



The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter
Friday 13th September 2019
Issue: Autumn 1: 2

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Reminder - Reception Class - Second Induction Evening

Thursday 19th September 6pm

All new Reception parents are invited to come and learn more about your child's class, their curriculum and how you can support their learning at home. Staff will be there to talk to you about different areas of learning. We look forward to seeing you all. ***It is important for you to come if you can, we value parental involvement in children's learning as it has a significant impact and hopefully you will pick up lots of tips on how you can help your children with their learning at home. If you can't ever make anything we offer at school please let us know and we can forward you the information to read and/or make an alternative date to run through a summary of the information shared.***

OPEN MORNING
Sunday 13th October 2019
10 AM - 12.00 PM

We will be holding an Open Morning for all parents/carers who are considering sending their children to our school. Parents will be able to have a complete tour of the school, talk to staff, meet some pupils and see all that we have on offer at Richard Clarke.

Please could you all help us in advertising this event. Either by word of mouth if you know people who may be interested or if you have means to put up posters or give out flyers then please get some from the school office.

Your help will be very much appreciated as the future of our school funding depends on healthy numbers to keep 5 separate year groups. Many, many thanks.

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

Thursday 19.9.19 Reception Class - 2nd Parent Induction, 6pm

Monday 7.10.19 Year 4 trip to Enginuity (details to follow)

Sunday 13.10.19 Richard Clarke Open day for prospective parents, 10-12pm

Friday 18.10.19 School disco, 5.30-7pm

Thursday 24.10.19 Harvest Festival (all parents and friends invited) 2pm, in the school hall

Break up 24.10.19

Friday 25.10.19 Staff Training Day, school closed to children.

Children return to school on Monday 4th November

13.11.19 or 14.11.19 Parent/Teacher Meetings (save the date - details to follow)

20.11.19 Reading workshop for parents lead by Mr Welsh, 6pm

3.12.19 Maths workshop for parents lead by Mr Hindhaugh, 3.45pm

Friday 6.12.19 Christmas Fair (details to follow)

Friday 13.12.19 Christmas Play Performance, St Nicholas Church, 2pm (all parents and friends invited)

Friday 20.12.19 Break up for Christmas

Monday 6.1.20 SCHOOL CLOSED INSET DAY

Tuesday 7.1.20 Pupils back in for Spring term

PE Kits

Polite reminder about children's PE kits. For health and safety reason we follow the AFPE (Association for PE) guidelines for PE kits and so our rules are as follows:

PE Kit

Indoor - black shorts, red T-shirt, clean trainers.

Outdoor - black shorts or tracksuit bottoms or leggings, red T-shirt and sweatshirt if cold, trainers.

Children are not allowed to wear any jewellery or fitness trackers for PE. If children have earrings then they must take them out for PE. If they are unable to do this themselves then please do not wear earrings on PE days.

Long hair must be tied back for PE lessons.

Please help us to ensure the children have the correct kit on the correct days so as not to waste vital learning time in PE. It is essential that all kit is named. Your help with this is appreciated!

Park and Stride

In an effort to improve the parking situation outside school and within the centre of the village we have approached the other pubs and restaurants to allow parents and carers to park in their car parks and walk to school both at dropping off and picking up times.

Proprietors of The Coach and Horses and The Bagot Arms are very supportive of this initiative and it also helps us to promote the health and well being of the children. The Village Hall also has an accessible car park. DO NOT however park in the doctors surgery.

We hope that you take up this opportunity and begin to park elsewhere in the village so that the congestion in The Crown car park and the potential risks that this incurs can be alleviated.

If you do feel it necessary to park in the Crown car park then can we remind you that access to the property adjacent to the rear hedge needs to be kept **free at all times**. **This means keeping a free car width path from the bottom school gate all the way along the bank to the corner of the car park. Also do not leave your engine running.**

REMINDER

Parents/carers **DO NOT** have to wait with the children until the whistle goes. A member of staff will be on duty from 8.45 to supervise the children and ensure they safely go into class at the whistle. We encourage parents to go to help relieve the carpark, especially parents of the older children.

We must all share the responsibility for creating solutions to this ongoing problem, Thank you

PTFA

Thanks to the parents who joined us on Tuesday night for our first very productive meeting. We have the following events planned:

Friday 18th October 5.30-7pm School Disco, optional Halloween fancy dress

Thursday 24th October Harvest Festival and Raffle

Friday 6th December 3-5pm Christmas Fair

OTHER INFORMATION AND NEWS.....

Safeguarding Statement

The Richard Clarke First School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Full DBS clearance is required for all adults who work alongside children. This means that we have a Safeguarding Policy in place that all staff (that includes supply staff, volunteers and governors) must ensure they are aware of.

Sometimes we need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there is a concern about a child's welfare. We will ensure that our concerns about pupils are discussed with his/her parents first unless we believe that such a move would be contrary to a child's welfare.

As a parent, carer, relative, neighbour, member of the public or a professional who has contact with children, you may be concerned about the welfare and safety of your own child or a child you know. These concerns could be about their appearance, behaviour, development or how they are being cared for.

If you need support and advice or have any concerns, please contact Staffordshire County Council's First Response Service on: 0800 13 13 126.

Lines are open Monday-Thursday 8:30am-5:00pm and Friday 8:30am-4:30pm.

If you need to make a call out of office hours, you should contact the Emergency Duty Service on: **0845 6042886.**

If you think a child or young person is at immediate risk of harm - dial 999 to contact the Police.

Your points of contact within the school in relation to Safeguarding issues are:

Designated Safeguarding lead: Mrs Kay Hanson - Headteacher

Deputy Safeguarding leads: Mr Daniel Hindhaugh – Assistant Headteacher or Miss A. Cooper - Year 1 teacher and SENDCO

Nominated governor for Safeguarding: Mr Neil Lowther

Reminder for all parents and carers - we're on your side!

Throughout your children's school life we will invite you into school to events at various times as we really value your involvement in your children's education. These may be assemblies, parent workshops or information sessions, parent consultation meetings etc. We will never be able to offer this variety of things at times that will suit all parents and carers and everyone's personal circumstances. We apologise to those parents, especially working parents, who may struggle to make all events on offer. We really don't want you to miss out but equally we can't offer everything late or on multiple occasions as we also need to balance the health and wellbeing of staff and the hours they already put in, as I'm sure you will understand. Having said that please contact any of us at anytime via a phone call or an email and we will do our best to fill you in on anything you have missed. For example we can send you a copy of a presentation at a parent workshop or make an alternative time for a parent meeting. Please be reassured we will always try to help where we can and if we forget something just ask!

We will try to give you as much notice as possible for events via the newsletter and website. Occasionally this may not be possible and we apologise in advance for this and thank you for your understanding, kindness and patience.

Have you had your 5 today?

Following on from our healthy eating day on Thursday, we have launched a '5 a day challenge' to eat 5 different fruits and vegetables each day. To get a good variety of vitamins and minerals, aim for those 5 to be different colours.

Your child should have come home with a chart to fill in on Thursday. Complete it over the week and bring it back to school next Thursday. Children with completed charts will receive a special certificate on Friday in celebration assembly.

Mrs Read

Recycling crisp packets

Last term, we recycled 822 crisp packets and started our fundraising pot for the Rainbows Hospice with Terracycle. So far, we have raised £2.88. Please bring in all your crisp packets and recycle them in the box outside the office.

Thankyou,
Mrs Read and
The Eco Green
Team.



Roald Dahl Day

What a fantastic day we have had celebrating the works of Roald Dahl, from George's Marvellous Medicine to Matilda and everything in between, children have loved using their imagination to write stories and create wondrous pieces of art! Reading enjoyment is the key to reading success and Roald Dahl is great way to inspire children, whether they have the stories read to them or do so independently. If you have any questions on how to inspire your children at home with reading, ask your child's class teacher and they will be happy to recommend some great texts. You can also visit <http://www.booktrust.org.uk> to find the latest book recommendations for different age groups too!