

# CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Spring Newsletter No.4 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017

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Dear Parents,

### FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES AT 9.00

Please remember we'd love to see you any Friday morning! If you join us on Friday next week (3<sup>rd</sup> February), you can hear about our Peer Mediation scheme – see the separate item below. Joining us for assemblies gives you a chance to hear a little more of what's going on in school and to hear the orchestra too.

### PARENTS' EVENINGS – 14<sup>TH</sup> AND 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

Letters were sent home last week with all children so that you can let us know your preferred day and time for parents' evening appointments. The letter is also available on the school website. Teachers will liaise so that appointment for siblings are scheduled as close together as possible. Please get your slips in tomorrow if you haven't already. Teachers will be starting to allocate appointments, so if you send your slip in very late you're less likely to be able to have your chosen time slot.

### HELPING YOUR CHILDREN WITH THEIR EDUCATION

Last week, I wrote about the power of getting children, from time to time, to summarise as they are reading. The other thing which has had a dramatic effect on how well children achieve in maths is them knowing the Clinton Counting Songs! I've been teaching / recapping the songs as warm-ups to Thursday singing assemblies, and it would be great if you could reinforce them very simply at home. If you go to the website linked at the end of this section, you'll find a number of videos. Sing the songs with your children (whether they are 4 or 11!) a few times a week, and we'll find they suddenly have access to a whole range of maths concepts. We have been doing the 6s, 7s and 8s recently. It doesn't really matter where you start! The songs help them remember them whichever they are. The link is:

[www.mathstools.wordpress.com](http://www.mathstools.wordpress.com)

### VOLUNTEERING TO LISTEN TO READERS

Following last week's appeal, we're really pleased to have had some more volunteers to come forward. We'd still be happy to have more, so please say if you'd like to help. It really makes a big difference to have this sort of input in school. Even an hour a week is useful to us, so please get in touch if you could give some of your time.

### PEER MEDIATION

We have a fresh team of willing peer mediators at Clinton. Year 5 are almost trained for the job! They will soon be offering their services to any children who have had a fall out at playtime. The principle is that they facilitate an honest discussion which involves the following questions:

1. What happened?
2. How do you feel about that?
3. What could you do?
4. What will you do?
5. When shall we meet again?

The peer mediators learn to be non-judgemental and to ensure that it's the children who've had the argument who need to come up with the solution. Some volunteers will be demonstrating the process to everyone in our assembly a week tomorrow. Then they'll be ready for action!

Pictures of them training are on the back!

### WARWICKSHIRE MUSIC NEWSLETTER

Warwickshire Music, as well as providing instrumental tuition here and at other schools, organise a whole range of musical activities locally. You can find details of their Spring Festival by following the link below. There are some great concerts you could take your children to – it can be really inspiring for them to see other children making fantastic music.

[https://www.warwickshiremusic.org/cms/pages/files/mag\\_january\\_17\\_1483532776.pdf](https://www.warwickshiremusic.org/cms/pages/files/mag_january_17_1483532776.pdf)

### MEN ON THE ROOF!

If you've been in the vicinity of school over the last three weeks, you'll have noticed that we're surrounded by scaffolding and there are workmen on the roof. Our roof has needed replacing for some time now, but this is something that's arranged by the Local Authority rather than by school, so we've been waiting for them to be able to do the necessary work. We're expecting the job to be finished some time after half term, at which point the contractors will clean down the outside of the building, which is currently looking rather grubby!

### A HEDGEHOG IN YEAR 2!

Mrs Jackson and Year 2 have had a very special visitor today – one who was a bit shy and curled up! As part of the work they're doing at the moment, the class had a visit from Warwickshire Hedgehog Rescue volunteers, who brought one of the hedgehogs they're looking after. I'm sure Year 2 parents will hear a lot about this!

### BIG BANG FAIR AT THE NEC

This is a repeat of last week's item, in case you missed it. The family day is Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March and the Fair is aimed at young people from 7-19 years. See <http://www.thebigbangfair.co.uk/the-big-bang-fair/about-us/>

### CHIME NEWS

**Don't leave it too late to get your ticket for the Barn Dance on Friday next week!** They cost £2.50 (child) and £5.00 (adult). Cheques can be made to 'CHIME'. Payments can be handed in to the office or to Simone Royle and your tickets will be delivered to your child in school. Don't miss the fun!

Yours sincerely,



**SAM PATER  
HEADTEACHER**