



Sharmans Cross Junior School

Striving for Excellence

0121 705 2379

45office@sharmans-cross.solihull.sch.uk

www.sharmans-cross.com

Dates for your diary:

2014

March

- 12 - Y5 York
- 12 - Holi
- 19 - Purim
- 26 - Possible Industrial Action
- 27 - Parents' Evening
- 31 - Y5 Bikeability Training (31st March - 4th April)
- 31 - Y4 Production

April

- 1 - Y4 Production
- 2 - Yugadi
- 4 - Coffee Morning
- 9 - Easter
- 14 - Easter break
- 28 - INSET - Curriculum / Vision
- 30 - Passover

May

- 2 - Coffee Morning
- 2 - Curriculum Overviews out
- 2 - Targets negotiated / shared / displayed
- 7 - Cinco de Mayo
- 8 - Parents' Forum
- 12 - SATS Week
- 15 - Ascension
- 15 - Disco
- 19 - Enrichment Week
- 26 - Half Term

June

- 6 - Coffee Morning
- 25 - Ramadan
- 26 - New Intake Evening

July

- 4 - Summer Fair
- 9 - Open Evening
- 16 - Y6 Performance [Solihull School]
- 17 - Leavers' Tea
- 17 - Leavers' Disco
- 18 - Leavers' Assembly
- 21 - INSET
- 22 - Summer

September

- 1 - INSET
- 2 - Possible INSET [TBC]

This week saw the start of Lent in the Christian world. As it was my assembly on Monday, I spoke to the children about what Lent meant to me.

During the assembly we looked at the human side of Jesus. The side that was afraid, uncertain, reluctant to face up to what was going to happen to him if he began the life that had been set out before him. We talked about when he was tested by the Devil and how, despite those human frailties, he went on to overcome the challenges that faced him, coming out successful in the end.

We also looked at a video, [What Makes a Hero?](#), that laid out the common factors in heroic fantasy / fiction. What was amazing was the way that these components could be perfectly matched to the life of Jesus and the elements that made up the Lent and subsequent Easter story. We highlighted the call to adventure, assistance, departure, trials, crisis and treasure.

What was really amazing, was when we were able to apply those same elements to our lives. Those times when we doubt our own ability, or when we feel that the barriers are too difficult to overcome. I asked the children to consider their goals, dreams and aspirations and what hope and lessons we could draw for ourselves from the Easter story.

Now, I appreciate that we serve a multi-cultural, multi-faith community, no doubt from agnostic to a multitude of religions. However, I cannot help but feel that the Easter story has lessons for us all and that same Easter story is reflected in other religious texts and teachings, meaning that there is a core human lesson in all of this regardless of faith.

As a community we all have the same fears, doubts, aspirations and dreams and together we can work them out, helping each one of us to become the best that we can be. That is why returning to our mission statement this week for other reasons has been so pertinent and why I now share it with you as a reminder of why we are here.

"As part of the Sharmans Cross family, everyone is safe, valued and respected in a friendly, supportive and inclusive community so that we can become the best that we can be. We strive for excellence in everything that we do, becoming confident, successful, independent learners for the future who value self, others and community, developing lasting skills suitable for life in the wider world."

Have a great weekend!

Mark

Nestle's Box Tops for Books Scheme

Thank you so much for all of the box tops tokens you have kindly sent in. Unfortunately this will be the last year that the scheme is running. However, we have until the end of March to send off any tokens that we have outstanding. So would you have a look in your cupboards and see if you still have some tokens on cereal boxes such as Cheerios, Shreddies and Shredded Wheat please? Children can post the tokens in the pink box outside the library.

Many thanks.

Shakespeare Week- Monday 31st March

Sharmans will be holding a joint celebration of World Book Day and Shakespeare Week to celebrate 450th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth! There will be lots of exciting activities and this special week will see the launch of our whole school readathon! Watch this space for more details! Look out for your World Book Day tokens making their way to you today. Enjoy!

Miss Boon

Mad Science

Following the Mad Science Assembly earlier this week fliers were given out for their after school club. Unfortunately the dates they gave were incorrect. We have contacted them and the amended fliers will be distributed by the end of next week. Mad Science will be contacting direct all those who have applied so far.

Destiny Africa Children's Choir

Many of you will remember the choir from their previous visits to Sharmans and we are delighted to have them back in school again on **Thursday 20 March, and Tuesday 3 June.** **Both concerts will start at 7.00 pm. Tickets will be available from the school office. Adults £6, Child £4.**

The choir from Kampala Children's Centre present their new show 'Inspire Africa' which tells their story of hope and changed lives through the vibrant use of music, dance and art.

The musical production is a mix of modern and traditional songs, drumming and dances from the heart of Africa. It features the inspiring stories of children who have journeyed from despair and tragedy into the new life they've found at Kampala Children's Centre (KCC).

Profits from the tour support the work of KCC, a centre established in 2005 to give a home and a voice to children in Uganda affected by poverty, disease and the legacy of war.

The centre is now held up as a model in Uganda for the way in which it cares for the children and seeks to nurture them to become agents of change for the future.

For more information visit their website www.destinyafrica.org