

9th September 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

What a great first few days we have had back at school. The children have all come back with such positive and enthusiastic attitudes and we have all enjoyed being with each other again – getting used to new classrooms, making new friendships, rekindling old ones and taking on new roles and challenges.



Hedgehogs in their newly refurbished classroom



Year 1 in the Cosy Cabin



Year 2 in their new Squirrel classroom



Fox class – reunited



Deer class back at work

The joy of being back at school has certainly been rocked by yesterday's sad news. Today we have talked to the children about the Queen's passing and are doing some creative work to celebrate her life. We will keep you updated about any plans for the coming weeks.

Diary Dates

15th September – KS1 & KS2 Cross Country at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School

15th September – School sleepover for Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 children. A separate letter will be sent home today

28th September – KS1 Junior Warrior at Culgaith School with Action Ants

30th September – Year 5/6 netball tournament at QEGs

6th October – Year 5/6 football tournament @ Frenchfield

11th/12th October – Parent's Evenings

14th October – Come & Try Badminton @ Penrith Leisure Centre

20th October – KS2 Girl's football @ Frenchfield

21st October – Half term holiday

Separate letters will be sent for all sporting events.

Below are the term dates for the academic year 2022-23

Term	Start of term	Half term	End of term
Autumn	Wednesday 07 September 2022	Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October	Tuesday 20 December
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

Outdoor Learning

This year Mrs Davies will be running two Outdoor Learning sessions on Monday afternoons and this half term it is the turn of Deer Class and Hedgehog/Owl Class. If your child is in these classes then please ensure they have a full Outdoor Learning kit in on Mondays which should include a change of clothes and shoes that you don't mind getting mucky and a warm/waterproof coat. Depending on the weather they should also bring gloves and a hat.

PTA News

13th September – AGM – please come along and hear how you can help support the efforts of our hard working PTA. The end of a school year often sees us saying goodbye to PTA members as children leave Clifton for secondary school. We are always keen to welcome new members who can help raise funds to enhance the children's experiences at school.

23rd September (changed from 16th) – Beetle Drive

Autumn Glow Party – Sunday 16th October @ Hackthorpe Village Hall (afternoon – time tbc)

Christmas Fair - Friday 2nd December

Platinum Jubilee Tea Towels

We are having technical issues getting the union jack art work scanned in order to proceed with the tea towels. The art work is approximately A1 sized. If anyone knows of a company that could do this then please let Gill Graham or Mrs Brabant know.



Following yesterday's sad news about the passing of Queen Elizabeth this is something we would really like to get sorted as soon as we can.

School Routines

The new morning and home time plans are working well. We just need to remember those keys for the gate at 3.30. As a slight change we are asking for the parents of Nursery and Reception children to come in with their child to help them put their coats and bags on their pegs. This is a temporary measure to enable them to settle and become familiar with their routine. Year 1 parents can say goodbye at the door/gate as the children are developing some lovely independent skills.

Staffing

Carmen who worked in our school office left at the end of the summer term and we wish her well in the future. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new member to join our team.

Parking outside School

PCSO John Nicholson has asked us to pass on the following message regarding parking outside school.

This is a reminder to parents to park considerately around the school. To leave space for double buggies and to avoid parking on crossing points. Unlike adults, children cannot see over vehicles to see what is coming and you may not see them in blind spots around your vehicle. Please take the time to park in a safe place and potentially save a life. Police will be looking to deal with offenders appropriately.

Parent Pay

We are having a few technical problems with Parent Pay so and new children will not yet be able to access menus and order meals. We are working hard to sort this out but rest assured all children will be asked what they would like to eat until we get the problem fixed.

Mobile Phones

It is our school policy for children not to have mobile phones in school. An exception would be if a Year 6 child is walking home unaccompanied and in this case please make sure they hand it to a member of staff on arrival and it will be safely stored until home time.

World Clean Up Day

Saturday 17th September is World Cleanup Day which unites millions of volunteers, governments and organisations in 191 countries to tackle the global waste problem and build up a new and sustainable world. Mrs Brabant is hoping to organise something for Friday 16th but you may want to join in on 17th also. Please ask Mrs Brabant if you would like to borrow a litter picker.



Autumn Term Clubs

Miss Shanks and Mrs Collin will run a football club for both girls and boys in Years 3-6 on Mondays 3.30-4.30. If anyone would like to help with the football club then please let Miss Simpson know.

Miss Simpson will run a netball club for both girls and boys in Years 4-6 on Tuesdays 3.30-4.30.

Weather and time permitting Mrs Brabant will run a walking club on Thursday lunch times when we will have a short walk around the woodland behind school. This will be for any children who would like to join in.

Clubs will start the week beginning 19th September and news on further clubs will follow very shortly.

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.

Thank you for all your good wishes, cards and gifts – we wish you all a very happy summer time.

Nikki Brabant, Tasha Coutts & the Clifton Team