

Clifton Primary School
Clifton
Penrith
Cumbria
CA10 2EG
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17th November 2023

Dear Parents/carers,
As we are now past the midpoint of November we are starting to turn our thoughts to the Festive season and have lots of exciting things planned.
As well as the eagerly anticipated Nativity performance we will also be busy in many other ways. Below you will find a couple of requests for help with activities we have planned for the lead up to Christmas. Please get in touch with the relevant member of staff if you can help in any way.
Please note that the deadline for booking places on the wreath making evening is 24th November so please get in touch with the office if you would like to come along.
This day is also the Christmas Fair at school so please come along to support us.



Hockey

Torrential rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the intrepid Year 5/6 hockey team, Joanna and a very well togged out Grandma on Wednesday when they attended a hockey match against Hunter Hall. Joanna says that the team were amazing despite the difficult conditions and their smiles certainly say it all! Well done team!

Outdoor Learning

And the rest of Deer Class also brave the rain to develop their teamwork and map reading skills by orienteering in the woods. In conditions like these they most definitely developed their resilience too.



Although sessions might be adapted or shortened, as you can see the great Cumbrian weather will not stop Outdoor Learning unless it is very severe or dangerous. Please ensure that in the Winter especially children bring in suitable clothing and footwear that will keep them both warm and dry. In the Summer it may be the same or could be cool and protected from the sun. Is there not a saying "there's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing?"

Institute of Imagination Workshops

Fox and Deer classes continued with their STEM activities this week and have taken part in sessions called Eco Cities and Coding our Emotions. On Thursday Fox class shared their work with other schools from around the country on the online Show & Tell session. As part of the project school have received some amazing resources that we can keep for future use including lego and coding equipment.



Into Film Festival



This week it was the turn of Hedgehog and Fox classes to enjoy a free film as part of the nationwide Into Film festival. Both classes made their way to the Heron Theatre at Milnthorpe to see The Gruffalo/Gruffalo's Child and Matilda the Musical. The Hedgehog children certainly had some laughs and were able to join in with parts of the story that they knew. After Foxes visit we were delighted when staff from another school commented on how well behaved Clifton children were during the Matilda screening.

A big thank you to Mr Vikki's who kindly donated Hedgehog class some dips for Hedgehog class to try with some poppadoms to support the children with their topic of Diwali and Indian food tasting.



School Photos

Heidi Batey came to school on Thursday and from the little glimpses we got you should all have had some delightful photos sent home already. Please follow the instructions on the envelope by the deadline date to order your photographs.

Children In Need

Thankyou to everyone who supported today's Children in Need appeal – it raised £ 64.40 that will be winging its way to Pudsey very soon.



Adventure Days Climbing Sessions

We are planning our first Adventure Day activities and hope to take the children climbing during the last full week of term. We will let you know the details next week and costs will be added to Parent Pay. Once again this year we will subsidise the Adventure Day activities with sports funding to keep the costs as low as we can for parents. We have chose climbing as our first activity because it can be done indoors but also in preparation for Eden Rock Bouldering competition that we will have two teams entering in February.

Theatre by the Lake Visits

On 24th November Years 1-6 are going to watch The Little Princess and we are very excited because Alana will be performing in the cast. The PTA have kindly agreed to pay for the ice creams and the transport this year so we are asking of a contribution of £14 to cover the cost of the ticket. This will be added to Parent Pay. Children will need to wear school uniform (no shorts please) on that day and should bring their own packed lunches (no nuts, fizzy drinks or sweets please). We will be going for a winter walk by the lake afterwards so children must also bring a warm coat, hat, scarf, gloves etc.

Hedgehog class are staying at school that day and will have a school dinner as usual but will be visiting Theatre by the Lake on 15th December to see

Water Bottles

Please remember to send in a fresh water bottle every day to keep children hydrated. This is especially important on Mondays when the Year 1-6 children go to the Leisure Centre. Please also return any school water bottles that we may have lent to children as we are running low again.

Carol Singing at Booths

On Friday 8th December Mrs Brabant has arranged for Clifton School to sing in the foyer of Booths in Penrith in aid of school funds. It is Christmas Jumper day so the children who attend will be perfectly kitted out to look the part. We will be practising the songs over the coming weeks but would very much welcome any extra voices who could come along to help. We will be singing in two sessions from 9.30-10.30 and then 10.30-11.30 so any time you can come would be much appreciated. Please let Mrs

Brabant know if you can come (n.brabant@clifton.cumbria.sch.uk). Whilst we will have recorded music with us, memories of the Harvest Festival come to mind, and we were wondering if there was anyone who could accompany us on our school keyboard ? Or do you know anyone who could? We are sure it will be a very jolly few hours.



Needlework Help Needed

For their DT this term both Deer and Fox Classes are making items made from felt. These need to be stitched together and it would be wonderful if we could have some extra pairs of hands to help us thread needles and undo tangles.... The sessions will be in the afternoons of Friday 1st, 8th and (maybe) 15th December. Please let Mrs Brabant know on n.brabant@clifton.cumbria.sch.uk know if you or any grandparents would be willing to help.

Outdoor Learning

This half term Deer class and Hedgehog class will be doing Outdoor Learning on the following dates.

Wednesday 22nd November – Hedgehog Class

Wednesday 29th November – Deer Class

Wednesday 6th December – Hedgehog Class

Wednesday 13th December – Deer Class



Dates for the Diary

PE will be on Mondays at the Leisure Centre for the coming half term

PLEASE COULD ALL CHILDREN IN YEARS 1-6 COME TO SCHOOL IN THEIR PE KIT ON MONDAYS for the rest of this term. They will not have PE on any other days unless they have a sporting event.

22nd November – Year 4 multi-skills festival at UCC

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

- 24th November – PTA Christmas Fair in school **3.30-5.30 pm**
- 28th November - PTA wreath making workshop
- 30th November – PTA meeting 7.00pm at school
- 1st December – KS1 Indoor Winter Sports Festival with Action Ants
- 5th December - Hedgehog and Squirrel Nativity at Cliburn Hall (2.00pm and 6.00pm)
- 13th December – School Christmas lunch.
- 15th December – Hedgehog class visit to see Wolf at Theatre by the Lake
- 18th December – Christmas Parties (bring party clothes)
- 19th December – Christmas Carols at the Church

Separate letters are sent for all sporting events



PTA NEWS

The PTA Christmas Fair and it will be taking place in school at 3.30 on Friday 24th November which we hope will enable more people to attend. **Please return any hamper items to school by Monday 20th so the hampers can be put together in time for the Christmas Fair.**

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