



Headteacher's Newsletter

Spring Term Issue 1

6th January 2023

Dear Parents and members of the school community,

I hope you all had a lovely holiday and managed to avoid the many viruses that have been circulating this winter. Having a break was lovely but it was also great to see the children back in school this week.

The spring term is a quieter one than the others but we still have some events planned. Next week we have a singing workshop provided by VoxFresh for all the children and later this month, Beech and Chestnut Classes have a STEM coding workshop provided by SATRO. This was a gift from an outgoing school governor, which we are very thankful for.

After half term there will be the next parent consultation meetings and also parent workshops where you are invited in to join in a curriculum activity with your child. There are also a number of sports events taking place and we are planning a visit to an art gallery later this term. We will keep you informed once dates are agreed.

Mrs Hussey is currently doing a six-week placement at Chalk Ridge Primary and will be back after the half term break. We will be joined next week by Katey Newman, who is a final year student at Winchester University. Miss Newman will be working alongside Mrs Montgomerie in Oak Class for the term.

Website

Remember to visit your children's class pages on our Website. Here you will find weekly homework tasks (updated on Mondays) and an overview of what the curriculum coverage is for the term. Also, we endeavour to add a short overview on a Friday of what the children having been learning each week.

Parent Communication Update

We will soon be changing the way we send emails and messages. We are moving to a system called Arbor which we already use very successfully in school. Arbor has a Parent Portal which is accessible on a laptop or computer and an Arbor App, the mobile version of the Parent Portal, for use on mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets. You will be able download the Arbor App for free from either the Play store for Android phones or the App Store for IOS.

Next week we will send a link which will enable you to access the Arbor Parent Portal. To begin with you will be able to see all of our communications in one place as well as details of your child's attendance, contact & medical information. In the future we plan to add trip bookings and meal payments to the app.

INSET Days

INSET days are days when the school is closed to pupils but open to staff. There are 5 every academic year. We use our INSET days for staff training, organisation and planning. They provide the opportunity for staff to work together for an extended time.

The remaining INSET days for the academic year are Monday 20th February, Monday 17th April and Monday 3rd July.

We have not yet set all our INSET days for the next academic year, but Friday 1st September 2023 will be an INSET day. The academic year 2023/24 will begin on Monday 4th September for the children.

Punctuality and Attendance

Punctuality has improved this week but we have still had a small number of children arriving late. A reminder that **Registration is at 8:45am and we expect all children to arrive in class by this time.**

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/

We also have a Health and Wellbeing page now on our website.

<https://www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk/health-and-wellbeing>

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

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