

CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spring Newsletter No. 9 10th March 2022

admin2308@welearn365.com www.clintonprimary.co.uk



Dear Parents,

It's been nice to have some bright skies this week, with children even having one of two playtimes on the field! It's also been good to start a few clubs up, with year 1 and 2 having the chance to attend an after school activity club for the first time since the initial lockdown.

NON-UNIFORM DAY – FOR RED CROSS

Some older children have talked about the awful situation in Ukraine a little, and our approach is to address their concerns in an age-appropriate way. We don't want children feeling worried or anxious. It's hard, even as adults, to understand the horror of what's happening, let alone for children. We want children to be able to grow up without the weight of the world on their shoulders so we need to shield them without shutting down their current concerns. We are not going to inform them about the situation any more than what they already know, except to address any fears. We have worry boxes in each classroom for children's general concerns, which gives us the chance to see if children are struggling with their feelings over Ukraine or anything else.

It is good for children to know that people in parts of the world do need extra help at times and that by raising money for The Red Cross, we can help those people. The Red Cross is one of several charities who form the Disaster Emergency Committee and we know that they are supporting those affected by war in Ukraine and elsewhere. **We will hold a non-uniform day on Friday 18th March and invite donations of £1 or more for The Red Cross.** If you wanted to donate more than £2, then please donate directly to The Red Cross, where your donation can be gift-aided.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Donations from World Book Day amounted to £167.19 which will be sent off to support reading in the UK and abroad. Thank you for your support and generosity.

COVID

Four children and two members of staff are currently absent with Covid. Each half term for a while now has started a similar way, with a gradual build up until a holiday. Please remember that children should remain home if they have Covid until 2 negative lateral flow tests 24 hours apart (first taking tests on day 4 – with the first day of symptoms being day 0).

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

Please look out for information being emailed home about this. Children in each year-group will start to do age-related sessions the week after next.

REMINDER: MIDDAY SUPERVISOR VACANCY

We are looking for a keen and energetic person to join our team and to start as soon as possible. The job advert is attached. Please share this vacancy with friends or family who may be interested in a term time role at our school. This could be for as few as 2 sessions a week or as many as all five. They should contact the

office for a job description and an application form. The application deadline is Tuesday 15th March at 12noon.

IMPORTANCE OF SPELLING AND HANDWRITING

In an age where we type more than we handwrite and where spell-checks help our accuracy it would be easy to be casual about spelling and handwriting. However, children in Years 2 and 6 cannot reach the nationally expected 'standard' without those skills – even if the content of what they write is amazing. That might have implications for children's groupings at secondary school, for instance. Neither of the two elements can be mastered with a few weeks of extra practise so we need, at school and at home to be constantly working at it. The spelling expectation in primary schools is pretty tough for those who find remembering and applying spellings challenging, so spelling practise at home is of vital importance, starting with being sure of phonics right up to the learning of pretty sophisticated words in Year 6. Practising words the night before a test doesn't get them into the children's long term memory effectively.

BIKEABILITY

Please see the attached flyer about FREE Bikeability sessions happening during the Easter holidays.

STAFF CAR PARK

We've noticed that at the start and end of the day some children are running across the entrance to the car park without looking, or cutting through the car park to the bike shed. Please can you remind your children to use the pedestrian entrance and path to and from the bike shed and to look before crossing the car park entrance. This is for the safety of all. Thank you!

FRANCE TRIP (Y6) SEP 2022

The form should be completed as soon as you're able, and the deposit paid by Monday 14th March, please!

RED RIDGE (Y5) SEP 2022

The form should be completed and the deposit paid by Monday 21st March, please!

TEAM NEWS

The Mothers' Day secret room is approaching! Featuring locally sourced handmade gifts with recycled packaging that include soaps, bee bombs, key rings, fudge, biscuits, gems and jewellery. Tickets cost £2 (you can buy as many as you like!) and they will be available from the website until 14th March. Your child will be able to select a gift of their choice (one gift per ticket purchased) which will be brought home on Friday 25th March. See the website for more details, and please get in touch if you have any questions. www.teemclinton.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

**SAM PATER
HEADTEACHER**