



## Cliddesden Primary School Headteacher's Newsletter Spring Term Issue 3 4 March 2022

Dear Parents and members of the school community

The stress and anxiety that we have all endured over the last couple of years does not seem to be going away yet. Just as we seem to be winning the battle against Covid, another unfortunate world event is taking place. Many of the children, particularly our older ones, are aware of the conflict in Ukraine and as ever we have been treating this sensitively with our children. This week Reverend David came to school for his assembly and led a prayer for those involved in the conflict. If your child is worried or upset the key thing is to reassure them. Below is a quote and advice from Prof Vivian Hill, from the British Psychological Society, if your children ask you about the subject. Also, CBBC Newsround is a suitable way of communicating world news to children.

*"Keep it as matter-of-fact as you can: explain that there have been wars all over the world in the past few years and we've been lucky that most of them haven't had any impact on families in the UK - it's a good way of helping them to have a sense of the degree of risk that's posed to them, and that's what children want reassurance about - that they're safe."*

I met with The Pupil Parliament this week and they were very keen to ask the school community to help support refugees from Ukraine. We decided that next week the school would do a collection for the Disasters Emergency Committee ([www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk)) which is a group of charities, including the British Red Cross and Save the Children, working together to support this cause. Year 5 Pupil Parliament representative, Sofia says

*"Although I was born in the UK, I am from a Ukrainian family. I want to help the people who have had to leave their country because of the war. I hope you will help us, help them."*

If you would like to make a cash donation please put it in an envelop marked DEC and ask your child to hand it in to their teacher by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Once we have collected the donations we will send the money to the charity. Thank you.



### World Book Day

Yesterday we celebrated World Book Day in school. The children and staff came dressed as book characters and there were some super and inventive costumes. During the day the children took part in a range of book related activities and we had a whole school assembly where we talked about the importance and enjoyment of reading. Some of the children talked about who they were dressed as and the books they had chosen. Thank you to everyone for making this a special day in school.



At Cliddesden Primary School we have ensured that in all our classrooms there is a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction, that enrich our children's understanding of diversity. This may be by subject or author. One of our favourites is 'The boy at the back of the class' by Onjali Rauf. It is about a boy who comes to London as a refugee and problems he faces making new friends, adapting to a new life and facing racial prejudice. It has helped us learn the difficult journeys that refugees undertake for education and safety.

### Sport in School



This Tuesday our Year 5/6 football team took part in a six-a-side competition in Millbrook, Southampton. The Premier League Primary Stars tournament involved schools who are linked with The Saints Foundation. Most of the schools were from the Southampton area and we were the only school from this part of the county.

The competition was tough and some of the schools were challenging to compete against. Although results did not go our way the children enjoyed the day out and competing for Cliddesden. They also enjoyed wearing our brand-

new kit, donated by the Cliddesen and Farleigh Wallop Trust and riding in a minibus to the venue. I would like to thank Phil Jeffs and Brighton Hill Community School for transporting us to this event.

During the week before half term our Netball Team had a league game against Kempshott Juniors. It was a brilliant game and the first the team have played together. Although we lost 9-11, it was a fast-paced well-played game. Well done Cliddesden.



On the 15<sup>th</sup> February a team of KS2 children took part in the cross country running at Down Grange.

There were large numbers of children from a wide range of Basingstoke schools and our team put in a determined effort on very muddy ground. The runners all displayed great team values and supported each other in the race. Miss Haresign said they can all be very proud of the values they showed.



We also had an intra-school Quad Kids athletics competition in school. All the children took part in various running, jumping and throwing events. Our KS2 sports leaders helped by organising the equipment, the children and the scores. Well done to everyone and to the winners who were Ellisfield House.



### Healthy Eating



Please can we remind parents that if your child has a packed lunch it should be one that is part of a balanced diet. While we do not ban items such as crisps, they should not be eaten every day and there should always be fruit or vegetables in a packed lunch. The websites below have ideas for healthy packed lunches. Please though be aware that some of the recipes contain eggs, and we do not allow eggs due to some children having severe allergic reactions.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/school-lunch-recipes>

### Parent Consultation Evenings

These will take place towards the end of this term. It is most likely that we will resume face to face consultations but a final decision and date has not yet been made. We will keep you updated.

I wish everyone a good weekend.

*Kenneth Davies*  
Headteacher

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)

[adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk)

Tel: 01256 321571