



## Cliddesden Primary School Headteacher's Newsletter

Autumn Term Issue 8  
20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

This week Willow and Beech Classes performed their Nativity Play twice to their parents and relatives. Both shows were watched by a full house and many parents commented on how well the children did and how lovely it was. Well done to all the children and their teachers.



We had a lovely end of term assembly this morning. Willow and Beech Class sang a song from their Nativity Play, Streetdance Club performed one of their routines and the choir sang two carols. Reverend Stephen said a few words about the meaning of Christmas and we also celebrated Mrs Duffy's birthday!

At the assembly we gave out prizes and certificates for various achievements. Well done to James in Oak for being this term's TT Rock Stars Champion, Jack L in Beech for Creative Writer, Seren and Elsie in Willow were My Maths Champions and Charlotte in Beech won The School Values Award. Our Joy Cup winners were Emma, Hugo, Eli and Oliver who make their teachers smile every day!

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work this term, the Governing Body for their strategic input and all the parents for their continued support for the school. I wish you all a happy and safe holiday, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



*Kenneth Davies*  
Headteacher

## Pupil Parliament News

Our Pupil Parliament has 8 representatives from across the key stages and a speaker. They were elected by their peers to act as a pupil voice and to assist me with some school decisions.

I met with parliament last week and the main focus on the agenda was the motion that we should stop sweets being brought into school to give out on birthdays.

The reason for addressing this matter came in part from several parents asking me if we could stop this practice. I asked them to write to parliament to state their reasons. I agreed with this motion as we endeavour at all times to be a healthy school. We teach and promote healthy eating through PHSE and science and being healthy through PE and play. The outdoor gym equipment is just one example of this. Giving out sweets is contradictory to this. We stopped giving sweets for end of term prizes last summer and replaced them with small stationery items

Parliament read the letters from parents, spoke to their classes and weighed up the reasons for this motion with the reasons against.

### For

- Sweets are full of sugar. An average bag of a popular packet of sweets has 7.52 grams of sugar (equivalent to one heaped teaspoon).
- Too much sugar can cause tooth decay.
- Some studies have shown sugar is addictive.
- As a school we should promote healthy eating only.
- Having sweets contradicts with a healthy school.
- Parents feel pressure to have to buy the sweets whether they approve of it or not.
- It can be costly to parents.
- Children and parents will still have the choice of whether they can have sweets at home.
- We have children in school who are allergic to certain foodstuffs quite often contained in sweets.
- We have children that for religious and cultural reasons cannot have certain sweets

### Against

- It helps celebrate our birthday with others.
- Most children like sweets

After **much** discussion and debate, Pupil Parliament agreed that the case for stopping sweets being brought into school for birthdays outweighed the reasons against and that we should stop sweets being brought into school.

They understood the reasons why it is an unhealthy practice and not in line with school policy. I could have made the decision myself but thought it an important one for parliament to consider.

The motion was supported 7 to 1 by parliament members giving a majority in favour of the motion.

We realise this won't be popular initially with everyone, especially a large number of children, but over time we hope everyone will understand the benefits.

*"As The Speaker of the Cliddesden School Pupil parliament, I believe the best option would be to ban sweets, seeing as we are a healthy school in many other ways"* - Alize, Parliament Speaker.

**Therefore, from the start of the new term we will not permit sweets in school, birthdays or otherwise. Today there may well be quite a few sweets given out for the last time.**

Parliament, quite rightly, was keen though to have some other recognition of birthdays. They have requested that all classes have a chart that shows when the children's birthdays are. We have also bought badges that the children can wear for the day on their birthday so everyone knows and can wish them a happy birthday.

Parliament is also considering choosing a charity for the year so that if children would like to give something on their birthday they can make a small donation.

## FRIENDS NEWS



Our Secret Sale was a great success this year, thank you again for all contributions and purchases and to the team for running a great morning. Total raised was £484!

Captured Moment Photography kindly donated two vouchers to Friends for free family photo sessions and a free print. Friends decided to give them away without a raffle as a goodwill gesture in time for Christmas. All family names were placed into

a draw and Mrs Barker selected at random Ailani-Mai's and Rylan's families as the lucky winners. Vouchers will be sent home in book bags this week, congratulations and enjoy the photography session.



## THANK YOU!

Last week our Christmas Jumper Day raised £178 for the charity Save the Children. The school looked very festive and we thank you for your support.



Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January is an INSET day for staff only. The Spring Term begins on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 8:45am

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](http://www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk)

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