

Clifton Primary School
Clifton
Penrith
Cumbria
CA10 2EG
Executive Headteacher – Mr Nick Page
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9th December 2022

Dear Parents/carers,

You know Christmas has really begun when Hedgehog class perform their nativity play..... and what a performance it was. As Miss Coutts said there was not just one big shining star but rather a whole class full! Well done to all the shepherds, stars, kings, narrators, sheep, cows, camels, donkeys, the angel, Mary and Joseph – you were all amazing and made us all smile. A big thankyou also to Mrs Collin, Mrs Chalmers and Miss Wilson for organising such a delightful play.

Today it was the children's turn to be entertained at the Theatre By the Lake. Nursery and Reception were enchanted by the lively Ballad of Rudy before ice cream and a walk by a very wintery Derwentwater. Years 1-6 literally brought the house down by enthusiastically clapping along to the folk tunes of The Borrowers. And then there was ice cream and BUBBLES raining down into the audience. A very BIG thankyou to the PTA for agreeing to subsidise most of the cost of this fantastic experience for the children.



Diary Dates

13th December – Y2 - 4 trip to Leighton Hall

15th December - Christmas lunch

16th December – Christmas parties – **children to come to school in party clothes**

19th December @ 2.00pm -Reindeer Run in aid of Jigsaw Children's Hospice with Action Ants

20th December - Christmas Singing @ 2.30 pm & Christmas Jumper Day

20th December – last day of term

Can we please remind all parents that school policy is for sensible black shoes to be worn at school.

PE at Penrith Leisure Centre will be taking place every Thursday morning until **February half term** so don't forget that children should come to school already dressed in PE kit.

London Residential

Please can we remind all Year 5 & 6 parents that the deadline for the deposit on London Trip is Friday, 16th December. We need to confirm numbers by this date and it is non-negotiable. If you want your child to go but need to extend the payment deadline please get in touch with Mr Page before Friday 16th.

What are the symptoms of Strep A/scarlet fever?

We have been asked to share the following important information about two childhood illnesses that are currently on the increase. Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including: sore throat, headache, fever and a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel.

If a child becomes unwell with these symptoms, please contact your GP practice or contact NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice.

If a child has scarlet fever, they should stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others. Parents are being encouraged to trust their own judgement and if their child seems seriously unwell call 999 or go to A&E if:

- a child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when a child breathes
- a child's [skin, tongue or lips are blue](#)
- a child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Christmas Songs and Christmas Jumper Day



Please join us on Tuesday 20th December) at Church at 2.00pm for our Christmas Carol singing.

Children can come to school in a **Christmas jumper** and voluntary donations are welcome towards Save the Children's Christmas Jumper appeal if parents would like to contribute. Grown ups coming to church – why not wear your Christmas jumper too?

Cost of Living - Support for Parent/Carers and their families

Cumbria County Council has committed 'Household Support Grant' funds to support families experiencing Food and Utility hardship. Families can access the information on the support available through the councils 'Ways to Welfare' website.

Attached to the newsletter is a Cost of Living Support leaflet but you can also find further information by following this link <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/costofliving/default.asp>

Christmas Holiday Sports Club



Ric Armstrong has asked us to tell you all about his Christmas holiday sport club at Beaconside School on 21st, 22nd and 23rd December. Please find a flier attached.

Reindeer Run



Last year we participated in the first Reindeer Run organised by Jigsaw Children's Hospice and were delighted to raise nearly £700 for such a worthy cause.

This year's run will be much the same with Action Ants coming along and the PTA providing refreshments on the penultimate day of the school year – Monday 19th December. We can't think of a more fun and worthwhile way to end what has been a fantastic year for Clifton School but are also aware that there are many pressures on all our finances at this time of year. Sponsor forms will be sent home soon and there is a pair of reindeer antlers for every child safely stashed away at school. Family members are most welcome to come and join in the fun so please pop along if you can.

PTA News.

Each year every child in school makes a Christmas tree decoration for our Christmas crafts stall at the fair. If you did not make it to the Fair each child's snowflake (see right photo) will be available to purchase at school this coming week for £2. This money goes towards PTA funds.

Next meetings – **13th December @ 7.00pm.** Please do come along and see how you can get involved.



Staffing

Today we said thankyou and goodbye to Alison Butland who has for many years come into school to listen to the children read. As well as this she has helped us on trips and made beautiful advent calendars and festive gifts for the children. We have greatly appreciated her help and wish her well in her new life in Derbyshire.

We are delighted to let you know that Miss Charlotte Wilson will be staying with us into the new year and will continue working in Hedgehog class where she has become an invaluable member of the team

Outdoor Learning

Squirrel and Fox will be doing Outdoor Learning on Monday afternoons so please send in outdoor learning kits for Years 2, 3 and 4.

Term Dates

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

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