



## Cliddesden Primary School Headteacher's Newsletter

Autumn Term Issue 8

4 December 2020

Dear Parents and members of the school community



It has been another busy week at Cliddesden. Our Key Sage 1 and EYFS pupils have been rehearsing their nativity that will be recorded for your viewing. It is lovely to hear singing again at school even though it is outside!

Thank you to The Friends of Cliddesden for paying for our Christmas tree which is now up in the link and the lovely lights that are on the shelter in the playground.

Yesterday we had a visit from Ofsted. This was part of the short inspections that they are carrying out across a selection of schools in order to gather information and monitor the impact of the pandemic on schools.

The visit will be ungraded and the inspectors only spoke with myself and subject leaders. They did not walk the school, go into classes, look at work or meet and speak to the children or parents.

Although it wasn't a full inspection as such, it was still a gruelling day with lots of questions that we were well prepared for. They asked about attendance, which by the way is far higher than it is normally this time of year, safeguarding procedures, how we have had to adapt our curriculum and about our remote learning should we have to switch over to it.

A report will not be given but a letter from Ofsted will be published with a short overview of what was discussed and learned from the visit. It is unlikely that this will be published before Christmas.

### Dates to note

- Christmas Cards to your own bubble only - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December
- Deadline to return raffle tickets - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas Dinner - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December
- Last Day of Term - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

There will be no Carols to finish the term this year unfortunately, however we will be finishing school earlier than usual for organisational purposes. Children will still require lunch as cooked meals will be available. **Please note these timings for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Oak Class** - 1:40pm finish and collection  
**Chestnut Class** - 1:50pm finish and collection  
**Willow and Beech** - 2:00pm finish and collection

The village bus will be running and will pick up children at 2:00pm

Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 is an INSET day for staff only and the first day of the spring term is **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021** for all pupils.



As a school we continue to be enthusiastic about physical activity and value the positive impact it has on our bodies and minds. We have continued to provide after school clubs, when possible, and have maintained our high-quality PE sessions. As we are currently unable to compete against other schools we will be taking part in virtual competitions against other schools. These will be on a termly basis and we will also continue our inter-house competitions.

### Cross country

The first of these competitions, cross country, took place last week. The children took part in a series of long and short runs during their normal PE session. It was great to see how hard they tried, especially on the long run, which for KS2 was 16 laps of our playground and for KS1 8 laps! The enthusiasm and excitement on their faces was inspiring. We were, as always, pleased to see how well they reflected the sporting values that we encourage throughout the school. The events were timed and the results are submitted to the Hampshire School Games Co-ordinator, who will let us know if any of our children finished in a top 3 place.



### Bikeability

This week the year 5 children took part in bikeability. This fantastic programme promotes confidence and teaches road safety skills. The children showed great enthusiasm, laughing and smiling as they set off in some very wet conditions. The trainers commented on how polite and friendly the children were to each other and how hard they tried. The children will receive certificates and badges on Monday, to recognise their achievements.

Today we held an inter house bench ball competition for KS 2. The sporting values shown were really impressive and the skills and enthusiasm were of a high standard. All the Houses tried really hard. The final results were:

#### Oak class

1<sup>st</sup> - Hackwood - 57 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> Winslade - 46 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ellisfield - 23 points  
4<sup>th</sup> Farleigh - 20 points.

#### Chestnut Class

1<sup>st</sup> Hackwood - 35 points  
2<sup>nd</sup> Farleigh - 34 points  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ellisfield - 28 points  
4<sup>th</sup> Winslade - 27 points

### **Chosen Charities**

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter I know that some parents like to present teachers with a gift at Christmas to say thank you. We are always extremely grateful but this year, rather than accepting gifts, the staff would prefer you donate to a charity. Due to Covid restrictions, bringing in items is not recommended and we all feel that in these difficult times there are many people who are needing support and a 'gift' more than us. We have chosen two charity options.

The Pupil Parliament has chosen the **Sebastian Action Trust** as its charity. If you would like to find out more and donate to this cause please click this link:

<https://sebastiansactiontrust.org/>

I have chosen the **Salvation Army** as they were not able to come to school this year for our annual Carol Concert as they normally do. If you would like to donate to this cause click this link:

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/>

Alternatively, some parents have suggested they would like to donate to Friends for future resources for the school. Please contact Siobhan Desbonne or email [friendsofcliddesden@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofcliddesden@gmail.com) if this is your choice.

Please note there is no obligation whatsoever to donate to any of these charities but please do not bring gifts in for the staff this year.

### **Covid Test Reminder**

If your child or a family member has to take a Covid test your child should stay off school until they get the results and you need to let the school know the results immediately. If the results come back to you **over the weekend** we ask that you call or text the school mobile number as we do not always access our school emails during the weekend. Please make a note of this number:

**07534602787**

We ask that you **only** use this number for confirming Covid test results. All other correspondence should wait until Monday and be sent via email or the school landline number.

### **Skoolkit**

Skoolkit have asked us to notify you that their store in Basingstoke has now re-opened for all your uniform requirements.

Have a lovely weekend

*Kenneth Davies*  
Headteacher

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)

Contact: [adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk) Tel: 01256 321571