

Clifton Primary School
Clifton
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29th September 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

STEAM Workshops

The children in Squirrel, Fox and Deer Classes were all lucky enough to take part in a series of nationwide STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) workshops provided by the Institute of Imagination. The activities have focussed on the creativity, design thinking and invention skills that help empower children to apply their imagination to Save Make Reinvent someone's waste into another person's treasure.



On Monday Squirrel Class created their own inks from a range of fruits, vegetables and spices and then used them to create their own works of art.

On Tuesday both Fox and Deer Class took part in a motorised Junk Bot workshop and some of the children even got to feature on the other side of the screen – seen by other children from around the country.



On Wednesday children in Squirrel, Fox and Deer Classes all enjoyed a digital storytelling workshop and used their own models and backgrounds to produce digital stories using stop motion animation.

Squirrel Class have had rather a busy week – working together to build dens in the Secret Garden in Outdoor Learning on Tuesday afternoon and taking part in Action Ants Junior Warrior Festival on Wednesday afternoon with Floor Surfing being everyone’s favourite..... and on Friday they had a rest!



Fox Class had only a slightly less busy week and they burned off lots of energy during their Orienteering challenge in Outdoor Learning on Thursday afternoon. They not only used their map and compass skills but also collaborated and communicated with their partners to achieve success.



Hedgehogs made the most of the wonderful woodlands behind our school on Tuesday. They even found some muddy puddles to splash through.



CONGRATULATIONS to the Netball team who made a fantastic start to the year at today’s area heats. They are through to the final in 2024. Miss Simpson was very impressed by their amazing skills, determination and teamwork.

Texts

Many parents have commented on the new texts we are sending home congratulating children for their hard work, readiness for learning, kindness and respect. We are always delighted to share good news with parents and this seems to be a popular way of doing so on an individual and regular basis. The children are also very proud when they find out a text has been sent home.

Football Cards



Football cards are proving to be somewhat of a distraction in school and there seems to be a consensus between staff and parents. We understand that they are very popular with some of the children but also that some parents may feel pressured to buy them for their child and some children may feel left out. We would like to request that children do not bring football cards into school and suggest that they could still be swapped outside school time – maybe on the Playpark. Thankyou for your support.

Parent's Consultation Meetings – Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th October

Please make an appointment using the links below. If these days are not convenient for you please speak to your child's/children's class teachers to make alternative arrangements.

Hedgehog Class - [Nursery and Reception \(padlet.com\)](https://padlet.com)

Squirrel Class - [Year 1 and Year 2 \(padlet.com\)](https://padlet.com)

Fox Class - [Year 3 and Year 4 \(padlet.com\)](https://padlet.com)

Deer Class - [Year 5 and Year 6 \(padlet.com\)](https://padlet.com)

Enhancing The Curriculum and Adventure Days

The staff are busy planning a range of trips to enhance children's learning across the curriculum. Each class will have a variety of trips and visits throughout the year linked to their learning in different subjects. We will inform you about this term's plans as soon as they are confirmed.

We are also organising Adventure Days which will spread the activities we have previously done during Adventure Week across the three terms. We are excited about the experiences we will be offering and look forward to sharing more news with you soon.

Lunchtime Sports Clubs We were delighted with the response to our new Cross Country running club last Monday lunchtime and are busy thinking of how to cater for all children who wish to take part. For the time being it will be for children in years 3-6 and they should bring in their PE kit and a bag for any muddy shoes.

After School Club

Monday – Sports Club with Dan Lowes. This will run until 5.15 and children will be provided with a snack and drink before the activities start.

Tuesday – Craft club with Mrs Chalmers until 5.30

Wednesday – Games Club with Anthea until 5.30

Thursday – Construction Club with Anthea until 5.30

Friday – Movie Night until 5.00 only

All sessions can be booked on Parent Pay and ASC costs £3.50 for one hour and £6.00 for two. Breakfast Club is £2.75 per session.

Outdoor Learning

From now on Squirrel Class (Years 1 & 2) will be doing Outdoor Learning on Tuesday afternoon and Fox Class (Years 3 & 4) will be doing Outdoor Learning on their usual Thursday afternoon. Please send in appropriate clothes and footwear for outdoor activity on these days.



Dates for the Diary

4th October – Nasal Flu vaccinations

10th & 11th October – Parent's Evening meetings

12th October – Fox Class trip to Honister Slate Mine (details to follow soon)

12th October – Y5/6 football

16th October – Hunter Hall Cross Country

20th October – Harvest Festival (2.00pm)

And a bit further ahead.....

24th November – Year 1- 6 trip to the Theatre by the Lake Christmas Production

24th November – PTA Christmas Fair in school

5th December – PTA wreath making workshop

Separate letters are sent for all sporting events

PTA NEWS

Christmas cards – whilst it may still only be September a little bit of festive spirit arrived (temporarily) this week and all the children have designed a Christmas card which you can buy to help raise funds for school. The children's designs will be coming home over the next few days with an order form and guidance on how to purchase.



TERM DATES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

Autumn term

Start - Wednesday 6th September End - Tuesday 19th December

Half term Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October

Spring term

Start - Thursday 4th January End - Thursday 28th March

Half Term Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Summer Term

Start - Monday 15th April End - Friday 19th July

Half Term Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Please remember there is a small change in term dates compared to those published on the Westmorland & Furness website.

Remember you can keep up to date with events and photos on our Friends of Clifton Primary School Facebook page so please join if you have not already.

If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Nikki Brabant, Tasha Coutts & the Clifton Team