

Newsletter 3 (20/9/19)

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term is racing on and we have had another packed week at Clawton Primary! I have been very pleased with how children are settling into lessons in the morning and how classrooms are reflecting calm, purposeful learning environments. Many thanks to everyone who has supported our approach to reading and Home Learning Journal launch. Children have been excitedly showing me this week how many times they have read at home and what they have been completing in their journals. It is wonderful to see how children are continuing their learning journey at home and how parents are supporting their children in consolidating and extending their skills.

Visit by Poet Andy Tooze – Monday 23rd September

Next week we are looking forward to welcoming the poet Andy Tooze into school who will be working alongside children and helping them to create their own poems. Andy has contacted us to say that he is going to lead a whole school **Celebration Assembly from 2.40pm on Monday afternoon** and would like to extend that invite to parents. We know it is short notice but we hope that as many of you as possible might like to come and celebrate your children's work. Please arrive at 2.35 and make your way to the hall to join in.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – next Friday, 27th September 9-10.30am



We hope you all have this in your diaries and are coming to join us for coffee next Friday morning, and raise some funds for a great cause. Donations of items for the stalls (including good quality/condition books and toys, cakes & produce) much appreciated. We will ask staff to provide raffle prizes for the draw and will use our year 6s entrepreneurial skills in running some of the stalls and competitions! Please park off site if you can so we can provide spaces for any elderly and disabled visitors. Thank you

Wakey Shakey

Don't forget Wakey Shakey takes place every morning in the school hall from 8.10-8.40 am. Currently we are only charging 50p but numbers are small at the moment and we are subsidising it so can we encourage some more to come along and join the fun! Parents can drop off early, avoid the car park chaos and go to work early or enjoy a walk or a coffee and have a more relaxed start to their day! Chris runs a varied programme and, for those children that don't like to be too active in the mornings, she does provide other table based activities but some exercise first thing does promote wellbeing and a positive mental attitude to the rest of the day! We have other staff that cover in Chris's absence so parents can rely on it being available every day. We will keep it at 50p whilst we see if we can encourage some new recruits – some children attend every day just because they love it, some parents use it as childcare on specific days of the week – we don't mind how you use it to suit your circumstances, but please use it if you can!



Harvest Festival

Apologies for our error with the date in the last newsletter! The Harvest Festival will be on Monday 7th October, 2pm in St Leonard's Church, Clawton. More details nearer the time.



Sport at Clawton

We are pleased to confirm that Rob Francis and Budehaven will be supporting us with Sports Coaching and activities again this year. We have not been able to secure the recruitment of a Sports Coach so Rob will be in school two days a week to deliver quality sports activities and coaching to our children. We are also delighted to have secured 8 weeks of Cricket Coaching from Devon Cricket which will start after half term for some classes in school. We will give out more details once this has been finalised. We are committed to taking part in as many events and competitions as we can that involves other Holsworthy schools. We were delighted to take some children from Year 5/6 to the 'Born to Win' event last Monday and we thank parents for their support with making that happen.

After School Clubs

Starting next week, we are able to offer two after school clubs;

- Multisports – Tuesday – 3.15pm-4.15pm – Squirrel Class
- Tag Rugby – Wednesday – 3.15pm-4.15pm – Fox and Badger Classes

If you would like to join in either club – please collect a letter from the office and fill in the slip. There are 20 places available at each club and we look forward to starting them this coming week. Many thanks to Rob Francis for making this happen.

Other After School Clubs

Currently our teaching staff are putting a massive workload into our new curriculum and all the exciting things we have planned, as set out in the class letters sent home recently. Therefore we would be very interested in hearing from any parent/grandparent etc who has a particular gift or talent they would like to share with our children in an after school club. We have already spoken to one or two and their enthusiasm to get clubs off the ground is exciting. We know we have some gifted art & craft people too so please get in touch if this is something you feel you would like to be involved with – lots of people are always willing to help but we need people to take the lead in order to get things set up. Of course all volunteers have to go through our normal safeguarding recruitment procedures which includes a DBS check, but that is normally easily and quickly processed. Autumn is a lovely term to get involved with the school grounds and gives us a wealth of opportunities for art & craft activities – all those lovely things in nature at this time of year, plus Harvest Festivals and Christmas activities around the corner – it's never too early to start with that of course!! If music is more your thing then equally we would love to have you on board – we have some beautiful singers if anyone would like to continue with the Choir and practice for Harvest and Christmas services. We'd love to engage with the wider community so if you know of anyone out there who might have a skill to share, please pass on this info and encourage them to get in touch. Many thanks.

Special Lunchtime Menu – 3rd October

Thursday 3rd October is our Census day and it is essential that we maximise uptake of free school meals, particularly in Hedgehog and Squirrel classes – the amount of funding we get towards our catering depends on the number of children taking their free meal entitlement on Census days across the year and is worth £414 per uFSM child in funding for the school. Sue will be preparing a special 'Rugby World Cup' menu for the day so please encourage your child to take part, even if they don't normally do so (Sue can of course cater for special diets including dairy free):



'Tackle' some Freshly Baked Fish Fingers with 'Penalty' Ketchup or 'Try' our Southern Style Quorn Burger with 'Scrum' Chips, 'On the Wing' cucumber sticks and 'Propped Up' by Carrot 'Posts' followed by 'Drop Kick' Chocolate Biscuits and 'Golden Point' Fruit Juice! Normal meal charge of £2.20 applies

to those not eligible for a free meal. Thank you for your support.

PTA AGM news

Last year's fundraising bought sensory equipment for the 'Sensory Room' located in the cabin and open to any pupil in the school. We were pleased to fund a whole school trip to the Aquarium to end the Summer Term's 'Splash' theme; Preschool beach trip which is happening soon, as well as extra classroom bits for early years and preschool. The money raised from World Book Day is going towards an outdoor reading area for KS2 which is in process. Leavers' gifts were also bought for year 6 leavers.

This year's fundraising is going towards a big project - an outdoor classroom!

Dates for your diary...

Early years and preschool are holding a Halloween cake sale on Wednesday 31st October after school to raise funds for their settings. Please see Justy Henderson (preschool) who is organising.



We are taking part in Holsworthy Carnival on Saturday 16th November as 101 Dalmations! Please see Serena Colwill who is organising.

Ladies Night is approaching - Friday 29th November Tetcott Hall. Raffle tickets will be coming home before half term for pupils to sell.

Christmas dates...

Wednesday 4th December - Wreath Making Evening

Saturday 14th December - Breakfast with Santa!

Fundraising for sports for Clawton will be in the Summer term surrounding the Olympics, watch this space!



Payments

As we move closer to our academy conversion date (we are still on track for 1/10/19), it is essential that all payments due to the school are brought up to date please so if you owe for lunches, uniform etc can payment be sent in for everything up to next Friday, 27th September. Many thanks.

Local Schools Committee

Parent Governor roles on this committee are open to 'any parent of the school' which of course now includes our preschool parents. The LSC will be very focused on the curriculum aspects/ performance of the school and much less on finances etc. If you know of anyone in the community who might be interested in becoming a Co-opted Governor (eg someone with a background in education) please put them in touch and we can arrange for them to talk to Mrs Marston and Simon Forbes, our Chair. The commitment would be 3 meetings per term, lasting approx. 2 hours which might include a learning walk or other activity as directed by the Trust Board. It is an exciting time to get involved at the outset of our new journey with Alumnis MAT. Thank you for your continued support.

Flu Vaccination Consent

All children should have bought home information this week regarding Flu Vaccinations.

This is a reminder to let you know that the school's link will be closing on the 29th September. If you have not yet completed the Flu consent form for your child, please visit the link and complete the form if you wish your child to have their vaccination at the School session. The flu consent link is below;

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2019/devon>

Should you not have access to a computer or if you are experiencing difficulty with completing the form online you can call 0333 321 9884 and they will be happy to help you.

Thank you for all your continued support with the many developments we are introducing into school to enhance the education of the children at Clawton. We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Marston

SAFEGUARDING

As part of our continued commitment to creating an effective Safeguarding culture in school we are going to include vital Safeguarding information to parents via our newsletter each week. It is essential that our community works together to ensure that our young people are kept safe and that Safeguarding practices and information are high priority for us all.

Safeguarding is everybody's business and keeping parents and carers up to date and in the loop with essential information is part of our professional duty and good practice.

The NSPCC reported last week that 1/5 or 20% of all online grooming happens to children under 11 and more than 70% of this grooming takes place on Facebook, Instagram [main platform for grooming], WhatsApp and Snapchat.

In the coming week we will be focussing on Online Safety in our ICT sessions in school to support children in using the internet and when they are interacting with others online.

Please talk to your children about what they are watching and playing and who they are interacting with online.

Together we must ensure that our children are safe when gaming, watching, using the internet or interacting with others online.