCFS is completely focussed on delivering the best education that it can for your children.

*Note: On the RCFS website you will find a copy of a letter, to parents and carers, about the Mass Head-teacher Action which has been suggested by the WorthLess campaign. RCFS are supportive of the powerful arguments in the letter but are not in unanimous agreement about the action proposed.*

**John Hough – Chair of Governors, The Richard Clarke First School**

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE



## PREVENT STRATEGY



### **What is the Prevent strategy?**

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.

The Prevent strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, violent Islamist groups and other causes.

### **How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?**

From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves

### **What does this mean in practice?**

Many of the things we already do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent strategy. These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils, as well as British values such as democracy

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with pupils.

Different schools will carry out the Prevent duty in different ways, depending on the age of the children and the needs of the community.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **How does Prevent relate to British values?**

Schools have been required to promote British values since 2014, and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent strategy. British values include:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

#### **Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?**

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

The school will make sure any discussions are suitable for the age and maturity of the children involved.

#### **Is extremism really a risk in our area?**

Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others.

**KEY TERMS:** **Extremism** – vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values such as democracy, the rule of law and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; **Ideology** – a set of beliefs; **Terrorism** – a violent action against people or property, designed to create fear and advance a political, religious or ideological cause;

**Radicalisation** – the process by which a person comes to support extremism and terrorism.

### **Where to go for more information**

**Contact the school** if you have any concerns or queries **or See our policies.** You will find more details about radicalisation in our Safeguarding Policy. We also have information about spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and British values.

### **External sources:**

Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales, HM Government

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/417943/Prevent\\_Duty\\_Guidance\\_England\\_Wales.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417943/Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales.pdf)

Frequently asked questions, Prevent For Schools

[http://www.preventforschools.org/?category\\_id=38](http://www.preventforschools.org/?category_id=38)

What is Prevent? Let's Talk About It

<http://www.ltai.info/what-is-prevent/>