



# Sharmans Cross Junior School

*Striving for Excellence*

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[www.sharmans-cross.com](http://www.sharmans-cross.com)

## Dates for your diary:

### 2014

#### March

- 19 - Purim
- 26 - Possible Industrial Action
- 27 - Parents' Evening
- 31 - Y5 Bikeability Training (31<sup>st</sup> March - 4<sup>th</sup> April)
- 31 - Y4 Production

#### April

- 1 - Y4 Production
- 2 -Yugadi
- 4 - **Coffee Morning**
- 9 - Easter
- 14 - **Easter break**
- 28 - **INSET - Curriculum / Vision**
- 30 - Passover

#### May

- 2 - **Coffee Morning**
- 2 - **Curriculum Overviews out**
- 2 - **Targets negotiated / shared / displayed**
- 7 - Cinco de Mayo
- 8 - Parents' Forum
- 12 - SATS Week
- 15 - Ascension
- 15 - **Disco**
- 19 - **Enrichment Week**
- 26 - **Half Term**

#### June

- 6 - **Coffee Morning**
- 25 - Ramadan
- 26 - **New Intake Evening**

#### July

- 4 - **Summer Fair**
- 9 - **Open Evening**
- 16 - **Y6 Performance [Solihull School]**
- 17 - **Leavers' Tea**
- 17 - **Leavers' Disco**
- 18 - **Leavers' Assembly**
- 21 - **INSET**
- 22 - **Summer**

#### September

- 1 - **INSET**
- 2 - **Possible INSET [TBC]**

This week our school mission statement was truly seen in action through our Pupil Progress meetings '..everyone is safe, valued and respected in a friendly, supportive and inclusive community so that we can become the best that we can be. We strive for excellence in everything we do..'

Each year group met together to discuss the spring assessment data for Literacy and Numeracy for their class. The professional conversations involved class teachers and support staff looking at progress of the children in their care, celebrating the successes our children are making and implementing next steps for their future progress. We have found that having these meeting after key data collection points in the term, allows us to really personalise the learning and tailor the curriculum and learning experience for the range of abilities in each of the classes.

With parents evening coming up in the next couple of weeks, these meetings allow us to share with you numerically how your child is progressing as well as the important conversations with the class teacher on how they are becoming 'confident, successful, independent learners.'

Year 5 have been in York this week and have been blessed with good weather, all reports indicate they are having a fabulous time; learning an array of new skills and developing knowledge that supports many areas of the curriculum. Trips like York are invaluable for providing children with learning experiences beyond the classroom. With the new Curriculum due to be statutory from September 2014, we are already looking at developing new and exciting opportunities that support the new expectations of the curriculum and also thinking about which year groups these trips take place in. The new history curriculum is now to be taught in chronological order which has meant looking at the history taught in each year group. This of course will have implications on all trips including residential that the child go on. The curriculum information leaflets that are sent to you termly help to keep you informed on curriculum coverage for each year group and the trips and visitors that help to bring learning alive.

On a final point, next week is Sports Relief week. We will have many sporting activities taking place across the week including hoola hooping, skipping and our school football team will be playing against the Destiny Africa Children's Choir! On Friday, we are all dressing up as our favourite sporting heroes, we hope you can join us for our Sports Relief mile and raise lots of money for such a worthy cause!!

Have a great weekend!

Becky Martin

## **National Science and Engineering Week 2014**

National Science & Engineering Week (NSEW) is a ten-day national programme of science, technology, engineering and maths events and activities across the UK aimed at people of all ages running from **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014**. In school, to compliment our Science curriculum, children will be taking part in a National Science Quiz with their classes and many will be participating in a local schools Science and Engineering Challenge, run by Mr Stanford from Alderbrook School.

Locally, we wish to bring your attention to the following event/attractions which you may like to find out more about:

- The Big Bang Fair, UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair, Birmingham 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at The NEC - suitable for upper KS2+ pupils (entry is free). Visit <https://www.thebigbangfair.co.uk/> for full details.
- Birmingham Science Museum 'Thinktank' - [www.thinktank.ac](http://www.thinktank.ac)

We wish to encourage our children to see that Science is all around us everyday and that finding out how things work, why things happen and how they can make an impact on the world is truly exciting!

If you feel you can support us in our development of Science in school - maybe you have a Science background, or work in a Science related field - please do get in touch.

Alison Gale  
Science Leader

## **Shakespeare Week- Monday 31st March**

Sharmans will be holding a joint celebration of World Book Day and Shakespeare Week to celebrate 450th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth! There will be lots of exciting activities and this special week will see the launch of our whole school readathon! Watch this space for more details! Look out for your World Book Day tokens making their way to you today. Enjoy!

Miss Boon

## **Don't forget to get your tickets for Destiny Africa Children's Choir...**

Many of you will remember the choir from their previous visits to Sharmans and we are delighted to have them back in school again on **Thursday 20 March, and Tuesday 3 June**. **Both concerts will start at 7.00 pm. Tickets will be available from the school office. Adults £6, Child £4.**

The choir from Kampala Children's Centre present their new show 'Inspire Africa' which tells their story of hope and changed lives through the vibrant use of music, dance and art.

The musical production is a mix of modern and traditional songs, drumming and dances from the heart of Africa. It features the inspiring stories of children who have journeyed from despair and tragedy into the new life they've found at Kampala Children's Centre (KCC).

Profits from the tour support the work of KCC, a centre established in 2005 to give a home and a voice to children in Uganda affected by poverty, disease and the legacy of war.

For more information visit their website [www.destinyafrica.org](http://www.destinyafrica.org)