

ST CLEMENT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2019

'Aim High to Achieve, Together we Succeed'

Collaboration

Perseverance

Empathy

Learning from Mistakes

Dear Parents,

The Spring Term certainly has got off to a fast start and as we enter February, and hurtle towards the Half Term break, I thought that it would be a good idea to update parents on a number of pieces of school news.

Parent Teacher Discussions

Discussions are due to take place this week (4th-8thFebruary) and next week (11th-15thFebruary). Each appointment will last for 20 minutes and will provide an opportunity for parents to see what progress has been made since September. Discussions will centre around reviewing the pupil targets for Reading, Writing, Maths and Key Personal Skills that were set in the Autumn Term. They will also include the setting of new targets for the rest of the Spring Term / beginning of the Summer Term.

Thank you for your patience in using our new online booking system for Parent Teacher meetings. Whilst there have been some small organisational issues, mainly based around the differences between Miss/Ms, on the whole I think that the system represents a step forwards.

All parents, with the exception of one or two, have now booked an appointment time. If you are unsure about your booking please contact the school office where an overall list is being kept.

A short Smart Survey will be sent out to parents during next week, to obtain feedback and ask for suggestions in order to improve the system further. This feedback is incredibly important as you are the end users and we may be able to set the system up slightly differently next time to avoid any frustrations that you may have had. As always the survey will be short and to the point in order to maximise responses.

KS2 Spring Disco

This Thursday evening, 7th February, is our KS2 disco from 5.30pm to 7.00pm with our resident DJ Pretty 'spinning requested tracks on her decks'. Tickets cost £4 and include a bottle of water and a snack. There will be a variety of other accessories on sale including glow sticks and tattoos. There will also be the opportunity to have a go at some face art so bring lots of small change! Any interested dancers in KS2 should bring their money in a named envelope to Mrs Lumsden before Wednesday.

If there are any KS2 parents that can help selling accessories on the evening please let Mrs Lumsden know.

Industrial Action

Thank you for your understanding around the recent day of industrial action. A combination of sound planning and your patience and understanding meant that the day ran smoothly, with pupils safely arriving and leaving school at the appropriate times. At this current moment I am not aware of any other planned action, but will keep parents updated if this situation changes.

Children's Plan Workshop

Last week Pedro Malta and a fellow Year 6 pupil represented St Clement's School at the above workshop. Children from all of the Island's schools listened to a brief summary of the 4 outcomes of the Children's Plan :

- Grow up safely - Learn and Achieve - Live Healthy Lives - Be Valued and Involved

The children then discussed one of the areas in depth in small focus groups with other children and politicians. Our School Council is beginning a piece of work around the 'Live Healthy Lives' section. We are working at improving our school in this area. This may involve discussions around healthy lunches, further lessons around healthy living, including mental health and wellbeing, and how we can adapt our school environment to encourage pupils to be more active. Well done to Pedro and his Year 6 partner who were excellent ambassadors for our school. They will now assist Mrs Lumsden in leading this initiative over the coming months.

Parent Consent Forms

Every child in the school will come home today with an updated Parent Consent Form. These forms are vitally important as they clearly set out what you, as parents, give permission for with regards to your child's and your personal information. We have had to update our consent so that it is GDPR compliant, but have also added a number of new items for parents to consider.

The first concerns the use of pictures of your child on school social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Whilst we do not currently have an official school Facebook page we are planning to create one and so need to ensure that we have the correct permissions in place before we do so.

The second concerns parental consent for children to go on offsite educational visits. The form now contains an 'umbrella' consent for standard trips to Jersey Library, Jersey Zoo or the Maritime Museum. These trips are part of our core business as a school and so only require this type of over-arching consent. Separate, specific consent will still be gained for any activities that involve a higher level of risk e.g: surfing or kayaking.

Please consider carefully each of the consent statements, (ensuring both sides are completed) tick the appropriate boxes and return to school as soon as possible.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet is on Tuesday this week. The theme for this year's day is based around 'giving and receiving consent' which fits in nicely with the parent forms above. Classes will take the opportunity to discuss with children the challenges of online safety in an age appropriate way.

Sign to Sing

This week the children will participate in the annual 'Sign to Sing' event. This is the seventh time we have taken part in this National event. The whole school have been learning this year's song, Take That's 'Greatest Day', which is proving quite a tricky one to sign. We will be performing the song in Thursday's whole school assembly, alongside other schools and organisations across the UK. Children and parents are welcome to make a donation on the day which will be forwarded to this worthwhile charity.

Perseverance Day

Following on from last term's successful Empathy Day and Collaborative Deco Day, this term we have decided to organise a day of activities focussing on Perseverance. This will take place on Friday 15th February, just before the Half Term break. A variety of activities have been arranged to test the children's ability to stick at tasks and see them through. Our special guest is Mr Parkinson, the Island's Maths Advisor who is coming down with some particularly challenging logic problems. I hope that the children enjoy the fun activities on our third 'Core Value' day of the academic year.

Police Notice

The States of Jersey Police have asked me to make parents aware of the following:

It has been brought to the attention of the States of Jersey Police that a number of violence related offences have recently been posted on an Instagram page labelled Jersey scraps 2. The incidents captured are of local school children being filmed fighting and in some cases assaulted. The incidents are being investigated however in the meantime there is an urgent need to disrupt any similar future behaviour and to ensure that parents and children are informed that the Police are aware of these posts. We will be seeking to identify both those involved and of course those who are choosing to host and circulate such films and will be requesting your assistance via our school liaison officers in order to do so.

Spring Cross Country

The Autumn Term cross country attracted over 700 children from schools across the Island which is absolutely amazing. The second event of the academic year is due to be organised on Wednesday 27th February and will take place at Les Quennevais Sports Fields. The format will remain the same, with races taking place in the afternoon, during school time. The afternoon will begin with the Year 5 girls' race at 1pm, followed by the Year 5 boys, Year 6 girls and Year 6 boys respectively. This is a fantastic mass participation event, where some children enter to win, some simply to try and beat their finishing position in October and others just for the sheer fun of the challenge.

Whatever the reason for entering, we wish all of our runners the very best of luck and hope that they will 'Aim High' and persevere to the finish line!

INSET Day Reminder

As different schools are planning to complete training on different days, I thought that it might be useful to remind parents about our one remaining St Clement's School staff training day. This has been organised for the start of the Summer Term. The training day will therefore be held on Tuesday 23rd April, which means that the children will return to school on Wednesday 24th April.

The dates for other Island schools can be found on the gov.je website.

'Triple P' Parenting Seminars

St Clement's School has worked in collaboration with St Luke's School and Grouville School to organise a series of Parenting Seminars. These seminars follow the popular 'Triple P' programme and are run by Tricia Tumelty. We have organised three dates at different times of day based at the three different schools. Parents from any of the schools can attend any of the workshops.

The first seminar at St Luke's School took place last week with the next one due to take place on Wednesday 27th February at 9.15am at St Clement's School. The theme for this seminar will be 'Raising Confident, Competent children. If you would like any further information regarding the seminars, either check the posters on the front door of the school or ask Mrs Dixon or Miss Andrews about them. Places on any of the seminars can be booked through the school office.

Football

The football season continues with mixed results for our two school teams. Both teams have been so determined after being promoted to the more challenging Division 2 mid-season. The 'A' team recorded some fantastic victories over De La Salle and V.C.P and nearly pulled off a fantastic comeback against La Moye, going down 4-3 in the end. The 'B' team are continually improving their skills, but are finding matches tough on the Saturdays. To their credit they never give up until the final whistle goes. We are just hoping that after half term we can score a few more goals.

Netball

The school netball team are also experiencing mixed results of late. When they played Trinity recently they came out on top with a 7 – 5 victory. Last week's match at Le Rocquier vs Les Landes was a more difficult challenge with the visitors winning 6 – 1. Miss Hillsden says that the girls are playing some fantastic netball at the moment and are really improving. With the netball tournament approaching we hope that they continue to improve both with their passing and shooting.

Silver Coin Challenge

It has come to my attention that a St Clement's School in Yorkshire promoting a silver coin challenge on Facebook which is confusing some of our parents. Just to clarify, we are not running a challenge of this nature, although I like the idea, so we may 'pinch this idea' and use this later in the year.

Thank you to those parents that brought this issue to my attention.

School Production

Rehearsals are well under way for our Year 5/6 production of 'Ye-Ha' later this term. Just a reminder that our afternoon dress rehearsal will take place at 1.15pm on Tuesday 2nd April with the evening performances on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th April beginning at 7.00pm. Tickets will be available to order on our online booking system shortly after half term. Tickets do not cost anything, but a collection will be taken on both evenings to cover the costs of the production.

Dates for your Diary:

Spring Term:

Weeks of 4th and 11th February - Fortnight of extended Parent/Teacher discussions

Monday 4th – Friday 8th February - Safer Internet Day / Week

Thursday 7th February - School Disco

Friday 15th February - 'Perseverance' Day

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February - Half Term

Friday 8th March – Swimathon
Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day
Tuesday 2nd April - Production Dress Rehearsal @ 1.15pm
Wednesday 3rd April - Production Performance 1 @ 7pm
Thursday 4th April - Production Performance 2 @ 7pm
Friday 5th April - Last day of Spring Term

Summer Term:

Tuesday 23rd April - INSET Day
Wednesday 24th April - Summer Term begins for the children
Monday 6th May Bank Holiday
Thursday 9th May Liberation Day Holiday
Thursday 23rd May – Open Day 4.30pm – 6.30pm
Thursday 18th July 9am Year 6 Leavers’ Assembly
Friday 19th July - Last day of the Summer Term

R Heaven
Headteacher