

Clifton Primary School  
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27th January 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

After last week's jam packed edition this week's newsletter reflects a much quieter week but is full of information we hope you will find useful.

Clif's Council is already having an impact on what happens at school and after requesting apple and orange juice at Breakfast Club it was served for the first time on Thursday – democracy in action! They are also in the process of asking their classes what they would like to have for school meals and Joanna will soon be holding a tasting session for children and parents to taste test the new dishes.

### **Daffodil Workshop**

Some lovely feedback from Lis who lead the Daffodil workshop last Friday.....*The students were a pleasure to be with. They were attentive, polite and worked incredibly well as a team producing 68 daffodils, all of which were passed by quality control! The students and staff are a credit to Clifton School. Well done to all involved.*



### **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.

### **Football Cards**

It has taken much longer than we thought but we have decided to ask the children to keep the football cards at home for the time being. They have become quite a distraction and a black market appears to be forming which makes it difficult to manage in school. We will review this next week and let you know if anything changes.

### **Uniform**

It has been a long time since we have mentioned uniform so this is just a brief reminder of our expectations:

- Navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan with the school logo
- White/pale blue polo shirts with/without school logo
- Grey/black/navy skirt, pinafore or trousers.
- Black shoes (trainers are only permitted for PE)
  
- In the summer a blue and white school dress or school uniform shorts can be worn

PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM IS NAMED

## CAN YOU HELP?

We have a sufficient stock of spare outdoor learning clothes and wellies for the younger children in school but very little for older children. We would welcome any donations of suitable clothes/footwear in **bigger** sizes.

## Spring Term Clubs

Miss Simpson will run a netball/hockey club for Years 3-6 on Thursdays 3.30-4.30

Mrs Newman will run a coding club (ICT) on Monday afternoons for Years 3-6 ( 3.30 – 4.30)

Mrs Brabant will run an art club on Mondays for all children from Year 1- 6

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

## Music

Thankyou for all the responses to our music club/lesson survey. A letter will be sent out soon giving more information on what we plan to do next. We are hoping to have the singing/music club running on Monday afternoons after half term



## Strike

The teaching staff who are members of the NEU have thought long and hard about the strike planned for 1<sup>st</sup> February and have decided not to strike so that school can remain open. This decision was made based on two main principles:

- After the disruption of Covid it was felt that every school day was valuable and that the education of the children was our priority.
- After the disruption caused by covid and the current cost of living crisis we felt it was unfair to inconvenience parents and families with further school closure.

This being said the teaching staff do agree with the aims of the NEU's campaign and believe that education needs to be funded appropriately and some of the working conditions of teaching staff do need addressing. In support of this teachers will be leaving school as soon after 3.30 pm as possible on Wednesday.

We will keep you updated on any future decisions regarding the remaining strike days that are planned for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February , Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

## Diary Dates

31<sup>st</sup> January – Y3/4 football friendly at Beaconside 3pm

W/B 6<sup>th</sup> February – Child Mental Health Week

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February – London Information Meeting for parents via zoom @ 7.00pm

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**

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

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

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.**

### **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.**

### **Tax Free Childcare**



Many parents may be interested to know that both our After School and Breakfast Clubs are considered to be approved childcare under the Government's Tax Free Childcare scheme. You might be eligible for up to £500 every 3 months for each of your children to help towards childcare costs so why not take a look? [Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

### **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 council's 'Ways to Welfare' website.

For further information follow this link <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/costofliving/default.asp>

### **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. They collect: men's, ladies' and children's clothing, paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around), bags/belts, hats, scarves/ ties, jewellery, lingerie & socks, soft toys, household linen including towels, curtains, bed sheets, duvet covers and pillow cases.

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.

## 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