



**Cliddesden Primary School**  
**Headteacher's Newsletter**  
**Spring Term Issue 5**  
**12 February 2021**

Dear parents, carers and members of our school community

The Half Term break is now upon us and I wish to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone for keeping our children's education a top priority over the past six weeks.

Firstly, thank you to all the teachers and learning support assistants for providing a safe and stimulating environment for the children of critical workers who have continued to attend school. Thank you too for providing quality learning for the children at home. I cannot stress how demanding it has been for the teachers to manage and deliver 'blended learning' with children in the class and at home at the same time.

Thank you also to my admin and premises staff for coming in every day and keeping the organisational aspects of school working smoothly and to the H3CS catering staff for providing the children in school with hot meals.

Finally, thank you to the parents for supporting your children with their home learning and dealing with all the ups and downs that you may have to deal with.

For the first two weeks after half term, the school will continue to provide places for critical worker and vulnerable children and we will continue with remote learning for those at home. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February we will find out whether schools will re-open fully on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Again, this week there has been much speculation and 'news' regarding education. Unhelpful talk for already stressed teachers and parents about extended days and catch-up during holidays. Not the media nor the politicians are the experts, those who work in education are - the school leaders and teachers. I speak for all schools I am sure when I say whatever the outcome, we will ensure that we support our children, as they return to a sense of 'normality', not just with 'quick fixes' but by supporting them socially and emotionally, as well as academically.

Children are natural learners and they are resilient. We have already seen how they can adapt well to changes and will continue to make good progress whether it is slower than normally expected or not. Trust me - they will catch up if they haven't already.

On that note I wish you a safe and happy half term break. There will be no remote learning taking place next week but I hope you can take part in our bake off and manage to get some rest, fresh air and exercise.

*Kenneth Davies*  
Headteacher

## PE Survey

Thank you to all the children and parents who completed the PE survey. While it was really great to see the majority of our children taking part in regular exercise, the numbers regularly taking part in Deb's Workouts was lower than we had hoped.

So, we are now introducing the workouts in some of the morning meets in Key Stage 2 and also, we have now introduced a session a day with the children in school. If your child has not yet tried the workouts or only does them occasionally, the half term break may be a good time to try them out. There are now thirty different workouts to do on the Stream page of each class on Google Classroom. You will be able to access this over the break.

We have kept the results of the PE survey and will be sending it out again soon to see if results have improved. The school is proud to hold a School Games Silver Mark and we hope we can retain this and even go for Gold in the future.

## Half Term Activity Reminder

*This half term holiday we still need to stay at home and follow the government guidelines. So why not take part in the Cliddesden Half Term Bake Off challenge!*

*We want the children to bake, with your help, whatever they fancy. It could be a cake, biscuits, pastries or bread. You can keep it simple or go for a real showstopper! They just make sure it looks good and tastes good!*



*We can't try the creations unfortunately but would like photos of your bake.*

*We will judge them on their appearance and the children's own taste evaluation.*

*The school will donate £1 to UNICEF Yemen for every entry so not only will they be taking part in a fun activity they will also be helping to raise money for charity.*

*Once created, baked and prepared we would like a photograph of the bake. Then once tasted or even eaten it all, we ask that the children write a paragraph saying what was special about Their cake. They could include how they made it, what special things were added and a description of how delicious it was.*

*We ask that they upload their photo(s) and the piece of writing on Google Classroom. The task can be found on each year group page with a Google Document to upload the photo and write the paragraph.*



*The teachers will judge and pick a winner from each year group. The winners will get a special certificate. Then Mr Davies will judge an overall winner from the finalists and that person will get a special prize. So please get your children baking!*

## **Book Week**



Our Book week is from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 with World Book Day on the 4<sup>th</sup> March. Attached with this newsletter are activities you and your child can share. Remember that reading is the most important part of a primary school child's education and we hope we can still celebrate and share this event even while you are at home.

## **Parent Governor**

We welcome Barry Dewey, who has a daughter in Willow Class, as a new parent governor at Cliddesden. There remains one further place for a parent governor at our school and we will be welcoming applications at a date in the near future. If you are interested or have any questions about this role, please call the school office or email once we are back after the 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

## **Contact Time**

The 10 minute Schools Cloud slots for children to meet their class teachers individually will resume on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February. You can begin to book appointments from 4pm on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

To view 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