

Dates for your diary:

2014 <u>April</u> 11 - School Bank 14 - Easter break 28 - INSET 30 - Y3 Think Tank Trip <u>May</u> 1 - Prof McGinty - Y4 2 - School Bank 2 - Coffee Morning (SEN) 5 - Y4/Y5 Cricket Coaching 6 - Prof McGinty - Y5 9 - School Bank 9 - PTA Meeting 12 - SATS Week 14/15/16 - Y4 Residential trip to Bell Heath 16 - School Bank 19 - Y4/5 Cricket Coaching 21 - Y6 First Aid Training 22 - INSET (Polling) 23 - School Bank 26 - Half Term June 2/3/4/5 Y6 Residential trip to Redridge 2 - Y4/Y5 Cricket Coaching 3 - Y5 Cricket Festival 3 - Destiny Africa Concert 6 - Coffee Morning 9 - Cricket Coaching 11 - Prof McGinty - Y5 16 - Y4/5 Cricket Coaching 23 - Y4/5 Cricket Coaching 26 - New Intake Evening <u>July</u> 4 - Summer Fair 8 - Coffee Morning 8 - Sports Day 8/9/10/11/14 - Book Fair 9 - Open Evening 10 - Y4 Cricket Festival 14/15/16 - Y6 at Solihull School 14/15/16/17/18 - УЗ swimming 16 - Y6 Performance at Solihull School 17 - Leavers' Tea 17 - Leavers' Disco 18 - Leavers' Assembly 21 - INSET 22 - Summer September 1 - INSET 2 - Possible INSET [TBC]

As you will all know by now, I have a new job to go to in September.

Applying for the position was not an easy decision to make. I am and always have been very happy at Sharmans Cross. However, there are times in life when opportunities offer themselves that are too tempting to ignore. Ulverley School offered me one of those rare opportunities that I could not ignore. A Children's Centre, Nursery, Infant Department and potential building projects, along with a strong ethos for teaching and learning were all too much for me to ignore. It also offered the opportunity of promotion.

It has been a real honour and a privilege to have been part of such a wonderful community and to have served it. I thank the governors for the faith that they showed me six years ago and you for allowing me to be part of the school's history. I have learned much and have many happy memories as a result.

I am extremely proud of the work that we have done together, our achievements in turning the school into a good school on the brink of excellence and the fantastic team of people that we have put in place to carry the school even further onwards. Given all of this, I am confident that we have laid strong foundations, building something bigger than any individual. It is this confidence in the team that made my decision to leave much simpler.

However, I do not leave until August and there is still work to be done. I will of course support the governors as much as I am able to in ensuring that the school can secure the services of a new Head Teacher that it deserves as well as continuing to strengthen the rigorous systems that we have in place to support and ensure that children become the very best that they can be.

My thanks to those who have expressed congratulations on my success and regret that I am leaving.

I hope that you all have a very happy Easter holidays and that you will return to school on Tuesday, 29th April ready for yet another hard working and successful term!

Mark

<u>Readathon</u>

Thanks to all the children who have taken part in this, either for fun or to raise money for children's charities! Children have told me that they have been reading more for the last couple of weeks, as well as reading a greater variety of text types- I have seen magazines, recipe books, information books and loads of other texts in school! Hopefully this will inspire our children to keep reading and to enjoy themselves while doing it! Please send any sponsor money and the sponsor cards to the office as soon as possible! Thanks! Miss Boon ©



Shakespeare Week

Shakespeare Week was a great success! Both children and teachers enjoyed the week and the children have produced some fantastic work, developing reading, writing, drama and speaking & listening skills! This is what each year group got up to:



Year 3- Macbeth

Year 3 have been learning about Macbeth for Shakespeare week. It is about a man called Macbeth who receives some prophesies and they come true! We have done lots of things, including writing a description of the 3 witches, acting out and scene and learning about Shakespeare using ipads.

By Leo Ward & Arjun Parmar

Year 4- A Midsummer's Night Dream

In Shakespeare Week, we focused on 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Through lots of drama, we found out what happened in this complicated love story and we also did freeze frames to help us understand the character and story in detail.

By Scarlett Burbidge

Year 5- The Tempest

In Year 5, we have been learning about the Shakespeare play called The Tempest. It is named after a monstrous massive storm that occurs in the first part of the story. During the first lesson, we used our body and sounds to recreate the storm, then we wrote a description of the castaway island that Prospero and his beloved daughter were forced to live on. We shared our knowledge with our buddy class in Year 3 (who performed a fantastic play about Macbeth!). We have loved and enjoyed learning about Shakespeare and hope we could do more things like this in the future!

By Gabrielle Homer & Nayan Paul

Year 6- Romeo & Juliet

In Year 6, we have been studying the play Romeo & Juliet to celebrate Shakespeare week. We did hot seating, pretending to be one of the characters, while other children asked us questions about what happened in the story.

We also did a courtroom activity deciding who was to blame for the young couple's deaths. After a debate, the Jury decided that the Friar Lawrence and Tybalt were to blame, therefore they were both sentenced to twenty years in prison and have their legs cut off (even though Tybalt was already dead!).

By Jamie Brown & Ethan Harford