

Clifton Primary School
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7th March 2025

School Garden Classroom



After much research and planning behind the scenes we are very excited to tell you that our application for a new garden room work space has been approved. This new addition will provide us with much needed extra space that all the children in school will benefit from. This will allow a calm, quiet space to for individual and small group work for a variety of different lessons and activities.

Now we are on to the next stages which will focus on raising the funds and constructing the building.

We are expecting the project to cost approximately £10,000 and we have managed to secure a donation of £1,000 from Jenkinsons. We will be working with the PTA to raise funds over the coming year but to keep costs to a minimum we are hoping the school community can help us out in a variety of ways.

Can you help?

- Buy a slat - £10 per slat. Please send donations in a named envelope to the school office.
- Business sponsorship.
- Ground works preparation
- Construction of the building (relatively straightforward according to Mr Brabant whose school have done it twice).
- Electrical work

Hockey



On a lovely Thursday afternoon two teams from Clifton took part in the Eden Sports Partnership Quicksticks tournament.

The teams showed resilience, determination and great sportsmanship which resulted in one team coming top of their group and the other coming 2nd in their group. It is clear we have some budding hockey superstars of the future from goal keepers to goal scorers!

World Book Day

For this year's World Book Day, Deer Class (Y5 & Y6) did a football and book quiz, with authors Alex Bellos, Ben Lyttleton and our host Kit Brown. It was called the Great Footy and Booky Quiz. Some of our favourite footballers came on the camera to say 'happy world book day.' On the first round of the quiz we got a score of 8\10 and on the second round we got a score of 7/10. Lilly and Sophie.



As well as lots of other Author webinars and draw alongs throughout the week the children in each class focussed on a book each on World Book Day. They explored books about Greek Gods, Ancient Egypt and everyone's favourite - Paddington Bear.

In the afternoon we held a Book Café for Deer and Fox classes and their guests - with refreshments to enjoy whilst reading a range of books. Hedgehog children and guests enjoyed some marmalade sandwiches with their books. Thanks to everyone who came along, Joanna for baking cakes and biscuits and Hannah, Ellen and Jess for helping with refreshments.

Another thankyou to Lisa Jackson who popped in to give the older children a special preview of her first children's book – Dr April and the Rainbow Farts. The children asked Lisa some interesting questions and she invited them to help her with ideas for further adventures for Dr April. We are looking forward to seeing the published book on Amy 1st.

Every child was given a World Book Day voucher which can be exchanged at book shops for a free book.

Lunches

A reminder that due to unexpected circumstances we request that all children bring in a packed lunch on Friday 14th March. No nuts, fizzy drinks or sweets. Thankyou for your support in this matter.

Parent's Consultation Meetings – Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th March

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.

If you have recently met with your child's teacher to discuss their progress then there is no expectation that you make another appointment but are welcome to if you so wish.

Hedgehog Class - padlet.com/n_coutts/nursery-reception-and-year-1-

Fox Class - https://padlet.com/n_coutts/year-2-and-year-3-

Deer Class - https://padlet.com/n_coutts/year-4-year-5-and-year-6-



Friday 21st March

Children can wear something red and donations of £1.00 are welcome to support this worthy cause.

Thankyou!

Trips and Visits

As we look forward to the Spring and some (hopefully) better weather we are busy planning for a range of trips and visits to enhance the children's learning – including Adventure Week.

Our first visits will be during Science Week. Hedgehog Class will visit Walby Farm Park on Wednesday 12th March to support their learning about farming and Deer and Fox Classes will visit the Life Centre in Newcastle on Friday 14th March. Letters have been sent home about these trips.

Decider Skills

This week Mrs Brabant introduced the children to the 'Values' Decider Skill.



'Values' skill enables us to identify and follow our chosen life directions, both during distress and in order to find meaning and purpose in life.



Values are the things that really matter to us. They are the direction we have decided that we want to travel in our life. Goals are the things we achieve along the way.

Knowing our values helps to guide us and helps us make decisions, big and small. Working in the service of our values gives our life meaning and purpose.

When we are not following our values, we feel uncomfortable inside. Our 'internal compass', lets us know that we have strayed off course.

For example: If my life value is 'Healthy Eating' my goals may include eating five pieces of fruit or vegetables a day. If I then eat ten bars of chocolate, my 'internal compass' tells me that the chocolate does not fit with my values, and I will feel bad about myself.

Up to now they have learned about STOPP, It Will Pass, 'Right Now,' Name the Emotion, Opposite Action, 'Fact or Opinion' and Self Care.

Remember they might also mention 'feeling the fizz' which is a way of recognising that our emotions are having a physical effect on our bodies. The Decider Skills help us develop strategies to use when we feel the fizz.

We will hold a meeting for parents later in the term so we can share the skills with you in more detail.



Junior Bake Off

For students aged 9-15

Filming would take place from July 2025, but our **applications close on Sunday 23rd March 2025.**

Interested bakers can apply online at - www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk

PTA NEWS

100 Club letters are currently in production and will be sent out next week. This is such a simple way to support School. Deadline for applications will be 25th March

FAMILY EASTER BINGO – Thursday 3 April @ 6.00 pm

Next PTA Meeting – Thursday 27th March @ School – 7.00pm

PE LESSONS next half term are as follows.....

Hedgehog Class – Monday and Friday

Fox Class – Friday

Deer Class – Tuesday & Friday

The children in Deer Class will be having

gymnastics at the Leisure Centre on Tuesday afternoons for the next half term.

Please can children come to school in their PE kits on these days. Please send PE kits in to keep on the pegs for Hedgehogs as changing time is a good opportunity to develop independence skills

PLEASE ENSURE ALL HEDGEHOG CHILDREN HAVE THEIR PE KITS IN SCHOOL FOR USE ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

Outdoor Learning

This half term it will be Fox Class and Hedgehog Class who do Outdoor Learning on Wednesday afternoons.

Thursday 13th March - Hedgehog Class (change to original date)

19th March - Fox Class

26th March - Hedgehog Class

w/b 31 March (date tbc) - Fox Class

Please send a complete set of suitable clothing and, now the wetter weather is here, **wellies** and ensure all items are labelled with your child's name.

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.

Spring Term Clubs

Miss Holme will be running a rugby club on Monday lunchtimes for children in Year 3-6. Children will need a spare change of shoes to get muddy.



Miss Wilson will be lead Choir club on a Tuesday lunchtime.

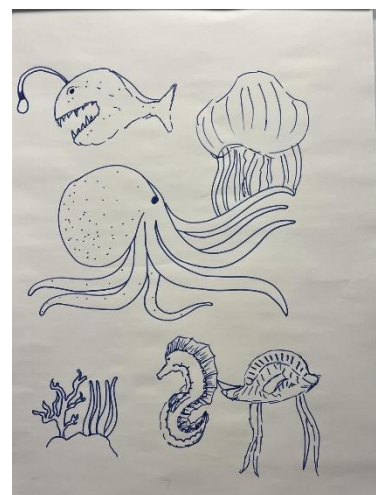
Sewing Club with Mrs Roberts on Fridays – there is a £4 charge to cover costs. It is open to children from Year 2-6. **There is no sewing club on the 14th March or 4th April. The 28th March will be the last sewing club until the Autumn Term.**



Art Club – there will be a lunchtime art club lead by Mrs Brabant and Harvey



The first two Art Clubs have been a great success providing children of all ages with a quiet time for creativity during lunchtime. Thanks to Harvey for demonstrating the activity with his fabulous artistic skills.



Running Club (for all age groups) is on Thursday. Children will need a spare pair of trainers that can get muddy.



Dates for the Diary

W/B 10th March – Science Week

Wednesday 12th March – Hedgehogs visit to Walby Farm Park

Friday 14th March – Y2-6 Life Centre visit

18th & 19th March – Parent’s Evenings

Wednesday 19th March – Stay & Play

21st March – Red Nose Day

27th March – Year 5/6 Orienteering

27th March – PTA meeting

Wednesday 2nd April – End of term Spring Celebration in church @ 2.00pm

Thursday 3rd April – Stay & Play

Thursday 3rd April – PTA Easter Bingo @ 6.00pm

Friday 4th April – End of Spring Term. **School will finish at 3.30 but there will be no After School Club on this day.**



Looking Ahead

w/b 12th May – Year 6 SATs week

Tuesday 20th May – Sports Day @ 1.00pm

Thursday 22 May – Sleepover for Rec, Y1 & Y2

Friday 23 May – Beacon walk and cinema for Rec, Y1 & 2

2-9 July – Adventure Week

Wednesday 16th July – Year 6 Leaver’s Celebration

Friday 18th July – Talent Show & end of term

Separate letters are sent for all sporting events and trips

Job Vacancies

We are currently looking for a Clerk to Governors to join our school team (1.5hrs per week).

If interested, you can find further information about the role on our school website or please feel free to pop in the school office to discuss the role further.

[Clifton Primary School & Hedgehogs Nursery - Vacancies](#)

TERM DATES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

School term and half term dates for 2024/2025

Term	Start of term	Half term	End of term
Spring	Tuesday 7 January 2025	Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025	Friday 4 April 2025
Summer	Tuesday 22 April 2025	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025	Friday 18 July 2025

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