



The Richard Clarke First School Newsletter  
Friday 15th July 2022  
Issue: Summer 2: 6

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

Friday 15th July, 9.30am, Y4 Leavers Assembly and the Richards (evening)

Tuesday 19th July, **LAST DAY BREAK UP FOR SUMMER**

**Monday 5th September—school closed, staff INSET day**

**Tuesday 6th September Back to school for all pupils Y1-4 (Reception class staggered start)**

**This will be our last newsletter of the year! It has been a busy term and we are sure you are all in need of a well earned break from routine!**

**We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a fabulous summer break and to thank you all for your continued support!**

**First day back - Tuesday 6th September for Years 1,2,3 and 4  
Staggered start for Reception Class.**

**Our Final Week at School!**

Well done for everyone making it this far! This week has been super busy. Our Year 4s will be leaving us on Tuesday and performed their spectacular assembly this morning and we will celebrate again this evening with 'The Richards'.

Monday and Tuesday will be *no uniform*. **On Tuesday only the** children are welcome to bring in one **game** to share if they wish (nothing electronic, breakable, valuable or sentimental please).

**Homelearning**

Teachers will not be setting formal home learning now until after the holiday. However we need learning not to stop over the long break please carry on reading with your children and practicing times tables. Go over spellings children have already learned so they don't forget them! It is vital that they continue with their learning over the summer otherwise new skills are lost! Thanks!

**Reminder Book Amnesty and Lost Property**

Can everyone please search for any library books/reading scheme books they may have hiding under beds. Pop them into school as soon as possible. Also, the lost property box will be left in the courtyard. Please take what is yours. Anything left over will be re-cycled. All cloakrooms need to be emptied of personal items. Thank you.

**EXTREME HEAT WARNING**

It's forecast to be very hot on Monday and Tuesday. Please ensure your children have their water bottles, hats and loose clothing. No uniform is fine.

If your children are unwell please don't come to school, or collect early to avoid the hottest part of the day, if you feel this would be better for their health and wellbeing.

We will be adjusting our timetables and routines as best we can. We will of course update you if we have any further guidance. Thank you.

## **PTFA**

Thank you to the PTFA for all your hard work this year and for the money raised. Special thanks to our outgoing chair Georgie Hine and we look forward to new members supporting the new committee next year.

Your support enables us to not only put on fun and memorable events for our children and families, but also supports school to buy things for the children that we would otherwise not be able to afford from the main budget.

Heartfelt thanks to all, especially in these difficult times.

## **Afterschool clubs for Autumn 1**

*I hope you will agree here at the RCFS we provide a fantastic range of afterschool clubs for all age groups. The first half term back club will be as follows:*

### **Payment for clubs is via Parent Pay**

**RCFS clubs £3.50 per club, external providers may vary**

**Starting wc 12th September, 3.30-4.30pm**

Monday: Wildcats Girls Football Y1-4

Tuesday: Invasion Games with Mr Crooks Y1-4

Gardening Club with Mrs Farrington Y1-4

Wednesday: Dance Club with Mrs Hanson Y2-4

Thursday: Boys Football with Mr Hindhaugh Y2-4

*Please email or speak to the school office if you would like to take part in any of the clubs and you will then receive confirmation message/details and the item will be added to your parent pay account. Please note: If you sign up for a club and then your child pulls out/misses sessions, a refund may not be possible if we have had to pay up front for an external provider for the course.*

*Please speak to us if your child would like to join a club but you need support in financing it, we may be able to assist.*

## **Coming soon.....**

Following extensive consultation and feedback, we are making some changes to the way that school communicates with you and your children to try and streamline messages and home learning channels.

Next academic year, we will be using Class Dojo for communication in all year groups – including Year 3 and Year 4. All class teachers, the school office and Mrs. Hanson will be able to send out class notices via this platform and we will be making more use of the upcoming events feature on Class Dojo.

Also, following a successful trial in Y4 last year, we will be using Google Classroom for all home learning, work/event shares and parent curriculum briefings/workshops/tutorials in all year groups.

We will be communicating with you all at the beginning of term to ensure you all have the correct logins for these two channels and we hope this will help with communication.

## FINAL REMINDERS PAGE

### **Uniform for September 2022**

Thank you to parents and carers for making sure your children are dressed smartly for school. Our Richard Clarke identity is important. For anyone who is unsure of our school uniform please see the link on the school website. School Trends link is on the website for logo'd uniform, but plain uniform is fine if you prefer. May we also take this opportunity to ask that all accessories are kept to a minimum and that hair bobbles and bows are small and are in school colours. Keep fashion items for wearing at home.

### **PE Kits**

We intend to keep asking children to wear PE kits on PE days as we have found this beneficial for a number of reasons. It extends the lesson by saving on changing time and eases congestion in cloakrooms. However, as this is now a permanent arrangement we would ask that the PE kit is in school colours and not an assortment of fashion/Football team tees or hoodies. We have asked School Trends to add a red hoodie with logo and black trackpants to our PE kits for the winter months and we have added a skort to the summer PE kit. As the children are in the kit all day, it is important that they still look smart and uniformed because of the benefits this brings.

If you have any financial hardship or your children are in receipt of pupil premium, please ask the school office as we may be able to help with the cost of uniform.

Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Get reading for the Summer Reading Challenge!**

This year's theme for Staffordshire Libraries Reading Challenge is Gadgeteers! Does your child love baking, music, tech? Do they love being creative, dancing, drawing, reading? Then Gadgeteers is a must!

Signing up for this year's Summer Reading Challenge will not only keep reading levels high over the summer, but will also encourage children to discover and explore science and innovation all around them!

Here is a link to a video to learn more - The Summer Reading Challenge 2022 - [Staffordshire Libraries - Gadgeteers - YouTube](#)

### **ParentPay**

All dinner money balances must be cleared by Friday 15th July.

### **CHANGE OF TIME FOR THE SCHOOL DAY**

We have decided to go back to our original, pre-pandemic, timings for the school day. From September 2022, our school day will be 9am to 3.30pm, for all pupils.

Gates will open, as normal at 8.50am, and children will go straight into class, ready to start lessons at 9am.

Many thanks for your patience, throughout the pandemic, with the constant changes to timings. Hopefully, we will not have to change this again now.

**TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE**

### Charity News

Anais will be having her hair chopped for the Little Princess Trust (and Birmingham Children's Hospital) in a couple of weeks and the hair will go to make a wig for another little girl, whilst any money she raises will go to the B'Ham Children's Hospital Charity to help other children. We're really proud of her, as this is the second time she's donated her lovely hair, the first time being 2.5 years ago!

If you would like to support Anais we have been given details of a Just Giving link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/anais-cary>

Thank you