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29 April 2024

## <u>Calling help from all Parents, Carers and Families!</u> <u>Celebrating Diversity – Carnival Time!</u>

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to inform you that we will be holding a series of carnivals during the summer term to celebrate the diversity at Dashwood.

This is the first time that we have held an event such as this and we are already making plans to ensure that the event is a memorable occasion for our Dashwood Community including: costume prop making, large-scale whole school collaboration pieces, drumming and dance workshops. Currently, Dashwood holds a Silver status ArtsMark, awarded by Arts Council England, but we would very much like to aim high and apply for our Gold or even Platinum award in recognition of the arts curriculum and opportunities that we provide at Dashwood.

There will be four carnivals:

Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 9.15am	Cherry Nursery AM Plum Nursery AM Reception Peach Class *Please note that parents/carers of Cherry and Plum all day pupils can attend either the AM or PM carnival
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 2.30pm	Cherry Nursery PM Plum Nursery PM Reception Pear Class *Please note that parents/carers of Cherry and Plum all day pupils can attend either the AM or PM carnival
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 2.30pm	Years 1, 3, 5 Carnival
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 2.30pm	Years 2, 4, 6 Carnival

We will have an artist in residence, Simon Tipping, from Canal Route Arts, joining us for the large-scale collaborative art pieces which Years 1 - 4 will create with him. Year 5 and 6 pupils will design and create their own drums and receive drumming workshops to provide the music for the carnival.

In school, all pupils will create their own costume props to celebrate their diversity, heritage and culture.



We are so proud that we have 27 different nationalities represented in our pupil and staff community at Dashwood and we would very much like the carnivals to celebrate this. Therefore, we kindly request your help! Please complete the Google Form to let us know about your child's nationality, culture and heritage. This will help us, to help them, when designing their costume props to ensure that what makes them unique is celebrated and represented: <u>https://forms.gle/nyGa4Nbjfiz5TqWd8</u>

We also kindly request the help of our parents/carers and community with sourcing the follow items that will be recycled and used in the carnival art work:

- Bike wheels do you have an old bike that is no longer of use that we could have the wheels from? Do you know anyone that has access to bicycle wheels who could donate some?
- Any art and craft supplies including:
  - feathers
  - sequins
  - buttons
  - ribbon
  - wool/string
  - tissue paper

For the Carnival, pupils will need to wear the following:

- Black top (no logos)
- Black trousers, leggings, shorts or joggers (weather dependent)
- Plain black school shoes/plimsols

Your help is very much appreciated.

Kind regards

Annelise Gooch Vice Principal