

Clifton Primary School
Clifton
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Cumbria
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17th February 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

What a fantastic half term it has been with all the children working so hard and achieving amazing things in both the classroom and at sporting events. We would like to thank everyone who has helped us in any way and wish you all an enjoyable and restful Half Term break.

Clif's Council



Monday afternoon saw the continuation of our democratic process to select new school meals. Joanna was very busy all day creating a range of dishes the children had suggested via their Class Representatives.

The children were asked their opinions on lasagne, steak pie, tuna pasta, cheese and onion pie, lightly spiced chicken strips (for fajitas), sweet potato fries and a berry smoothie. We were delighted with the children's enthusiasm for both the meals and their involvement in a democratic process. Thankyou so much to Joanna for your dedication to the activity - this was in addition to our normal lunch time.

Look out for the new dishes on next term's menu – please take a little time to discuss the menus with your child/children over half term and let them help you make their choices.

Archery & Golf

The Year 1 & 2 children wrapped up warm and headed for Shap on Wednesday for an afternoon trying out these precision sports with children from other local schools.



Nursery

The closing date for September applications for our School Nursery is 24th March 2023. If you, family or friends are looking for Nursery places, please contact the school office for more information, a visit or a chat with one of our team.

WORLD BOOK DAY



Due to PE on Thursdays our World Book Day Celebrations will take place on Wednesday 1st March and will be a day full of exciting activities focussing on books and the joy of reading. Parents are invited to pop along to school at 2.30 pm for some themed refreshments and either a Book Café with Years 2-6 children or Bedtime Stories with Nursery/ Reception/Year 1.

All children can wear their own clothes on the day and Hedgehog and Owl class can also bring a dressing gown and teddy to put on in the afternoon.

We are going to have a BIG focus on reading over the coming months so keep an eye out for more reading themed events and workshops for parents.

There will be a book stall run by the PTA so please send in any books (adult or children) which we can sell and all donations will go towards the Turkish/Syrian Earthquake Appeal.

Volunteer Reader

If anyone would be interested in listening to children read please get in touch with Mrs Brabant.

Penrith Leisure Centre

We hope that the parents and grandparents that came to watch the Gymnastics enjoyed watching the routines and skills the children have been learning over the last few months. What an amazing experience it has been for them all.



PE at the Leisure Centre will continue until **Easter** so don't forget that children should come to school already dressed in PE kit. For the next half term they will be doing Dance, Athletics and also some Rugby. **Years 4,5 & 6 will be also be swimming on Thursday mornings so will need their swimming kits.**

Headlice

We have been informed about a few cases of headlice in school and recommend parents check for head lice on a regular basis. If you find any headlice the NHS recommend the wet combing method to treat them.

You can buy a special fine -toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits.

There may be instructions in the pack, but usually you:

- Wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- Apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)

- Comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends.

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair and 20-30 minutes for long or curly hair.

Do wet combing on days 1,5,9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of head lice on day 17.

School Lunches

Over the last few weeks, we have been reviewing school lunches and as part of this, we will unfortunately need to increase the price of meals from the start of the Summer term. We are working very hard to make sure this cost increase is minimal for families and we will let you know the change before the end of March. As I am sure you are aware, the school has not increased the price of meals for a number of years and with the costs of food and energy rising we need to make sure the price covers our costs.

As part of the review, we also wanted to make sure that the meals continue to be good value and the children enjoy a healthy range of foods. As you can see above the children enjoyed taking part in this process with Joanna as part of Clif's Council.

Spring Term Clubs

We are continuing to develop the range of extra curricular opportunities for children through lunchtime and after school clubs. In order to do this, we will be charging for after school activities run by external providers and also those run by any of our school teaching assistants. Our free activities will continue, but we are adding the following for after half term;



Music Club (Year 1 - 6) - Mondays 3:30pm - 4:30pm Please contact the office (admin@clifton.cumbria.sch.uk) if you would like your child adding to the club including Year 1 children who might like to give it a try. The musical instruments will include drums, keyboards and other percussion.



Football Club on Fridays will be lead by Dan Sowerby (54° North) for children from Year 2-6 3:30pm - 4:30pm Please contact the office (admin@clifton.cumbria.sch.uk) if you would like your child to take part.

Initially these will be priced at £2:50 per session, but we will regularly review depending on the number of children attending. All chargeable clubs will be invoiced on Parent Pay.

There will be no Art Club on Mondays after half term but Mrs Newman will continue with Coding Club.

Miss Simpson will run a netball club for Years 3-6 at lunchtimes and will send home a separate letter about homework club for Year 6.

Children do not need to be booked on to these after school activity clubs on Parent Pay. After School Club needs to be booked on Parent Pay

Mrs Collin will run a games club on Tuesday lunchtimes and Miss Coutts a Lego club on Thursday lunchtimes.



Over the last few weeks Art Club have been busy creating a collaborative design for Lowther Castle's 10 000 Daffodils Competition. We have kept it simple with images of daffodils and Lowther Castle and once Mrs Brabant has worked out how to stick it together it will be heading its way to the competition. Thankyou to Miss Shanks for helping out at Art Club over the last few weeks too.

Diary Dates

1st March – World Book Day (see above)
2nd March – Bag 2 School Collection (see PTA news below)
2nd March – Y5/6 Netball/Football Friendly (TBC)
6-8th March – London Residential (Deer Class)
10th March – U Dance @ Sands Centre (Deer Class)
17th March – Deer Class clay daffodil workshop at Lowther
24th March – PTA Easter Bingo
31st March – Easter Church celebration – 2pm
7th July – Non Uniform Day for PTA Summer Fair tombola prize

Separate letters will be sent for all sporting events

Outdoor Learning

Next half term Fox and Squirrel class will be doing Outdoor Learning on Monday afternoons. Finding spare clothing and footwear takes up valuable time that could be spent outdoors so **please ensure your Year 2,3 & 4 children have appropriate clothing and footwear in school that is both suitable for getting mucky and keeping warm.**

Staffing

After half term Squirrel Class (Year 2) will be taught by Miss Wilson on Friday mornings.

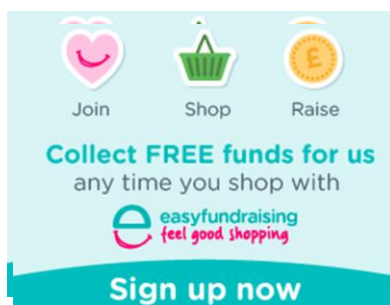
PTA News.

Next meetings –**Tuesday 7th March, 25th April & 13th June @ 7.00pm.** Please do come along and see how you can get involved.

PTA Events

2nd March – Bag 2 School collection
24th March – PTA Easter Bingo
30th June – Dino Drive (similar to Beetle Drive)
8th July – Summer Fair

The PTA are planning a Bag 2 School collection for **Thursday 2nd March** so if you are having a clear out soon please save it for the PTA.



For an easy and cost free way to support Clifton Primary School why not take a look at

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cliftoncountyppta/

Donations are made every time you shop online with many popular companies and there really no catches at all. It is similar to Amazon Smile, which is no more, but more generous with donations.

A letter has been sent home about the 100 Club which costs £1 a month for an entry into a Lucky Draw with cash prizes. It has not been a 100 Club for quite some time and is such an easy way to support school so please ask family and friends.



An update on Bluebell the (mucky) calf from Angela Chappelhow.....apparently she's very cheeky and bosses the others about so she can be at the feed trough first!

Term Dates

Term	Start of term	Half term	End of term
Spring	Wednesday 04 January 2023	Monday 20 February to Friday 24 February	Friday 31 March
Summer	Monday 17 April	Monday 29 May to Friday 02 June	Wednesday 19 July 2023

Bank Holidays – Monday 1st & Monday 8th May

School year 2023/2024

Term	Start of term	Half term	End of term
Autumn	Wednesday 06 September 2023	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October	Tuesday 19 December

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