



Headteacher's Newsletter

Spring Term Issue 2

27th January 2023

Dear Parents and members of the school community,

It has been a busy week at Cliddesden as you will see below. We had our first 100% attendance in a class this term, so well-done Willow Class.

STEM Workshops



Beech Class Coding Workshop

On Wednesday, Carl Webb from SATRO visited the school to run STEM Coding workshops with Beech and Chestnut classes.

The children followed instructions on I Pads to build a model using Lego Technics. Once the model was complete the children used coding instructions on the I Pads to make the models move. Beech Class made windmills and racing cars. Chestnut Class built earthquake simulators and made buildings that had to withstand a simulated earthquake. The workshops allowed the children to explore simple algorithms and use sequence, selection and repetition in programs.

These workshops were a gift from Mr Anthony to thank the school for his time as a governor. We are very grateful.

Carl Webb will be returning to school to meet with the ECO Team soon. We are going to be part of a free project for schools to monitor our electricity use and investigate ways to reduce it. We are having a special meter installed next week.

Sports Hall Athletics

Yesterday some of our year 5 and 6 children took part in an Indoor Athletics competition at Brighton Hill Community School. Nine local schools took part and we finished a respectable 5th place. This is an achievement as in previous years, 8th place has been our highest.

Some of our children came first in their races and skills events. We achieved the joint highest scores in the Girls 3-Lap Sprint and the Triple Jump



The Athletics Team

competitions. The effort everyone put in was excellent and the teamwork and encouragement the children gave each other was wonderful to see.

Year 6 SATs Meeting

A reminder to Year 6 parents that we will be holding a SATs meeting on Thursday 2nd February at 6pm. This will be on Microsoft Teams and a link was sent to you this week. We feel it is important to attend. Please contact the office if you want the link resent.

Road Safety

I have received notification from a resident of the village about traffic speeding on Northgate Lane. Please can I remind parents that there is a 30mph speed limit in the village that extends all the way to the Village Hall. The school has campaigned to have this extended as far as the school but to no avail. Please drive carefully along the lane (30mph is plenty) and adhere to speed limits where restrictions are in place.

On another note, while we realise it is cold, the Junior Road Safety Team ask that you do not run your engines while waiting to pick up children. Let's work together to reduce our carbon footprint and keep our environment clean.

Industrial Action

A reminder that the teachers are taking industrial action on Wednesday 1st February. The school is open only to the children who have an EHCP, a care plan or whose parents are critical workers. Thank you to these parents for notifying us whether your children will be attending.

For the children who are in, there will be hot meals available as usual. For families who are entitled to FSM (Pupil premium) who are not in school, we will offer a packed lunch that they can take home with them on Tuesday. The office will be in contact with you on an individual basis on Monday.

I reiterate that this is a national dispute and not a dispute with the local authority or the school. Whilst this year's unfunded pay increase has met the headlines as a main reason for the action, it is not the only concern held by teachers who are taking action: they would argue that the issues are deeper in relation to funding for education and therefore, having a detrimental impact on provision for children and young people over a period of time.

We understand that this may be an inconvenience to you but also thank you for the messages of support the teachers have received. Learning grids for the day will be provided and are optional. Reading and practising basic skills such as number bonds and times tables are good starting points.

I wish you all a relaxing 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