



Friday 25 October 2013

Autumn Term; Issue 08

# Sharmans Cross Junior School

*Striving for Excellence*

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## Dates for your diary:

### 28 - Half Term

#### November

- 4 - Return to school
- 6 - Diwali
- 8 - **Coffee Morning - MyMaths**
- 8 - School Bank
- 11 - Mock SATs / SLTs
- 11 - Armistice Day
- 13 - Guru Nanak's Birthday
- 15 - **PTA 80s Night**
- 15 - School Bank
- 18 - **Anti-Bullying Week (Cyberbullying)**
- 22 - School Bank
- 27 - Hannukah
- 28 - **Parents' Evening**

#### December

- 4 - **Advent**
- 6 - **Coffee Morning**
- 6 - School Bank
- 6 - **Christmas Fair**
- 18 - Parties
- 23 - Christmas Break

#### 2014

##### January

- 6 - **INSET - Playing for the Badge**
- 7 - **Return to school**
- 10 - **Coffee Morning**
- 10 - Curriculum Overviews out
- 10 - Targets negotiated / shared / displayed
- 13 - School Bank
- 20 - School Bank
- 22 - Milad Un Nabi
- 29 - Chinese New Year
- 30 - Parents' Forum

##### February

- 7 - **Coffee Morning**
- 10 - **Maths Enrichment Week**
- 11 - **Safer Internet Day**
- 13 - **Disco**
- 17 - **Half Term**

### Cultural Week

What a wonderful Cultural Week we have had! Parents have been into school working alongside their children making Faberge eggs, diva lamps, rangoli patterns, African masks and scaled maps of South America. Much fun was had talking, cutting, pasting and sticking as we learned about each other and those from different cultural backgrounds.

### Fireworks

Although not covered by our Culture Week, the next few weeks sees three exciting events. With half term coming up, it is very likely that Bonfire Night, Diwali and Hallowe'en will be celebrated with the children out of school. I have therefore spoken to them today in assembly, reminding them of the sensible precautions to be taken in order to make sure that these events are happy occasions without incident.

I reminded children that fireworks should only be handled by an adult and that sparklers used only with adult supervision. I also reminded them that fireworks are for display and should not be thrown around at any cost!

With regard to Hallowe'en, I suggested that it was sensible to decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colours so that they can be seen by traffic. Since masks can sometimes obstruct a child's vision, try non-toxic face paint and makeup whenever possible. Most importantly, children under the age of 12 should not be out alone at night without adult supervision and certainly shouldn't knock the doors of those people they do not know.

Whatever you're doing on any of these nights, I hope that you have good, safe fun!

### Chicken Pox

We have had a case of chicken pox reported to us from Y4 this week. Given the contagious nature of this illness, I felt it important to alert parents who may be in their first twenty weeks or final three weeks of pregnancy. Department of Health advice is that any child with a chicken pox rash should be kept away from school for the first five days from the onset of the rash. This precaution will help the school to minimize the likelihood of a widespread outbreak.

Finally, a quick reminder that when we return after half term, we will be back into winter uniform. If you are buying any new uniform over half term, especially with girls returning to skirts or trousers from summer dresses, could you please buy grey and not blue skirts or trousers.

Have a good half term!

Mark

### **Community Enterprise Project: 'Star Beads' are Back in Business!**

After our success in Year 3 when we launched our Star Beads Business as part of our Community Enterprise Project work, we voted to reinvest some of our profits back into the business so that we might continue as a Year 4 Enterprise Club in Year 4. Over 20 of us are meeting weekly and with the help of Mrs Gale, Miss Jefferies and a parent volunteer, we are continuing to design and make our own unique, handmade items. We are now working on our Christmas collection - a range of eye-catching decorations for your tree and more festive jewellery. Look out for further details of our planned stall at The Christmas Fair. Don't miss out!

Ella 4VW

### **Warning!**

We have been informed by a parent that as a result of a 'Cinnamon Challenge' that seems to be going around local schools at the moment, their child ended up at A & E due to breathing difficulties. The children have been warned about the potential reactions to such a challenge in assembly.

Many thanks to the parent who brought this danger to our attention.

### **PTA Events**

This term, in their fantastic support of the school, the PTA are organizing the following events:

**15 November - 80s Night**

**6 December - Christmas Fair**

Please make a note of the dates in your diaries and look out for letters and fliers that will be advertising these shortly. As a group, the PTA are also looking for volunteers to help run these events. If you are able to help, please contact the PTA via Mrs Snowden.

*[contact the PTA via [sharmanscrosspta@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sharmanscrosspta@hotmail.co.uk)*

### **SC\_Kids October Holiday Club 2013**

Please note that the Holiday Club will be running at both Sharmans Cross and Streetsbrook as per the following.

Monday 28th October - Sharmans Cross

Tuesday 29th October - Sharmans Cross

Wednesday 30th October - Streetsbrook

Thursday 31st October - Sharmans Cross

Friday 1st November - Sharmans Cross.

If you would like to book a last minute place with the SC\_Kids Holiday Club please contact the club on 07824 419382.

Thank you so much to those parents who came to our Parent Partnership Forum on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The meeting was very valuable and the constructive conversations that were had will help us to further strengthen our Parent School partnership and move our school forward.

**Issues that were raised and actions taken are as follows:**

1. Parking situation in Woodlea Drive	Mr Pratt has held meeting with the police, local residents and the council are looking into putting parking restrictions in the areas discussed. We now await their response. Chn to possibly stand outside for 1 week (a year group each day) to highlight issues at the end of the day. Teachers to discuss logistics.
2. Home School Diary	People were pleased with the set up of the new diary and it was discussed that Y3 teachers will advise how to use them at the new intake evening. There may be a new section for house points and Mr Pratt is discussing how we use house points with school council before this goes ahead.
3. Homework	All spellings will be copied onto the homework page of the website along with any other useful information. This will hopefully be up and running next half term.
4. Mrs Whitcombe	People raised the issue that children are aware of her role but some new parents are not. She is our Family Support Worker who can help families with many difficulties that they may be facing. More details of her role will follow next half term on the website and newsletter.
5. Clubs - issues with changing facilities.	The new clubs code is being distributed to all providers of clubs at our school by Mr Reich. Please find details below.
6. Open evening in the Summer Term.	The focus of our summer open evening will be reviewed by the staff in the Spring term in preparation for next year.
7. Front desk.	The height of the desk is there for health and safety reasons and Mr Pratt is considering the concerns raised.

**Clubs Code at Sharmans Cross**

When running a club at Sharmans Cross, please make sure that you are following the steps below:

1. **All** outside providers should sign into reception before the session begins.

**AT THE BEGINNING**

2. Take a register at the beginning of each session. Make sure that you know the child's full name and class.
3. Count the number of children present.
4. If a child is not there, the lead must telephone the office EXT 200 giving their name and class. The office will then check attendance at school or call home to check.

**AT THE END**

5. At the end of the session, the adult in charge should stand at the main entrance and children will let them know when they see their adult or if they are going to afterschool club. If they are year 5/6 and it has been agreed by parents, they may walk home.
6. If the children are on the field and parents come to collect them, the children should still let the adult in charge know that they are going with their parent.
7. If any child is left, either speak to a member of staff in the office or use the contact details in the office to phone parents. Alternatively, contact teaching staff who will assist.

**DURING THE SESSION**

8. Children should get changed in the sports hall changing room and an adult should be outside the door supervising them, at all times, until the last child has finished.
9. The adult in charge should carry out the session, making sure that the school rules are being followed: respect each other, listening to each other, treating each other how you wish to be treated. It is important that this is followed by all adults and children involved - speaking to each other, not shouting.
10. If the children need to get changed and a teacher is running the club, children should change in their room at the end of the day (unless an agreement has been made that they get changed at last break time).
11. No food or drink should be consumed in the sports hall - water bottles should be left in the entrance hall.
12. Any equipment that is used must be taken out of the shed or cupboard, and put back **by an adult**. The items must be put back into the same place and left how the area was found.

## **FIREWORK LUNCH**

We would like to take the opportunity of inviting all pupils to our Special Fireworks Lunch on Tuesday 5th November 2013. The menu will be as follows:



*Hot Dogs - Pork or Quorn*  
*Jacket Potato*  
*Baked Beans or Sweetcorn*  
*(Salad Bar Available)*  
*Chocolate Shortbread*  
*or*  
*Fruit*  
*or*  
*Yoghurt*  
*Hot Chocolate*

The cost of the lunch will be the standard school dinner amount of £1.90 and this should be paid either via ParentPay or Paypoint Card/Bar Code.

## **Access to School**

From Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, SC\_Kids will have their own coat and bag hangers in the hall. Children will hang their coats and bags in the hall upon arrival at club in the morning and then take their belongings with them at the end of the day. This will mean that neither children nor parents need to be in the classroom corridors outside of school hours, helping us to further improve the security of the site.

Thank you!

## **Lost Property**

In order to try and resolve the ongoing issue of Lost Property from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November the Lost Property Box will be made more accessible to help lost items find their way home!

The Lost Property box will be available in reception for parents to look through every morning from 8.30am to 9.15am and every afternoon from 3.15pm to 4.30pm.

The box will also be available daily in SC\_Kids Club every morning until 8.30am and every afternoon after 4.30pm for parents when dropping off/collecting their children from Kids Club.

During school, children will be given the opportunity to check the Lost Property Box at lunchtimes.

During each school holiday any unclaimed lost property will be recycled using the school's textile recycling bank.