



The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter
Friday 12th March 2021
Issue: Spring 2 : 3

Contact us: Phone: 01283 840206

Email:

Mrs Kennedy or Mrs Lowther: office@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk

Mrs Hanson: headteacher@richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk

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

Friday 19th March—Red Nose Day (details on page 2)

Monday 29th March—Sponsored Spell event (details on page 2)

Thursday 1st April Decorate an Egg competition (details on page 3)

Thursday 1st April BREAK UP FOR EASTER

Monday 19th April SCHOOL CLOSED INSET DAY

Tuesday 20th April school open for pupils

Reopening

Congratulations to everyone for a fantastic reopening to all pupils. We couldn't be more proud of all the children. They have come in brilliantly and impressed us with their positive attitudes and the way they have quickly settled back into the school routine. Focus in lessons has been excellent.

We would like to thank parents for your support with the drop off/pick ups. We feel everyone has taken on board the strict routine and adhered to the plan. Your kind cooperation with this is much appreciated. We just need to keep this up to Easter and not become complacent. I'm also impressed with the number of children from Y2 up that have bravely been walking in by themselves, leaving parents outside school, this is a sign of how responsible they are becoming and really helps ease the congestion.

The bad news is the complaints about the carpark, and traffic on Schoolhouse Lane have resumed. Again, if you can walk or park and stride, then I urge you to leave enough time to do this please. The car park is already busy with village people, the Doctors surgery staff and patients and the Tom Thumb Nursery staff and parents, so the less we can use it the better please. Thank you.

I'm sure your children will be tired after a full week in school so have a restful weekend and recharge the old batteries!

Keep up the good work everyone, onwards and upwards, emerging stronger!!

A delighted, Mrs Hanson

Kitchen open as normal so lunch menu for next week:

Monday:	Cheese & tomato pizza/veggie sausages, mash & gravy
Tuesday:	Chicken tikka masala & rice/Mac 'n' cheese
Wednesday:	Roast gammon/vegetable pastry slice, roast potatoes & gravy
Thursday:	Cottage pie/vegetarian meatballs, tomato sauce & pasta
Friday:	Southern fried chicken bites/veggie taco shell & chips

Red Nose Day

Next Friday, March 19th is Red Nose Day. This year, we are thinking all about superheroes and real life heroes. For a suggested donation of £1, you can come to school dressed as your real life hero or a fictional superhero (or just no uniform if you prefer).

You are also invited to practise your favourite joke to share with your class on Red Nose Day. Younger children may wish to have their joke written down to help them remember it. Let's see if we can raise lots of money to support the Red Nose Day charities. Mrs Read



REMOTE LEARNING

WOW! I can't tell you how impressed we are with all the learning that's come in from home. Teachers are reporting that lots of children have made good progress despite not being in school, so good job parents!!! Some children have gone up several book bands in their reading which shows how much you've been doing with them at home.

I hope now with your new found teaching skills, that you will keep up the fantastic support with the homelearning, and particularly with the reading, as continuing to work together will help your children make further, amazing progress. TEAMWORK!!!!

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE
PS If you haven't sent yours in yet, then please do!

SPONSORED SPELL FUNDRAISING EVENT

On Monday we launched our sponsored spell fundraising event and you should have received a letter explaining how to take part and a sponsor form and the children should have chosen their target number of spellings for the challenge.



After a difficult year of school partial closures, remote learning and lack of opportunities to fund raise in our normal ways we have decided to hold this sponsored spelling/phonics event. This will help us have a whole school focus on spelling and phonics to help fill gaps and raise standards as well as raise some money to spend on resources in school. Win, win!

We will invite you to sponsor your child to learn their spellings by offering an amount per spelling learned or by an amount for taking part. If you could pass the sponsor form around family and friends to help raise more money, that would be great too! If all families managed to raise £10 that would be a £1000 for school!! Your support is much appreciated!

The spellings the children are given will be appropriate to the age and ability of the children, and the amount of spellings to learn will be personal choice.

The sponsored spell will take place on 29th March 2021. We would ask the children to learn their spellings and collect their sponsors between now and then. Spelling scores and forms will be returned after the event for money to be collected and returned to school by Friday 23rd April. We are happy with cash or payment to PTFA by pay pal.

Thank you!

WHOLE SCHOOL WELL BEING CHALLENGE!

Year 4 walked 406 km
Year 3 walked 196km
Year 2 walked 191 km
Year 1 walked 144 km
Year Reception walked 245.5 km
Grand total: 1182.5 km

Grand total: 1182.5 km, that's walking the length of Italy!!!

Length of Italy
736 miles (1,185 km)

We are very proud to announce that we have been awarded the silver eco schools award for our environmental work. In school, we cover lots of different environmental aspects throughout the classes. The Eco Council have also chosen 3 projects to focus on that we have all been contributing to.

These are:

1. Collecting crisp packets to recycle with Terracycle. There is a recycling box in the foyer. Please bring in your empty crisp packets to recycle with us.
2. Litter picking. We did an amazing job before lockdown with the Richard Clarke litter picking club. This will be starting back up again so please sign up and have fun helping your local environment!
3. Being global citizens by raising money for different charities. Our next event is Red Nose Day next Friday 19th March.



Thankyou to everyone who has taken part in our projects so far. Next step- the Eco Schools Green Flag!

Mrs Read

Corona virus update

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.

Reporting absence

Please can we remind parents if your child is absent from school you must report this daily as we have a duty of care to know where your child is and this could become a safeguarding concern if you fail to do this. If your child has an appointment to attend, an email should be forwarded in advance to the school office, with evidence where possible. Thank you.

Easter Competition

Each year we traditionally hold a competition on the last day of the Spring term. Sadly we cancelled last year's competition due to the sudden first lock down, can you believe a year ago! We have therefore decided to go for it this year instead with the same theme.

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

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 eggs with the majority votes will win a small prize.

Please bring them into your child's classroom on the morning of 1st April. The eggs will be shown as part of our celebration assembly and the winners will be announced. We will put pictures on our website for the community to see. We are working on plans to make the last day of term a bit special in the absence of our normal Spring sing...watch this space!