



The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter
Friday 28th February 2020
Issue: Spring 2: 1

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

Friday 28th February PTFA School Disco, 5.30-7pm
Monday 2nd March - Height/Weight check, Reception Pupils
Thursday 5th March - Y1 Trip to Dudley Zoo
Friday 6th March - World Book day (see below)
Monday 9th March - Y4 Trip to Hawkestone Park
Tuesday 10th March - Visitors from Chartwells to deliver Assembly (free)
Friday 13th March - Reception Class Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Thursday 19th March - Greek day and Year 3 Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 20th March - Year 1 Parent Assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March Parent Consultation meetings
Friday 27th March - Year 4 Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 27th March - Chocolate Bingo
Tuesday 31st March - Last Miss Cooper dance club show at 4.15pm
Wednesday 1st April - Last Mrs Hanson dance club show at 4.15pm
Thursday 2nd April - Rock Steady Concert 2.30pm
Friday 3rd April Spring Sing 2pm and break up for Easter
Monday 20th April - INSET DAY for staff, school closed for children
Tuesday 21st April - Pupils back to school

World Book day Friday 6th March

World Book Week is fast approaching and the teachers have put the wheels in motion and planned an exciting week of learning to celebrate stories, imagination and creativity. We are going to explore poems and how they can stretch our minds in a fun and imaginative way.

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 6th March and are asking the children to **dress up as any of their favourite characters.** This could be ANY character your child wants to celebrate from ANY story. We hope that World Book Day excites everyone and above all, we want to enrich your child's reading experience. The children will also receive a voucher to put towards a new book given to us by the World Book day organisers. Please ask class teachers if your children need help with a costume.

WORK OVER THE HALF TERM

As you have seen, progress on our building work has been hampered by the bad weather and will continue on into next week. It will be great when it's complete!

Thank you for bearing with us during the disruption.

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

PTFA News—TONIGHT!!!!!! Disco Friday 28th February

The disco will start at 5.30pm on Friday 28th February and finish at 7pm. Entrance to the disco £4 per child and this entrance fee includes a hot dog, a bag of crisps and unlimited squash. There will be some extra items that children can purchase at the disco (e.g. glo sticks-20p, sweets -20p, extra crisps-20p).

Save the date..... Friday 27th March....Chocolate Bingo.....details to come!

Our School Cookbook—due to the low number of recipes received for our school cookbook, we have extended the deadline for submissions to Monday 2nd March. If we don't have enough recipes to make the book, then sadly this will not go ahead.

Golden Pen Award Newsletter

Teachers and pupils at The Richard Clarke First School take pride in the presentation of their learning. Handwriting is an essential part of the writing curriculum and can support children with their spelling, their ability to read/edit their own writing, the speed in which they write and thus, boost their confidence. To raise the profile of handwriting and motivate the children to be the best writers they can be, we have launched The Golden Pen Award. This is a competition that awards children for effort in improving their handwriting. This is not a 'neatest' child competition but instead, a competition that focuses on determination. Any extra practises at home will not go unnoticed and we encourage all children to try their best. There will be a winner from each class and they will win a golden pen and mini trophy! Wow! Our school handwriting policy and guide are both available on the school website.

Mr S. Welsh

Mother's day Lunch

Mum's/Special ladies are invited to come in to have a roast lunch with your child/children.

Mother's Day Lunch - Wednesday 18th March Reception, Y1 and Y2 (KS1).

Mother's Day Lunch - Thursday 19th March Y3 & Y4 (KS2).

To reserve your place, please let the office know names and numbers by no later than Tuesday 10th March.

We request a payment of £3 to be made via Parentpay.

If you have a child in more than one Key stage simply choose which day you want to come and you can sit with all your children.

*****Please sign up for whole course and note the start times*****

Clubs next half term:

Tuesday: Dance club YR/1/2 with Miss Cooper (No maximum)

3.30-4.30pm, Starting 25th February, 6 weeks, last week 31st March for show at 4.15pm for parents and carers. £3.00 per session.

Gardening club Y1/Y2/Y3 & Y4 with Mrs C. Farrington

Starting 3rd March, 5 weeks, £3 per session.

Wednesday: Dance club Y3/4 with Mrs Hanson (No maximum)

3.30-4.30pm, Starting 26th February, 6 weeks, last week 1st April for show at 4.15pm for parents and carers. £3.00 per session. **PLEASE NOTE NO CLUB WEDNESDAY 25.3.20 AS PARENTS EVENING SO CLUB WILL BE ON FRIDAY 27.3.20 THAT WEEK ONLY**

Thursday:

Choir with Mr Welsh and Mr Hindhaugh. All Year groups welcome. (No maximum, the more the merrier!) £3.00 per session. 6 weeks starting on 27th February with a performance at the Spring Sing. **PLEASE NOTE NO CLUB THURSDAY 26.3.20 AS PARENTS EVENING SO CLUB WILL BE ON TUESDAY 24.3.20 THAT WEEK ONLY**

Please email the school office to reserve a place in any of these clubs

office@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk and pay for the course on parent pay. Late joiners may be required to pay for full course as changing price for a variety of late starters is causing admin issues. We would appreciate your prompt responses.

Thank you.

Parent Governor

I am pleased to inform you that one parent put themselves forward for our Parent Governor Vacancy, Mr Eddie Carline, parent of one of our new Reception pupils. We therefore welcome him on board and look forward to the valuable contributions we hope he will make to our team. For all information about the school Governors please look on our website.

Please read Mr Carline's reasons for putting himself forward:

I would be honoured to represent parents on the governing board and be proactive in working with all parents to address any development opportunities. I have a child who has just joined the school and want to support all children's learning journeys throughout the school and increase the opportunities which are offered. To achieve this I would ensure that children are at the heart of all decisions made by the school and support parents in ensuring that they have the opportunity to communicate clearly with leadership and the school staff. I fundamentally believe that schools should be influenced by context and engage with the community it serves. Across a 14 year teaching career I have developed strong leadership skills and have lead both departmental and school self-evaluation. I have experience of undertaking observations, work scrutiny and learning walks at department, faculty and whole school level within a secondary and primary setting. I shared my skills of teaching pedagogy and leadership with other teachers through CPD on a regular basis. I have a working knowledge of current issues in education and the changing landscape of accountability and board knowledge of curriculum design and content, from both my previous roles and my current role as pathway leader for PGCE physical education at the University of Wolverhampton. My personal attributes include patience and persistence while remaining tactful, respectful and sensitive when working with staff and students to ensure together we achieve the best outcomes in learning and progress for all. I continually promote excellence and build relationships based upon trust and professional expectations using coaching to develop staff capacity to meet the changing demands of the teaching profession. I am committed to all projects I engage with, motivating and inspiring staff through setting targets or role modelling expectation and am able to hold them to account. I have undertaken head teacher appraisals and feel that I can support the school in its continued pursuit of the best outcomes for all children.

Polite request

We occasionally have days where emails, phone messages may not be picked up immediately due to a number of reasons. If your message is really important, for example someone different is picking your child up, please keep trying until you have a response. Many thanks!

Easter Competition

Each year before our Spring Sing we traditionally hold a competition. This is completely voluntary and we are happy to receive entries completed solely by the children or entries worked on collaboratively as families. The entries will be judged by the children. They will democratically vote for their favourites and the majority votes will win.

This year the theme is '**Decorated Eggs**' and they should be have a Spring or Easter theme.

Please bring them into your child's classroom on the morning of 3rd April. The eggs will be shown as part of the Spring Sing and the winners will be announced.

New Topics for Spring term 2020

Reception class - Calling all superheroes!

Year 1 - Marvelous Meerkats!

Year 2 - African Adventure

Year 3 - Glorious Gardens

Year 4 - Through the wardrobe

Please follow link to school website for more information:

<https://www.richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk/teaching-learning/curriculum-assessment/>

Please have a look at your child's curriculum maps so you can talk to them about their learning and together research extra general knowledge to the table. Good general knowledge is really powerful in helping children's all round progress.

The Richard Clarke First School did not arrange half-term travel to areas where there are confirmed Coronavirus diagnoses, however, we appreciate that parents may have travelled independently during half-term. Government advice is that any families who have returned from countries in category areas, as updated at this link,

:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

should follow the following advice:

Category 1: Travellers should self-isolate, even if asymptomatic, and call NHS 111 to inform of recent travel

Category 2: Travellers do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111

The Richard Clarke First School to monitor NHS advice closely, and is acting under advice from Public Health England. Advice will be updated on Trust websites.

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE