

Dates for your diary:

February



7 - Internet Safety Day
13 - Half Term

March

1 - World Book Day
2 - School Bank
9 - Science and Engineering Day
12-16 - National Science and Engineering Week
[Our World in Motion]
13-16 - Y5 in York
16 - School Bank
23 - School Bank
29 - Parents' Evening

April

2 / 3 - Y4 Performance
5 - Coffee Morning
5 - Term Ends
23 - INSET Day
[Subject TBC]
24 - Children return to school
27 - School Bank
30 - New Curricular Targets shared

May

3 - INSET Day [Subject TBC]/ Polling
4 - Coffee Morning
11 - School Bank
24 - Parents' Forum [7-8pm]
25 - School Bank

June

1 - Coffee Morning [Y6]
4-8 - Half Term
11-15 - Y6 at Red Ridge
28 - New Intake Evening [7-8pm]
30 - Summer Fair [12.30-3.30pm]

July

12 - Open Evening
19 - School Olympics [Sports Day!]
25 - School Year Ends

Tuesday next week is the annual Internet Safety Day. This year the theme is *Connecting Generations*, inviting people of all ages to "discover the digital world together...safely."

In school, as part of our commitment to the safeguarding of children, we will be talking to the children about internet safety in lessons and assembly, essentially reminding them how to stay **SMART** online:

SAFE - not giving out personal details, such as full name or addresses online

MEET - Never agree to meet with anyone without adult supervision

ACCEPT - Not to open emails, files or IM messages from unknown sources

RELIABLE - Information on the web or someone online is not always true

TELL - If anything makes you feel uncomfortable, tell an adult!

We will also be putting more resources online that hopefully will help parents and grandparents to connect and share experiences of the internet. One of these is a picture of a foot which represents your own digital footprint. Why not use it to discuss everyone's internet use, including what, where, how and why. As you do so, you could reinforce the SMART rules, sharing how you also use them to keep yourselves safe online.

As I've already said, there will be an e-safety section on our homepage with useful addresses and resources, but one really important one is www.thinkuknow.co.uk, which can be used to report online abuse to the police. You can also download a Safer Internet Day app from iTunes and no doubt other app providers.

Should anyone have any other concerns regarding the safety and well-being of any child then they should report these concerns to either myself or Jane Ferguson as soon as is possible so that we can ensure that child's safety.

We take our duty to work with other agencies, such as Children's Services (ECS), Police Child Abuse Investigation Unit, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Education Welfare Service, Educational Psychology Service and any other agencies/services coming into school to support individual pupils/groups of pupils, in protecting children from harm and in responding to concerns about possible abuse very seriously. These reports can sometimes be the missing piece of a jigsaw and mean that support and help can be put in place to improve the situation.

Have a good weekend!

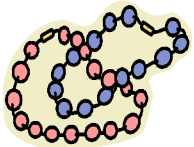
Mark

Maths Week Review

It all added up last week at Sharmans Cross! The children took part in a range of mathematical activities and competitions through which they developed new and existing mathematical skills. The culmination of the week saw over a hundred parents join their children for fun maths activities ranging from a Maths Trail inside and outside of the school, Art in maths, problem solving challenges and an investigation as to whether there were enough children at school to form a human chain around the main school building. Children put this to the test at the end of school day and with some judicious subtraction (cutting through the Year 3 and 4 corridor) we did manage to form a human chain around the 'original' main school building! Our many thanks to everyone involved in organizing and supporting this fabulous event. We're now looking forward to a similar event for Science Week in March and also future Maths Week events!!



Y3 Community Project Presentation - Year 3 were proud to present a cheque to The RSPB's Margaret Morley in assembly on Monday. Aliyah and Ben E handed over the £350 pounds taken at the Year 3 Jewellery Stall during the Christmas Fair last term. The jewellery, all designed and made by the children during their Community Project sessions and by members of The Year 3 Design and Make Club was a huge hit and their stall's profit will now be used to further support the work carried out by The RSPB to protect local wildlife. A big thank you from all of the children and staff once again to Brian from The Bead and Button Bazaar at Earlswood Craft Centre, Monster Skips Ltd and Cinnamon Aitch Greetings Cards for sponsoring the project. Mrs Morley was certainly impressed by the excellent result.



Y5 Community Project Gifts - The children in Year 5 have all taken home gifts provided by Severn Trent this week. As a thank you, toothbrushes and 4 minute shower timers have been provided to all of the Year 5 pupils who made promises to not only try to reduce the amount of water they themselves were using both at home and school, but also to attempt to influence family and friends to think about saving water. Throughout the term, the children planned activities and events to educate and raise awareness as to how we as a whole school community could not only save water and save energy, but save money too. Severn Trent were so impressed with the creativity and enthusiasm shown, they decided a 'well done' was in order.



Outdoor Learning - Part of our aims for outdoor learning is to develop a sense of risk benefit in the children in order to develop their independence. It is up to them to make key decisions throughout the afternoon, including the need to wear coats, hats, boots, etc. Adults regularly remind the children of 5 key considerations, including change shoes and collect coats, but ultimately it is up to the individual child to take the final decision.



Ghost stories - Write a maximum of 250 words for a ghost story. It needs to be all of your own work. It can be funny and/or scary and needs to be handed in to Miss Jefferies by Friday 24 February. Winners will be published in a book and the first place will win a free family ticket to the London Dungeons. Entry forms are on Miss Jefferies' door.



Congratulations! Our congratulations and best wishes go out to Mrs Martin and her husband on the birth of their son and daughter earlier this week. Both babies and parents are well we understand.



Congratulations! Well done to Andrew Mackey who has just been selected to attend winter training with the Solihull District U11 cricket squad! He becomes the first Hampton and Solihull CC player to be selected for this squad.

Our many congratulations go to Andrew, a left arm quickie, for this achievement. We wish him well for not only the training squad but also for the upcoming season as he looks to breakthrough into the starting XI!

