

Clifton Primary School
Clifton
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8th December 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

Bethlehem Bake Off



Wow, wow, wow – what a treat Tuesday's Nativities were for us all. Hedgehogs and Squirrels really pulled out the stops at both of their performances and the big smiles on every member of the audience said it all. Well done to all the children and the grown ups who worked so hard to make these 'moments of magic' happen. Miss Wilson, Mrs Chalmers, Miss Hunter and Mrs Roberts – they all did you very proud!!

Carol Singing at Booths



Friday morning provided Fox Class with their chance to Sparkle and Shine and they certainly did that when they entertained the shoppers at Booths with their carol singing. They all sang with such enthusiasm and provided so many with a reason to smile. A very big well done to them all for their creative improvisations with instruments ranging from snare and bass drums (so Keira and Ruby tell me) to jingle bells. They made everything go with an extra festive swing. When they were not singing they had the chance to explore Penrith Library and were all delighted with their new library cards and books they chose for themselves. We hope to make this a regular visit for all ages.

Thanks to Helen Slater (apologies for renaming you last week!) for leading the singing and to all the parents and grandparents who came along to support us.

On Wednesday 13th Deer Class will be carol singing instead of the planned Outdoor Learning session.

Next Half term it will be the turn of Fox and Squirrel Classes to have Outdoor Learning – we will let you know the exact dates in the New Year.

Hedgehog Theatre by the Lake Visit

Hedgehog class will be visiting Theatre by the Lake on 15th December to see Wolf. The PTA will cover the cost of the transport and ice creams but we are requesting a contribution of £11 for the performance

ticket. This has been added to Parent Pay. The performance starts at 2.00pm and the children should be back as school by home time.

First Aid



Looks like Deer Class also put their acting skills to good use on Monday when they had to role play a range of medical situations for their friends to practise their First Aid skills on. Thanks to Tom and Jackson from the Fire Service who taught the children a range of life saving skills including CPR, the recovery position and what to do if someone is choking or on fire.

Outdoor Learning

Over the last few weeks Mrs Davies and the children have not let the winter weather put them off – in fact they have been making the most of it with some great seasonal activities

Hedgehogs 🦔 had a lovely afternoon this week exploring the Secret Garden and the woods. The children went on a scavenger hunt looking for different signs of winter ❄️ What a fantastic afternoon we had learning about winter and what happens to the trees and leaves 🍂 The children very carefully used their checklist to help them.



Last week Deer Class warmed themselves up by making bread outdoors which they cooked on the campfire and topped with strawberry jam!! What a great experience for them all.

Adventure Days Climbing Sessions



We are delighted to let you know about our exciting Christmas Climbing Sessions that will be the first of the Adventure Days we have planned for this year. The cost of each session will be £8 which covers the climbing activity and transport and they will be added to Parent Pay next week. 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.

12th December – Deer Class climbing session at Eden Rock **Children should wear trainers, comfy leggings/joggers and a long sleeved top.**

13th December – Squirrel Class climbing session at Keswick Climbing Wall & Hedgehog climbing session at Rheged's Soft Play Centre. **Children should wear trainers, comfy leggings/joggers and a long sleeved top. As it is Christmas Dinner day then the children can also wear Christmas jumpers. Children in Squirrel Class should also bring a warm coat, hat and gloves as part of their session will be outdoors.**

14th December – Fox Class climbing session at Eden **Children should wear trainers, comfy leggings/joggers and a long sleeved top.**

It is crucial that all children bring a water bottle on these days also.

Carol Singing at Winter's Park Care Home

Deer class will be carol singing at Winter's Park Care Home on the afternoon of Wednesday 13th December. As it is Christmas Lunch that day children can wear their Christmas jumpers and any festive headwear/hair decorations etc they may have though there is no expectation of this from us.

Important Reminder

Please be aware that shorts are not acceptable clothing for Outdoor Learning. The children are outside for a long period of time and the weather can be wet and cold. It can also be a health and safety risk when children are around fires and in nature with nettles/brambles etc.

Please also encourage your children to dress appropriately throughout the school day for the weather in order to keep warm.

Can you help us?

At this time of year most of us turn to the internet for our Christmas Shopping and there is a very simple way that you can support Clifton Primary School with no extra effort at all. As a school we are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! Up until now Clifton Primary School have received £ 734.51 but it could be so much more.

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. Please share it with friends and family too – there are no catches whatsoever! It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cliftoncountypta> or use the QR code.



Companies include M&S, Booking.Com, Trainline, Argos, Tesco, John Lewis, Ebay, Moonpig, Fat Face, Currys, Pets at Home, Dunelm and many many more.

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.



Dates for the Diary

Next Monday (11th December) will be the last PE Lesson at the Leisure Centre for this half term. In January Leisure Centre PE lessons will be on Thursday mornings.

PLEASE COULD ALL CHILDREN IN YEARS 1-6 COME TO SCHOOL IN THEIR PE KIT ON THURSDAYS for the first half term of 2024. They will not have PE on any other days unless they have a sporting event.

12th December – Deer Class climbing sessions at Eden Rock

13th December – School Christmas lunch

13th December – Squirrel Class climbing session at Keswick Climbing Wall & Hedgehog climbing session at Rheged's Soft Play Centre.

13th December – Deer Class carol singing at Winter's Park Care Home (see above)

13th December – Hedgehogs Stay & Play – 2-3pm (see below)

14th December – Fox Class climbing sessions at Eden Rock

15th December – Hedgehog class visit to see Wolf at Theatre by the Lake

18th December – Christmas Parties (please bring party clothes)

19th December – Christmas Carols at the Church @ 2.00pm

Separate letters are sent for all sporting events



HEDGEHOGS STAY & PLAY
At Clifton Primary School
Children aged 0-4 years welcome
Wednesday 13th December 2pm-3pm
Hot drink, snack and juice provided
Please contact: Sophie Hunter
s.hunter@clifton.cumbria.sch.uk

CLIFTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
where nurture and nature meet

Hedgehogs Nursery
where nurture and nature meet

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