



# Sharmans Cross Junior School

*Striving for Excellence*

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## Dates for your diary:

### 2014

#### January

- 28 - Understanding your child's behavior Course
- 29 - Chinese New Year
- 30 - Parents' Forum

#### February

- 3 - Y6 Parents' Safer Internet Workshop
- 4 - Understanding your child's behavior Course
- 7 - Coffee Morning
- 10 - Maths Enrichment Week
- 11 - Understanding your child's behavior Course
- 13 - Disco
- 17 - Half Term
- 26 - Safer Internet Day

#### March

- 5 - Ash Wednesday
- 7 - Coffee Morning
- 11 - Y5 York
- 12 - Holi
- 19 - Purim
- 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

As part of our ongoing commitment to children's safety, Mrs Ferguson and I have this week attended the annual Solihull Designated Member of Staff [DMS] for child protection conference. This keeps us up to date with all of the crucial information, best practices and statutory requirements, as well as helping us to consider our own practices and how we can continue to improve our service.

I therefore thought that I'd take this opportunity to share with you the [NSPCC PANTS](#) Campaign. The Underwear Rule is a simple way that parents can help keep children safe from abuse - without using scary words or mentioning sex.

They've developed a simple [guide for parents](#), and a [child-friendly version](#), to help you talk PANTS with your child.

Whilst an unusual title, the rule helps children to remember key advice and reflects the nature of the advice given in a non-threatening way.

**P - Private.** All areas covered by underwear is private and therefore no-one else's business!

**A - Always.** Always remember your body belongs to you!

**N - No!** You have the right to say "No" to unwanted attentions or touches.

**T - Talk.** Talk to people about things that make you uncomfortable, nervous or scared.

**S - Speak up!** If in doubt, speak to someone about what is happening.

Small, open and honest conversations are the best way to introduce the Underwear Rule to your child and talk about keeping safe. Inevitably your child will have questions, so listen carefully and attentively and be straightforward in your answers. You know your child best of all, so adapt the conversation and talk in a way that feels right for you both.

These five simple rules will help our children to feel safe and remain safe.

It's good to talk! Have a great weekend!

Mark

### Sports at Sharmans!

Huge congratulations to Tom Watkins, Lawson Attwood and Laura Smitten on being selected for Warwickshire County Cricket Club winter training! We are excited to hear how you get on!

There are lots of exciting sporting opportunities coming up this term for children across the school. If you would like more information, please contact Mrs Snowden!

Tuesday 11th March	Primary Cross Country Year 4, 5 and 6 @ Old Sils 4-6pm
Thursday 20th March	Year 5 and 6 Dance Festival 2013 'In the News' @ Alderbrook School (Mrs Harrison)
Thursday 13th March	Year 3 & 4 Football 2 @ Lode Heath 4-6pm
Wednesday 19th March	Hi 5 Netball Tournament Year 5 and 6 @ Lode Heath School 4pm

### Early Birds - Message from Mrs Stewart

Please note there will be **no on Early Birds on Fridays** until further notice.

### Love Solihull Poster Competition

I would like to invite all Sharmans Cross children to take part in an art competition.

**The competition aims to help promote an early awareness of the local environment, which can be spoilt by litter, vandalism and general degradation.**

If you are interested, complete a poster encouraging people to bin their litter and clean up the environment. Please complete on A4 paper/ card using any medium, ie. Paint, crayon, pen, ink and pencils. You need to write your full name, age, class and school on the back of the poster and give it to Mrs Green in 5AG. I will have a tray for entries ready. **Deadline is Friday 14th February 2014**

The competition is being run by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

**The winner will receive a family ticket for cineworld and the class will receive an educational activity lead by a Neighbourhood Ranger!**

### Maths Week

If you have any unwanted foreign currency at home, please can you send it in to Miss Jefferies so we can use it during Maths Week. Many Thanks, Miss Jefferies

### New Parking Restrictions

Thank you to everyone for accepting, and following the new parking restrictions around the school. As one email to us commented,

*"Again, thanks to all - we have tried to provide more safety for all. but most important for the children."*

We are now working on ways to support parents in dropping children off / picking them up, a walking bus for example. Any suggestions / volunteers please contact the school via our online forum. Please continue to watch this space!