

Newsletter 4 (26/9/19)



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a packed week we have had at Clawton Primary! We kicked off the week with an energetic and engaging visit from poet Andy Tooze. Children were encouraged to take part in his active poetry sessions throughout the day and it was great to see and hear so many children taking part in the Celebration Assembly with him on Monday afternoon. Thank you to those of you who came and shared in the assembly. We are currently looking into ways in which we can welcome parents and carers more often into school and we hope to arrange further opportunities like this to ignite children's passion for interests such as poetry. Throughout the week, children have been presenting me with poems they have written at home and it is wonderful to see that Andy inspired them into producing their own work. Andy commented that our children were delightful and he was impressed with how they interacted in the sessions and engaged with his inputs. It was lovely to see so many children purchasing books by Andy after the session – I hope you and your children enjoy sharing those poems together.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Another fantastic community event in school this week was the MacMillan Coffee morning held today. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported this important event which raised money for a cause close to many of us. Wellbeing is at the very heart of our new curriculum and organising, donating and giving at an event such as this reflects important values that we aim to promote and nurture in our children. To give to others is one of the five evidence-based steps we can all take to improve our mental wellbeing and small acts of kindness towards others can give you a sense of purpose and make you feel happier. As you will be aware - Macmillan Cancer Support is one of the largest British charities and provides specialist health care, information and financial support to people affected by cancer. It also looks at the social, emotional and practical impact cancer can have, and campaigns for better cancer care. We raised a whopping £286 which the children are extremely proud of!

Thank you also to Ian Parker and his wife from the Rotary Club who generously presented us with some super books about caring for our oceans. It was wonderful to welcome them to our community gathering this morning.

Harvest Festival

After much consideration, we have decided that this year's Harvest festival is to be held in **our school hall** on Monday 7th October at 2pm. This is due to reviewing the safeguarding and health and safety of our pupils if we hold the service in the church. Of course, we would rather take our children to the church but on reviewing the logistics of this, it is not feasible to keep all children safe and follow our safeguarding procedures and policy if we do so. Therefore, we will invite a member of the church to join us in school and hold the service here. This year we are collecting donations for **Holsworthy foodbank**. There will be donation boxes in each class from the beginning of next week - thank you in advance for your kind donations to this very worthy cause. We would like to invite you to join us in our celebration from 2pm and hope that you are able to join us.



Sport at Clawton

Thank you to Rob for starting the coaching across years 1-6 this week and for taking after school clubs. Tag Rugby proved very popular on Wednesday night and **Multisports** has been moved to **Thursday** after school to help increase numbers wanting to attend. At the moment – Tag Rugby is full but if you would like to be added to the reserve list please let the office know. **Multisports** for **Squirrel class** has some spaces left so if your child would like to join in, please see the office and fill in a slip. It is important that you complete a slip so we know how many children are attending and that they have permission to do so.

Devon Cricket

We are delighted to tell you that we have now secured Cricket Coaching for **Squirrel** and **Badger Class** after half term. This will take place on a Monday afternoon and is part of our curriculum offer so will be in school time. This could lead to opportunities for children to take part in festivals and tournaments and even for children to join local cricket clubs later in the academic year. This is a super opportunity for our children and we hope they approach it with energy and enthusiasm – I am sure there is much to gain from it!

Cross Country – Years 3/4/5/6

As far as we know this is still due to go ahead on **Monday afternoon**. If the event is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, we will let parents know via text as soon as we are informed. As this is in curriculum time, children will continue with normal lessons if it does not go ahead.

London trip – Year 6

Year 6 is looking forward to visiting London on **17/18 October** and we thank all parents for their support with forthcoming organisation. It has been necessary to change to the parents meeting from Wednesday 2nd October to **Thursday 3rd October at 3.30pm**. I apologise if this causes any inconvenience. Final details will be shared and organisation confirmed. If you are unable to attend, a final letter will also be sent out.

SAFEGUARDING

Thank you to all parents and carers who are supporting the school with the morning routines. Changes were made to support site safety and to safeguard children coming onto the building. There has been a significant difference in how children come into school and a much calmer, more purposeful and prompt start to the day.

I would like to remind you that children can come into the building from **8.40am** and the bell for the start of school is **8.50am** when learning will begin. Please ensure that your child is into school on time so that we can account for their whereabouts and so that they are fully included in the learning experience for the start of the day.

Safeguarding our children at the end of the day is a priority.

Our Safeguarding Statutory Duty insists that we have robust end of day procedures where all children are accounted for and collected **safely and promptly**.

It is important that children are collected on time at 3.15pm and leave the premises with parents and carers.

At present, we are experiencing a number of incidents where we can not locate children at the end of the day when someone arrives to collect them due to children not being collected on time or being in parts of the school building after 3.15pm that they should not be.

When classes leave the building, children must go directly to whoever is collecting them and teachers will monitor where children are going to ensure they have someone to leave the premises with.

Children who are not picked up on time will wait with a member of staff in the lower playground until they are collected.

At this time, we do not offer after school care for children and although we understand that there are times when parents or carers may be late to collect children due to unforeseen circumstances, we would respectfully ask that children are collected promptly at 3.15pm.

If you are unable to collect at this time we would ask you to call our office and let us know so that we can put a plan into place. It will be necessary to discuss this with you if this is a common occurrence so that we can work together to find a solution.

Thank you for your support – I know how important your children's safety is to you – we too are committed to keeping your children safe at all times in school, including the beginning and end of the day.

Working together to safeguard of children is our priority - safeguarding is everybody's business

Thank you for all your continued support with the many developments we are introducing into school to enhance the safety, experiences and education of the children at Clawton. If there is anything that you would like to clarify or discuss, please contact our office or the class teacher as the first point of contact. If you would like to book an appointment to speak to me regarding something that the office or class teacher is unable to help you with – please do not hesitate to speak to Alison and she will organise this for you.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Marston