



Sharmans Cross Junior School

Striving for Excellence

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Dates for your diary:

2014

March

31 - Y5 Bikeability Training
(31st March - 4th April)

31 - Y4 Production

April

1 - Y4 Production

4 - School Bank

2 - Yugadi

4 - **Coffee Morning**

9 - Easter

11 - School Bank

14 - **Easter break**

28 - **INSET - Curriculum
/ Vision**

30 - Passover

May

2 - School Bank

2 - **Coffee Morning**

2 - **Curriculum Overviews
out**

2 - **Targets negotiated /
shared / displayed**

7 - Cinco de Mayo

8 - Parents' Forum

9 - School Bank

12 - SATS Week

15 - Ascension

15 - **Disco**

16 - School Bank

19 - **Enrichment Week**

23 - School Bank

26 - **Half Term**

June

6 - Coffee Morning

6 - School Bank

13 - School Bank

20 - School Bank

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]**

As you will all know, we take a great pride in our community. We believe that a community is a group of people with a common purpose coming together and working for the benefit of each other.

This last week or so has been a fabulous example of this. Firstly, I was extremely proud to see children from Y3 and Y5 working together on their writing. Children from Y3, having written amazing pieces around a Greek Myth, shared their work with the Y5 children in order to receive praise and improvement tips from their fellow writers. The Y5 children were fantastic in their appreciation, sensitivity and suggestions for how those Y3 authors could improve their work even further.

Next, we were delighted to welcome back our friends from the Kampala Children's Centre in Uganda. It was a real joy to witness, experience and join in with their great enthusiasm and joy and to see them get along and be accepted so beautifully by our children and parents. This really showed to me that community is about more than distance and we are very proud to have them as part of and to be part of their community.

Then, we had the Sports Relief Mile. Again, I was very proud to watch, and join in with, children, parents and staff all having a great time in healthy pursuits and raising money for others within the global community, highlighting once more in our part in a much broader community. With the money still coming in, we have raised over £1 000! This is an amazing and very humbling effort and I thank everyone involved in this fabulous achievement!

As you will no doubt have seen in last week's newsletter, we are sadly "losing" a valued and valuable member of our community today! After twenty one years of committed, dedicated and tireless work in the office, Mrs Belcher retires today to spend some more well deserved, quality time with her husband and family.

In her time with us, she has supported three Head Teachers and amazing 1 890 children! She has treated everyone with due care and diligence, proudly and expertly modelling that definition of community that is so very important to us here at Sharmans Cross.

I would very much like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to her on behalf of all those people that she has helped, not least of all myself, and her loyalty and support for the school.

Mrs Belcher, we wish you and yours well, but remind you that you are still very much a part of the Sharmans Cross community. Please drop in at any time!

Have a great weekend!

Mark

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE UPDATE

In what was a very busy week in school last week, all of the classes took part in the National Science and Engineering Quiz. It was very competitive and after a draw in both upper and lower phases of the school, a 'decider' was required between 4VW and 4GC, and between 5 of the 6 classes in Years 5 & 6. Coming out on top in the lower phase were 4GC and the upper phase, 5AG. Both classes will receive their winners prizes and certificate in assembly soon. Congratulations to everyone for taking part.

Congratulations also to everyone who competed in the Spaghetti Tower Challenge, a Science and Engineering Task led by Dr Stanford from Alderbrook School. Our nine collaborative schools also participated and we are waiting to hear back how our efforts compared. In house though, we can safely say, we have some budding engineers, for the challenge which sounds quite easy - to build the tallest free standing tower out of spaghetti and 20 mini marshmallows, is actually a lot harder than you might expect (go on have a go at home!). The perseverance and collaboration shown during the team challenge was super and all of the children can be proud of their efforts. The winning structures were:

1st place - 74cm by Team 6KW (Ethan, Harry, Joshan, Stuart and Louis)

2nd place - 71cm by Team 4GC (Rowan, Olivia, Caitlyn & Louie C)

3rd place - 68 cm by Team 5TB (Joseph W, Logan, Sid, Dylan & Andrew)

Finally, thank you to those many parents who were able to attend Year 4's Parent Share Science session and provided an audience for the classes to talk about some of their learning of late. As a learning target this term, communicating our ideas, investigation findings and knowledge, using the correct scientific vocabulary is often difficult, but the children, although some very apprehensive about using the 'posh Science words', enjoyed welcoming you to their classrooms. Thank you for your time and support.

Alison Gale
Science Leader

After school LEGO club for Years 3 - 6

As this half term is so short we are offering the Lego club to Years 3 - 6 for the whole term. Don't forget to bring your letters in early to get your place.

Please note that Mon 28th April is INSET day so club will commence on 12th May. Therefore the cost will be £30

Sorry for any inconvenience

Collette Brown