



Headteacher's Newsletter

Autumn Term Issue 7

18th November 2022

Dear Parents and members of the school community,



It has been an exciting week at Cliddesden. On Tuesday Gaspard and his friend from the Zamble Dance Company visited the school. Every class had a dance workshop accompanied by African drumming. At the end of the day every class performed in a special assembly and then the staff were also asked to perform, at the delight of the children! It was a brilliant day and not only got everyone dancing but the children also learned about another culture.

Today the children all look bright and colourful in their choice of clothes. Thank you for the donations to Children in Need. Today is also

raising awareness of being 'Bright be Seen', a road safety campaign to highlight being safe now the evenings are dark. We are finishing the day with a special assembly led by PCSO Andy Jones. This week our Junior Road Safety Officers have visited the classes to promote today and explain how to 'Be Bright Be Seen'.

A highlight of this week was also our Year 5/6 team taking part in a Basingstoke Schools Basketball competition. Seven schools took part and the competition started with group stages. In our group we first drew with Bishopswood with 3 baskets each. After gaining our confidence and momentum we thrashed Merton by 7 baskets to 0. Our final group game was against Fairfields who we beat 4 baskets to 2. This took us into a semi-final game with Marnel. It was a tougher game but we managed to overcome our opponents by 3 baskets.



Then it was the final. We had to face reigning champions, St Mary's. They were a tough team and overpowered us on the court, deservedly beating us.

Getting to the final was a great achievement by the children and they were awarded silver medals and we also won a trophy for the best placed small school. There is a chance we may have done enough to be entered through to the County finals but this will depend on results from the other district competitions. Well done to the Cliddesden Basketball Team: Annabella, Tyler, Sonny, Bailey, Hugo, and Sofia.

Friends of Cliddesden Primary

Secret Sale

December is just around the corner which means **CHRISTMAS IS COMING!** 🎄

On Friday 9th December we will be hosting our every popular secret sale for all the children to buy a gift for their loved ones. In order for this to happen we are calling for your help with the following:

Donations: We need good quality items to sell. They must be nearly new or in brand new condition. From Wednesday 30th November to Tuesday 6th December you can drop off your donations into the school office but please do not drop off before these dates.

Helpers: We need helpers! If you can spare a few hours on the morning of Friday 9th December, please do get in touch with us via email: friendsofcliddesden@gmail.com or drop us a message on our Facebook page. Your help is very much appreciated and means we can run this event efficiently and safely. As ever, Mr Davies will provide coffee/tea and biscuits!

Thank you, *Friends of Cliddesden*

Diary Dates

Please make a note of the diary dates for this term.

Thursday 1st December - Friends School Discos (TBC) - FS/KS1 3:30pm to 4:30pm KS2 4:45pm to 6pm

Friday 9th December - Friends Secret Sale and non-uniform 'Dress for Christmas' Day

Monday 12th December 10am - Rock to The Beat Concert (for parents whose children take part)

Tuesday 13th December - FS and KS1 Nativity 2pm

Wednesday 14th December - FS and KS1 Nativity 9:30 am

Thursday 15th December - Christmas Dinner and Class Parties

Friday 16th December - Pantomime for the children only and last day of term. School finishes at 2pm.

Willow and Beech Nativity

Next week we will be sending information out to parents in Willow and Beech class regarding how to book for the Nativity performances. We only have a small school hall and spaces are limited. That is why we are having two performances. Priority will be given to every parent so they will be guaranteed a seat at one of the performances. Hopefully there will also be a limited number of seats for other family members.

Attendance

Over the past two years we have been more lenient with attendance for obvious reasons. Now that we are out of the pandemic, the Department of Education have made it very clear that schools need to do all they can to improve attendance. At Cliddesden, we also encourage and promote good attendance.

We understand that children get poorly and our policy is that if they have a fever, stomach virus or are clearly unwell enough to carry out the daily school routine then they should stay at home. However, many cold viruses although unpleasant do not hinder being able to come into school. We obviously leave your child's condition to your judgement, and there are times we will send a child home if they are clearly not well enough to be in school. This link will be of help to you and is also on our website in Virtual Office/Health Information.

www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

If your child has persistent absence we will invite you for a discussion to see how we can help and improve their attendance.

In addition, there are a small number of children coming into school late. **Registration is at 8:45am and we expect all children to arrive in class by this time.** Thank you for supporting good attendance and punctuality.

Parking

As with most schools we are limited with parking space at our school. The car parks **are not** part of the school property and therefore there is little we can change. Please can I remind parents to give priority to pedestrians, those children and families walking out of school, and do not attempt to drive out when there are children and families walking in the car park. Also, sadly, I recently had a report of a parent being disrespectful to another over parking. We teach the children to demonstrate our school values of kindness, respect and harmony and wish for all our community to uphold these values too. Thank you for your cooperation.

Notices from The School Office

- A few children have brought snacks and packed lunches with nuts in this week. Due to allergies we do not allow nuts or products that contain nuts in school.
- The children have raised £93.30 for Children in Need. Well done and thank you!



Have a lovely weekend everybody.

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