



The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter
Friday 30th April 2021
Issue: Summer 1 : 2

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

Monday 3rd May—school closed for May Day
Friday 28th May—Break up for the half term holiday
Monday 7th June—Back to school for all pupils
Friday 9th July—Annual written reports home
Tuesday 20th July—Break up for the Summer holiday

READING BOOKS

As you know reading is the key to progress across the whole curriculum. Children will learn the vocabulary they need through reading. The link between children's 'bank of words' and their predicted future outcomes is undisputable. So we, (yes that's **you** and us) need to read to the children and with the children as much as possible.

I am currently auditing our reading scheme as we seem to have few gaps in our sets of books. This is because some books that have gone home over lockdown have not been returned as well as a few books that, over the years, have been lost or damaged. Please could I urge you all to have a good look at home and return any reading books you may still have before I start buying replacements. Many thanks.

Remember if you want your children to make fantastic progress at school, then read, read and then read some more!!!! I know you're busy, but make time, it's really important. *Mrs Hanson*

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

SPONSORED SPELL FUNDRAISING EVENT GRAND TOTAL!

Thank you to everyone who supported our sponsored spell fundraising event before Easter. We are delighted to say that the sponsored spell and non uniform day raised a massive £2,145! WOW!!! Amazing job everyone. We raised lots of money and got better at spelling—WIN, WIN!!

We plan to use the money to purchase additional picnic benches for our outside areas as well as a PA system to use at outdoor events. These will help us use the outside space more. We are also looking forward to spending some more on reading books once we have completed our audit.



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

ASSESSMENT

Just to update you on assessment and progress in school. Our end of term spring data has shown some really encouraging progress and we are pleased that the catch up plan is working. Also, some children have made accelerated progress due to a variety of reasons including fantastic home learning, so again well done all.

Statutory assessments (SATS, phonic screening, times table check, EYFS profile) will not be taking place and the LA will not be collecting data. However, we will be completing some of these assessments anyway for our own internal tracking and your children's class teachers will talk to you about this.

TOGETHER **E**VERYONE **A**CHIEVES **M**ORE

Music

Have you signed up for FREE instrument music lessons on a trial basis for the Summer Term?? Recorders is a good way to start learning an instrument at an early age before progressing to brass or woodwind. Playing an instrument also helps children with their all round progress so worth considering! Email the office if you are interested.



The Big Ask

The Big Ask - the largest ever survey of children in England - launched by the Children's Commissioner for England.

The survey, which runs until 19 May, aims to gather children's views and experiences on important issues and will be used to inform recommendations to Government and proposals to policy changes which affect them and their futures.

Rachel de Souza is the Children's Commissioner for England. Her job is to speak up for children in England, stand up for their rights, and make sure that the people in power listen to what children need and want.

This is the largest ever survey of children and young people in England. They'll use what we tell them to show the government what we think, and what children need to live happier lives.

We will be encouraging and helping the children to do the survey in school but parents can join in as there is a section for adults to give their views so follow this link if you wish to help by taking part. <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

TOGETHER **E**VERYONE **A**CHIEVES **M**ORE

SOME CLUBS ARE BACK! HOORAY!

MONDAY:

Wildcats Girls Football After School Club

The Wildcats girls football club is in partnership with Burton Albion Ladies. Sessions begin Monday 26th April and will run until end of academic year in July. Commitment can be per half term. £3 per session. Letters home to all girls. Once slip returned places will be allocated and then payment made via parent pay to confirm. Please return slip to school office ASAP as there are a maximum of 16 spaces available.

FULL—5 spaces for next half term (if you've already applied and weren't successful this term you are already on the list!)

TUESDAY:

Dance Club for Years 3 and 4 with Mrs Hanson

Beginning 18th May for 6 weeks (see letter attached) 3.30-4.30pm, £3 per session.

THURSDAY:

Tag Rugby for Years 3 and 4 with Mr Tolley

Beginning 22nd April for 6 weeks until 27th May. **A few spaces left!**

Menu

Tuesday:	Chicken burger & potato wedges/Mac 'n' cheese
Wednesday:	Roast pork/Roast Quorn, roast potatoes & gravy
Thursday:	Pasta Bolognese/Veggie hot dog & potato wedges
Friday:	Fish fingers/Quorn nuggets & chips

Corona virus update

We are still awaiting further guidance about restrictions lifting further. However, the message for now is to keep things as tight as we can so all our current operational plan is still in place. A reminder; we are keeping the children in separate bubbles still and would politely remind you to do the same out of school where possible in support. Thanks.

See our website for up to date information and links:

<https://www.richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk/news-events/corona-virus-covid-19-information-page/>

Remember:

If your child has a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back, a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual) a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal, you **MUST NOT** send them to school and **MUST** follow the guidance.

Abbots Bromley Rainbows would like to invite the children at Richard Clarke to help them make the world a better place!

As part of a wildlife and environment badge they will be giving away pollinator friendly flower seeds and holding a sunflower growing challenge.

Seeds can be collected from a table near the Butter Cross next Friday, 7th May, between 3pm and 4pm.