

Clifton Primary School
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21st March 2025

A belated but BIG thankyou to all those adults who helped on last week's trips to Walby Farm Park and the Life Centre. We could not do these curriculum enhancing activities without your help!

World Down Syndrome Day



Today has been a very colourful day in school and we thank everyone for wearing lots of jazzy socks. The day started with an assembly where we learned about - What Is Down Syndrome? We learned that it is caused by one extra chromosome and we thought about how all of us are different with unique skills, interests and appearances



Spring is definitely here.....
Great news! There are frogs in the pond in the secret garden. I know this because I saw them yesterday. There is lots of frog spawn that I hope will be tadpoles soon.
By Caileb.


















Fox Class have been working hard on their Three Little Pigs shadow puppet shows since Science Week and they performed some for a very appreciative Hedgehog Class earlier in the week.



There is a definite buzz about reading around school now and we feel our many initiatives are having a positive influence on attitudes to reading amongst the children. World Book Day celebrations, the reading challenges and library visits are all having an impact and the children have also said that the school library has made a difference.

The children are now able to request specific books for us to purchase or order from the library and Caroline Hope has shared a really useful website with us that provides **book recommendations for children** who have been hooked by a particular series or author and are ready to 'branch out.' The children are making good use of the posters on display in the library so why not have a look and take one along to the local library.

If you like scan the QR code below to find out more.

Bunny Vs Monkey  SCAN ME	The 13 – Storey Treehouse  SCAN ME	Isadora Moon  SCAN ME	Rainbow Magic  SCAN ME	Horrid Henry  SCAN ME
Tom Gates books  SCAN ME	Lottie Brooks books  SCAN ME	Wimpy Kid  SCAN ME	Dork Diaries  SCAN ME	Jacqueline Wilson  SCAN ME
David Walliams books  SCAN ME	Michael Morpurgo books  SCAN ME	Roald Dahl books  SCAN ME	Dog Man  SCAN ME	Ultimate Football Heroes  SCAN ME

Internet Safety

As life becomes more and more reliant on technology we will always endeavour to make sure we keep you updated with relevant and useful advice for keeping your children safe online. The [Internet Matters](#)

website is full of advice on setting up device safety settings, choosing age appropriate apps, online safety as well as online gaming advice for games such as Roblox and Fortnite.

We cannot emphasise how important it is that you monitor your children's phones regularly and put in adequate safety settings. Miss Coutts is currently organising some further sessions for the older children for next term and we also hope to provide something for parents too.



You may remember an online vote Miss Wilson shared on Facebook a few weeks ago. This week Emma from Jesme's Book Corner popped along to drop off a beautiful new book as we had come second in the Small School Section. We are very grateful for this lovely donation.

Hedgehog Class had another exciting visitor this week when Farmer Rachel came to school to tell them all about dairy farming. She told them all about her own farm, the equipment she uses and they even had a chance to 'milk' a cow.

The year 1 children interviewed Rachel and asked her some very interesting questions. Thankyou Farmer Rachel!



School Garden Classroom



As you may have heard we are very close to being able to install our new garden classroom which will provide us with much needed extra space that all the children in school will benefit from. This will allow a calm, separate space for individual and small group work, for a variety of different lessons and activities.

Planning permission has been approved and we have ordered the den today but do not want it to be delivered before we have the preparatory work completed.

We are expecting the project to cost approximately £10,000 and we have already 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.

Initially we would love to get together a Working Party who could prepare the ground and make the foundations. We do not anticipate that this will be a long job and we think we can muster together some willing volunteers but we would need someone with construction 'know how and expertise to guide us. Ideally we would like it doing after the Easter holidays and we are thinking a Saturday or Sunday might be best.

If we have to employ a contractor to do this it would obviously cost us a lot more and we would have to wait until May half term. We are keen to get up and running so the children currently in school can benefit. These are the things we hope to get done as a school community.

- Advice on materials for the foundations.
- Ground works preparation/laying of foundations/planning for electrics into the new space
- Construction of the building

We are really keen to get the ball rolling and would value some local expertise and support so please contact Nikki Hipwell or Nikki Brabant if you can help in any way (or persuade someone you know to help out)

Parent's Consultation Meetings

Thankyou to all those who came to discuss their children's progress with class teachers this week. We really value these opportunities and encourage anyone who still wants to meet to contact the class teachers to arrange an alternative date.

Decider Skills

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

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 next 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 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 this 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.

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.

Fox class had a great sunny afternoon building shelters in the woods. The teamwork was fantastic and each group was very pleased with their creation.



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.

Next week's Sewing Club (28th March) will be the last until the Autumn term. A BIG thankyou to Mrs Roberts for all her dedication to the children.

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



Our last running club had a fun focus as you can see from the selfie. Thank you to everyone who came to running club, you made it very enjoyable. A special thank you goes to our sports leader, Luke. He has done an amazing job, consistently helping to lead this club, preparing equipment, warming up and leading games. Thank you Luke. And Mrs Davies for organising this lovely lunchtime activity.



After Easter Mrs Davies will be running a Nature Club on Thursday lunchtimes instead.



Dates for the Diary

- 26th March – Y5/6 Dodgeball
- 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 – Hockey final

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

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