

Clifton Primary School  
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10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

Another busy week at Clifton and this edition of our weekly update contain lots of news and achievements to celebrate. Next week is our last week of the half term before a well deserved break to recharge batteries and return to what will hopefully feel much more like Spring.



### Clif's Council

Sophie and Lily asked if they could do more for the environment and we have made tentative steps towards a green team with 'litter picking' in the playground and recycling the plastic and metal containers from the kitchen every day. Monday is the day the children will be taste testing the new dishes they suggested to Joanna and Mrs Brabant. Once we know the verdicts we will add them to forthcoming school dinner menus so watch this space.

### Basic Moves



The Year 1 and 2 children all came back to school proudly displaying a chest full of stickers each on Monday. They all had a thoroughly exciting afternoon trying out a range of physical challenges at Penrith Leisure Centre – organised by the Eden Valley Sports Partnership and lead by students from QEGS.

### Football

Tuesday afternoon saw a team of Year 4-6 children representing Clifton School at the U11 friendly tournament at Hunter Hall. Well done Josh and Max who were awarded Players of the Match and to Lewis who was top goal scorer.



### Nursery

The closing date for September applications for our School Nursery is 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Child Mental Health Week

This week we have been focussing on ways to improve our wellbeing by taking part in activities that make us feel happy. There has been Hide and Seek, Duck, Duck, Goose (including a dinosaur version), Penalty Shoot Outs and more. These were all suggested by the children and have given us all a chance to enjoy time together and have fun. They have definitely lifted spirits, re-energised us and filled us with positivity. As it is such an important theme we will continue next week and will also talk about worries and strategies to help us manage them

## Safer Internet Day

Established by the UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC), Safer Internet Day is celebrated around the world. On Tuesday, it was celebrated with the theme: 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

Children in KS1 and KS2 had their own special assemblies, which provided us with a great opportunity to have a conversation about their online lives, discuss the benefits of the internet as well as looking at how they can keep themselves safe. Our main focus was emphasising how important it is for the children to talk about their online experiences (good and bad) with others, especially a safe adult.

If you would like any further information on keeping your child safe online please see the attached guides produced by Internet Matters, or have a look at their website [Information, Advice and Support to Keep Children Safe Online \(internetmatters.org\)](https://www.internetmatters.org)

## Volunteer Reader

For the last few years we have very much valued the time and dedication of Alison Butland who came in to school every week to listen to children read. The children really enjoyed this time and their reading skills definitely benefitted from this extra practise and attention. We very much miss this extra support and are wondering if there was anyone who thought they might like to give it a go. All the adults who have done it in the past have enjoyed the experience and found it very rewarding. Parents, grandparents or any other willing volunteer is most welcome so please get in touch with Mrs Brabant if you are interested.



## Parking



We are aware that parking is tricky at Clifton with limited space and heavy traffic and appreciate the efforts made by families to walk to school whenever possible. We have been asked by the Police to remind parents to please park with consideration for local residents at drop off and pick up times. **The Police have also come in with this picture today to tell us that this lowered kerb section is a crossing and must be left clear.** People parking in this section might be subject to parking restriction penalties. We are investigating this further as we are of the opinion it is not a safe crossing place and have asked if they can add some markings/signage to make this more obvious.

## Parent Pay

Just a reminder to please review your parent pay accounts for any outstanding balances.

## 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 2 - 6) - Mondays 3:30pm - 4:30pm If you feel your Year 1 child would like to try it out please send in a form and we can see how they get on. Once you have returned your forms we can add the cost to your Parent Pay account.



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

We hope also to be able to tell you about another new club in next week's newsletter.

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

There will be no Art Club on Mondays after half term.

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.

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

### Diary Dates

15<sup>th</sup> February – KS1 Action Ants Archery & Golf Festival at Culgaith

16<sup>th</sup> February – Clifton School Gymnastics Festival at Penrith Leisure Centre – an informal opportunity to come and see what the children have been learning during their gymnastics lessons – 10.00 am – 11.30 am

17<sup>th</sup> February – **photographer coming to school to take photos for the website – please send children in smart uniform**

w/b 20<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term

2<sup>nd</sup> March – Bag 2 School Collection (see PTA news below)

2<sup>nd</sup> March – Y5/6 Netball/Football Friendly (TBC)

6-8<sup>th</sup> March – London Residential (Deer Class)

10<sup>th</sup> March – U Dance @ Sands Centre ( Deer Class)

17<sup>th</sup> March – Deer Class clay daffodil workshop at Lowther

24<sup>th</sup> March – PTA Easter Bingo

31<sup>st</sup> March – Easter Church celebration – 2pm

7<sup>th</sup> July – Non Uniform Day for PTA Summer Fair tombola prize

Separate letters will be sent for all sporting events

PE at Penrith Leisure Centre will be taking place every Thursday morning until **Easter** so don't forget that children should come to school already dressed in PE kit. **After Half Term Years 4,5 & 6 will be swimming on Thursday mornings so will need their swimming kits.**



Attached is a flier about Ric Armstrong's Half term holiday club that you might be interested in.

## Outdoor Learning

This half term Hedgehog and Deer 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 Nursery, Reception, Year 1,5 & 6 children have appropriate clothing and footwear in school that is both suitable for getting mucky and keeping warm.**

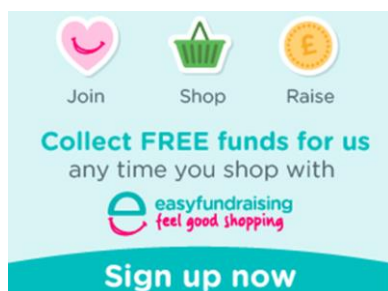
## PTA News.

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

## PTA Events

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

The PTA are planning a Bag 2 School collection for **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** so if you are having a clear out soon please save it for the PTA. Please see the attached leaflet for what they collect as it has changed since we last did the collection.



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

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cliftoncountyppta/](http://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 will soon be coming 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.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> & Monday 8<sup>th</sup> 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