

Dear Parents,

ASSEMBLY STICKERS!

More sticker winners this week, and a first virtual assembly for the pioneers of year 6! We've been thinking particularly about the skill of 'focus' this week, and I've attached information on how to teach children to focus (rather than moan at them for not being focussed!).

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

We've had some very positive feedback from parents about last week's photos – thank you for that! It's good to hear.

Y3 EGYPTIANS WORKSHOP 19TH OCTOBER

Year 3 are going to have an online workshop the week before half term, run by the Warwickshire Museums Service. Miss Hawley has also arranged to borrow the 'Egyptians Loans Box' which will be full of exciting (and sanitised) artefacts. I'm sure your children will enjoy telling you all about them!

THE MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

The Mayor of Kenilworth, Richard Dickson, is inviting school pupils to design the Mayor's Christmas card this year. He'll select four different designs for his cards, which will be sent to various organisations in Kenilworth and also to our twinned towns in France, Germany and Italy. Entries will need to be in by 31st October and can be handed in at the Kenilworth Centre or Jubilee House. The winners will be given some of the cards, and will be invited to have tea and cake with the Mayor! The template and instructions are attached.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

Please read this even if your child is in YR, Y1 or Y2 and receives free meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme (UIFSM) – this might still be relevant to you.

It's worth mentioning that, with many people's employment situations changing, there are likely to be more families eligible for free school meals on the basis of benefits being claimed by the parents (see the next page for details).

The school receives an additional £1345 per year for each pupil who is eligible for FSM. This is used in various ways in school for the benefit of your child, and can also give them free access to clubs and activities which we'd normally ask you to pay for.

Even if your situation changes and your entitlement to FSM ends very quickly, the extra funding, on your child's behalf, continues for 6 years. This means it really is worth applying for FSM even if the change in your circumstances is only likely to be temporary. For more information, see the next page and

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals/2?documentId=170&categoryId=20008>

PLAYGROUND WAITING BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL

I'm conscious, having been out there this morning, that some Year 2 children are having to wait a long time for their door to open (20 mins in some cases) and they inevitably find it hard to keep still! The main issue that arises is where they run close to children / parents from other bubbles (particularly Year 1). That is causing anxiety. I appreciate this is tricky and it's hard to get children who are waiting a long time to stand with you. The time for Year 2 to enter starts at 9.05, which is the latest slot. The last point in any other class to be able to drop off is 8.55. So timed perfectly, there's only a 10-minute wait. Please do make use of those timeslots the best you can so there's less congestion and less waiting for your children.

On a positive note, we are seeing very few pupil absences – just 3 off in the whole school today – which is great!

STEEL PANS LESSONS

These start on Monday next week!

GUITARS – PLEASE TAKE THEM HOME!

The system for children leaving guitars under the Y5 canopy on Friday mornings is working really well – thank you! What's not working so well is children remembering to take them home again afterwards! Please try to find ways of helping your children to remember, and we'll aim to remind them as well.

TEEM CLINTON NEWS FROM FIONA DOVE

Welcome back from TEEM Clinton; we hope you are all settling in well. The committee had our first meeting of this academic year last night and we have lots of wonderful ideas to bring the community together and to raise much needed funds for the enrichment of our children.

To help distribute this information we would love one or two class representatives who would be prepared to pass on any messages to their year groups via their individual group forums. The preferred platform for this would be WhatsApp; if you are interested in learning more or if you are happy to become your year group rep please can you message me with your name and year group.

We hope this will keep you all in the loop and keep that Clinton Community spirit alive! (spoiler alert: we are looking into how we can still do our famous jam jar tombola social-distance style!).

The TEEM and I hope to see you all from afar!

Yours sincerely,

**SAM PATER
HEADTEACHER**