



Cliddesden Primary School Headteacher's Newsletter

Autumn Term Issue 4

24th October 2019

SPORTS IN SCHOOL



Our Under 11 Tag Rugby team visit St John's this afternoon for the second meeting in The Norman League. With one win and one draw from the last round we are hoping to remain unbeaten as we take on Hatch Warren, St John's and Chalkridge.

Earlier this week some of our Year 2 pupils took part in a Basingstoke Schools

skipping competition at Costello School. The children did individual speed skipping, freestyle and long rope. The competition was tough and we came 9th overall. Well done to all the children involved.



Today we held the first of our inter-house competitions. Each half term we hold a different sports competition between the houses. Today was Dodgeball and well done to the winners, Ellisfield House.

DIARY DATES AUTUMN TERM

Friday 25 th October	INSET Day staff only - School Closed
Monday 4 th November	Autumn 2 nd Half begins 8:45am
Wednesday 6 th November	Parents evening 3:30-7pm
Thursday 7 th November	Parents evening 3:30-7pm
Monday 11 th November to Friday 15 th November	Oak Class PGL Residential
Friday 22 nd and Friday 29 th November	Gifts drop for Secret Sale
Wednesday 11 th December	Salvation Army Carols 6pm
Thursday 12 th December	Choir at Chineham Tesco 1pm
Friday 13 th December	Friends Secret Sale (Non-Uniform Day) Pantomime (pm)
Monday 16 th December	Willow and Beech Nativity 2pm
Tuesday 17 th December	Willow and Beech Nativity 9:15am
Wednesday 18 th and Thursday 19 th December	Friends Santa's Grotto after school
Friday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner Carol Singing 1:30pm End of term 2pm

Homework

It is an expectation of the school that all children complete their homework tasks.

At Cliddesden we see education as a partnership between home and school, giving parents an insight into what their child's learning. We gradually increase the quantity of work that children are expected to do at home as they get older. By the time the children are in Year 6, the level of homework that they receive should prepare them for the homework expectations in secondary schools. Several parents have commented that one of the main things children struggle with transitioning from Primary to Secondary is the higher demand of homework- most individual subjects give out weekly homework. Our homework expectations are in line with other primary schools.

Homework Supports Classroom Learning: Practising basic skills such as spellings and times-tables; researching a topic; explaining a concept to parents, playing a computer based maths game and regular reading are all examples of ways in which children's learning in school can be supported through homework. Research shows that the more the children need to recall facts, the more chance it has to be transferred to their long term memory. Additionally, using your memory, improves your memory.

Homework encourages independence and self-organisation: As they progress through the school, children are expected to take more and more (age appropriate) responsibility for managing themselves and their equipment. Children do not automatically 'just know' how to pack a book bag and manage setting aside time to complete the homework - they need to be taught. That comes from both teachers and parents. Homework is an important part of building positive habits towards learning. Homework tasks should take no longer than 10 to 15 minutes for Willow and Beech classes, 15 to 20 minutes for Chestnut and Oak classes with Year 6 pupils having between 20 to 30 minutes from the Spring term. All homework tasks are available to view on our website on each of the class pages.

<https://www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk/>

Only in year 6 will a child be made to come in at lunch time to complete outstanding homework. This will help prepare them for secondary school- to understand the importance of organising their time, sticking to deadlines and accepting consequences.

Please can we ask that you encourage your child to complete their homework and help us support their learning.

OUTDOOR GYM

Our children are really enjoying the outdoor gym equipment. It is really helping with their fitness, strength and agility. Please can I remind parents that for health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to use the gym after school and not before 8:30 in the morning once there are two members of staff on duty. Thank you for your cooperation

SCHOOL MEALS

The school meals menu changes after the half term break. New menus will be coming home via your child this week, or you can check them via this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hc3s/primaryschools/menu> the price remains at **£2.40 per meal** for children in Chestnut and Oak classes. **School meals are free to all children in Willow and Beech classes** saving parents the time and cost of preparing a packed lunch for their child each day.

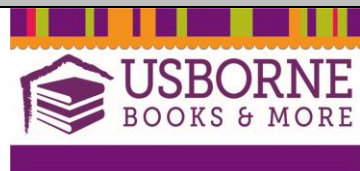
Take a look at the menu with your child. All meals offer a balanced diet and a vegetarian option is available each day. Meals are ordered in the mornings so children have the flexibility of a mix of school meals and pack lunches during the week if they like. If your child has a special diet you will receive this in a named envelope today. If you haven't already notified us that your child has dietary needs, please speak to the staff in the school office as the kitchen can offer additional options if necessary. Free meals may also be available to children in Chestnut and Oak class, if the family is on a low income or claiming certain benefits. You can check your eligibility on the following link: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary> or contact the school office staff for more information.



INSET

A reminder that tomorrow is an INSET day and the school will be closed. The staff are attending joint training with North Waltham and Sherborne St John primary schools and the training takes place off site. We wish all our families an enjoyable and safe half-term break and will see you again on Monday 4th November.

PARENTS EVENING AND USBORNE BOOK STALL



A reminder that parent consultation evenings take place on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th November. On Wednesday 6th there will be an Usborne Book Stall in the school Hall from 3pm until the end of parents evening. There will be a range of books on sale for all ages. The school receives free books based on how much Usborne sell at the event. If your appointment is for Thursday you are still welcome to come and visit to book stall on Wednesday.

NOTICES FROM THE OFFICE

Year 6 Pupils' Secondary Applications

If your child is currently in Year 6 please be aware that the closing date for secondary school applications is **31 October 2019**. You must get your application in to the Admissions Department as soon as possible.

Christmas Shoeboxes

Please have a go at filling as many of these as you are able. We already have some in school, thanks to those families who have already donated and it would be lovely to see a generous number.

Note - the boxes will be collected from school by the Rotary Club on Wednesday 6 November so they **MUST** be in school by 0900 on that day if they have any chance of getting to their final destination and the children that need them.

E-SAFETY- VERY USEFUL WEBSITE

This website from Vodafone has some very useful information for parents. Please take some time to have a look at it.

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting>

To view diary dates and class pages, find out about our curriculum, read all about our events in school, view your child's homework tasks, learn how to stay safe on the internet and much more please visit our school website www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk

CONTACT US

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