



Richard Clarke First School Newsletter
Friday 8th February 2019
Issue: Spring 1: 5

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Dates for the Spring Term

Wednesday 13th February, 3.30-4.15pm - GANAS project share opportunity
Friday 15th February - Reception Class Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 15th February - BREAK UP, Mid year reports out
Monday 25th February - BACK TO SCHOOL
Thursday 28th February Derby RE trip for Year 3 and 4 (see separate letter for details)
Friday 1st March - Year 2 Parent Assembly **9.15am**
Wednesday 6th March - Year 4 Hawkstone Park Trip (see separate letter for details)
Friday 8th March - World Book Day celebrations (details page 2)
Friday 15 March - Year 4 Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 22nd March - Year 1 Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 29th March - Year 3 Parent Assembly 2.45pm
Monday 1st April - Parent Consultation Meetings
Tuesday 2nd April - Parent Consultation Meetings
Friday 12th April - Spring Sing and competition, 2pm, details to follow
Friday 12th April - Break up for Easter
Monday 29th April - Back to School for the summer term

TONIGHT SCHOOL DISCO!!!

Time to get those dancing shoes on for our first school disco this school year. The disco will start at 5.30pm on Friday 8th February and finish at 7pm. Entrance to the disco £4 per child and this entrance fee includes a hot dog (thanks to Wilsons butchers for providing local sausages!), 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). Please sign up to help on the rota sheet on the noticeboard.

Thank you to the 6 parents who attended the meeting last week, great contributions from all! It's a shame more parents couldn't come, please let us know when a better time would be? A big thank you for your recent donation of £500 to buy new resources for science, RE and some essential storage to keep our resources in good order!

Chinese New Year Workshop - funded by PTFA

Our workshop has been rescheduled for Tuesday 12th February! Happy new year, the year of the PIG!

GANAS share event reminder - Wednesday 13th February, 3.30-4.15pm

Your children's GANAS projects are due in next week. You are all invited to come in after school on Wednesday to admire everyone's efforts! We look forward to sharing all the children's offerings and hearing all about the wonderful learning that has gone on around the project. Your children will direct you to the classrooms and projects they have been particularly captured by! Learning is infectious so come along and be inspired!

500 Words Competition—Reminder

Here at The Richard Clarke First School, it's one of our main aims to allow the children to use their imagination, express their creativity and have pride in their achievements. This is why we are encouraging children to enter the BBC Radio 2, 500 Words Competition. This is an opportunity for children to celebrate stories, creativity and writing for pleasure. It's super simple. All entrants must pen an original story, no more than 500 words in length, and submit it online. It can be about ANYTHING you want – space-ships, grannies, insects, microwaves. The list is endless. Details on how to enter the official competition can be found on the BBC Radio 2 Website under '500 Words'. Although this is an external competition, here at RCFS, we would still like entrants to be handed into school too (hard copies), where we will have our own in-house competition with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize. These stories will be recorded and uploaded onto the school website and myself, Mrs Hanson and two English ambassadors from year 3 and 4 will judge the pieces (anonymously). How exciting! All entries need to be uploaded on the BBC website by Friday 8th March. We also ask for a hard copy to be brought into school on this date for our own mini competition. A blank piece of paper can be quite overwhelming for some children so planning, discussing and collaborating about the story is key. Writing it all in one go is not recommended but instead, chunking the experience into shorter bursts will really maintain your child's motivation and enhance the experience. We hope you have fun with this and we will be sure to value and celebrate every single entry we receive. Happy writing! Mr Welsh

Note from concerned Grandparent

I have received an email from a lovely Grandparent expressing concerns regarding the car park. I quote:

'There are some parents who leave their car engines running in the car park. This is presumably because they like the warmth from the heaters (or in the summer the coolness from the air conditioning). The minute they return to the car the engine is started again, even though they may not be able to move for several minutes. One parent comes early to get a place at the top (so their child does not have to make their way through other parked cars on their own) and then sits there until the child comes down to the car with the engine running the whole time, which could be for 15 minutes. You can appreciate that this is a very unhealthy situation for both school children and also smaller brothers and sisters who have to walk through the car park, often not much above exhaust level. The particulates from diesel fumes in particular are known to have an adverse effect on the lungs of small children and on recent still days these fumes have not readily dispersed.'

We agree with these concerns and would urge you to consider your children's health and the environment. Thank you.

Staffing News

Congratulations to Miss Cooper who has achieved a Special Educational Needs Coordination Award, at masters level (Post Graduate degree) and passed with distinction, no less!

Congratulations also to Mr Welsh who had been selected by the county to be a KS1 moderator. This is testament to his reputation as a strong practitioner and is a real plus for our school!

What a team!!! I'm like a proud Mum!! Mrs Hanson

Please join **Abbots Bromley Rainbows and the Community First Responders** to raise money for community defibrillators in the village.

On Saturday 9th February we are holding a fair **at Church House 10am to 12 noon.**

Treat yourself to cakes and biscuits, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, latte or cappuccino!

There will also be a raffle, tombola, toy and book stalls.

The Community First Responders will be on hand to talk to you about defibrillators and how to save a life with CPR

The Rainbows would love you to come!

Plastic-Fantastic Fashion Show, 3pm, Thursday 21st March

I have been approached by an ex pupil and asked to support her exciting marketing project. Working together we will teach the children the importance of recycling plastic to help the environment by creating outfits made out of recyclable plastic and end the project with a fun fashion show! It's brilliant seeing your children strutting their stuff on the catwalk and it's a great environmental message! Here is Lily's letter:

Dear parents and carers,

my name is Lily Bekker and I am an ex-pupil, now in my first year of sixth form. I have agreed with Mrs Hanson to put on a fashion show in which the pupils will create costumes out of recyclable plastic materials.

This project will hopefully aid me in my application to university this year, as I am currently looking at studying management marketing.

The fashion show will be held on 21st March at 3pm, and will be advertised around school.

Each ticket will cost £2.00, with refreshments included, and the profit will go to Richard Clarke.

I will provide a bin bag as the basis of each costume, however it would be really helpful if as many pupils as possible could bring in recyclable materials to decorate their outfit with.

Please bring in your donations ready for the allocated days:

14th Feb- year 1/year 2

25th Feb-year 3/year 4

7th March-Reception class

Thank you very much, and see you then

Lily Bekker

Suggested items:

Bottle tops

Plastic lids

Different coloured bags

Sweet wrappers