



The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter
Friday 14th September 2018
Issue: Autumn 1: 2

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Mrs Hanson: headteacher@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk (anytime)

Reminder - Reception Class - Second Induction Evening

Monday 17th 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. All 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.***

PTFA

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

Friday 5th October 5.30-7pm School Disco

Friday 26th October Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Raffle

Friday 7th December 3-5pm Christmas Fair

Tuesday 18th December Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 19th December Christmas Parties (with a special guest!)

(see page 4 for further details)

Reminder - MONDAY 17th SEPTEMBER School Photo Day for individuals and siblings

Individual photo's and photo's of children with their brothers and/or sisters will be taken during the school morning. If your children have pre-school siblings that you would like to be in the photographs then please take them all to the hall from 8.30am.

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

Reminder no dance club on 19.9.18

17.9.18 Individual photographs (families & preschool siblings starting from 8.30am in school hall))

17.9.18 Reception Class - 2nd Parent Induction, 6pm

17.9.18 Hockey Club Years 2-4 starts (Please email school office to sign up. 6 weeks, 16 places).

5.10.18 School Disco 5.30-7pm

22.10.18 Early reading and phonics Parent Workshop run by Mr Welsh, 6pm

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)

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

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, pumps or 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!

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!

Reading Army

Would you like to get involved in school life? Would you like to support young readers across the year groups? Would you like to make a difference? If you said yes to those questions and have a spare afternoon why not become a volunteer for 'The Reading Army'? The Reading Army are a group of volunteers who listen to carefully selected readers that teachers feel would benefit from a reading boost. Reading regularly makes a huge difference to the children's confidence and has been proven to increase fluency in word reading as well as language and comprehension skills. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the school office who will then get the reading ball rolling! All volunteering positions are subject to a criminal records check and induction process. We look forward to hearing from you!

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.

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.**

Thank you

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 lead: Mrs Louise Haywood - Office Manager or

Mr Daniel Hindhaugh – Assistant Headteacher

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 working with us.

PTFA news.....

SCHOOL DISCO

Friday 5th October

5.30pm – 7pm



£4 Entry includes hotdog, crisps,
and unlimited squash!!!

Former Richard Clarke pupils (up to Y6) are also welcome!

Sweets are 20p each, Extra crisps 20p each, glo sticks 20p each

**We need volunteers to help on the night so please sign up on the
PTFA board in the main corridor by the front door.**

Community news....

Would you like to support your community?.....

Abbots Bromley Sports Association (ABSA) are holding their annual fundraising dinner on November 16th at the Pirelli Stadium in Burton. The creation of amazing sports facilities for our village are progressing, but support is still needed to raise funds. If you or your family and friends are part of a club that might use the facilities then this is a way that you can show support. See the attached poster for more details or see Tara Stevenson (mum of Y2 child) or Louise Haywood (School Office) – both trustees of ABSA – if you would like to buy tickets or even fill a table of your own. It's a great night out!!

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE