

Newsletter 9 (8.11.19)



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to see the sun shining today after so much challenging wet weather – the sun makes us all feel more positive and happy and that is the ethos that we consistently want to promote at Clawton School.

We have had another busy week which started with a whole school assembly on how we ensure our children in school feel safe. Children talked through a number of ways that we work together in school to ensure children are safe and they asked some excellent questions following this which showed how much they had taken on board and listened.

Squirrel Class enjoyed an active start to the week by taking part in the fantastic Multi Skills Festival at Holsworthy. All of the children took part in the festival with energy and enthusiasm and enjoyed the activities that they were given the opportunity to experience.

Clubs have started this week and it was super to see so many children signing up for the wide variety of clubs that we have to offer. Thank you again to all parents who have supported the school as we launch our clubs offer – we hope that this will continue to grow and that we can sustain the activities that are on offer to our children.

I spent a highly inspiring day with our Badger children on Thursday and was stunned by the poetry that they wrote! Their use of personification, simile, metaphor and language was excellent and everyone in the class was successful in writing a highly effective poem which can now be seen on display in their classroom. I very much enjoy going in to teach our children as I find them highly motivated and excited to learn. I like to challenge children in the classroom and our children at Clawton are very much up for that challenge!

Children enjoyed having their photos taken today and we welcomed another professional photographer into school who was taking photos for our Trust website.

All in all, another highly successful week at Clawton Primary.

Hand Washing



We have promoted hand washing in school again this week and would like to ask parents to encourage children as much as they can at home with this valuable practice. Children have been designing posters to go by our sinks and have been looking at ways in which they can effectively wash their hands to keep themselves safe from germs and bugs. Well done to those children who are challenging others when they see them forgetting to wash their hands!

Parent Teacher Appointments

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported a highly successful parents evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you come and view your children's work and speak with teachers about how your children have settled into the year and how they can be supported to further progress with their learning. Please find attached to this newsletter a feedback form where you can let us know about your thoughts around Parents Evening and on a number of other initiatives and changes within school. We value feedback and as a reflective school who are continually looking to improve, we will do our very best to respond to you as much as we possibly can.

Tag Rugby Festival at Holsworthy Community College

On Monday next, 11th November, Years 3 & 4 have their Tag Rugby Festival at HCC. We will be travelling by coach, with St Giles Primary, leaving here at approx. 12.25pm (the events run from 12.45-2.45pm) and we

will have an early school lunch before we leave. Everyone will need their PE kits including their Clawton T'shirt and a change of footwear please. Thank you.

Armistice day



On Monday children will be taking part in Remembrance Day activities along with people nationally. Our children have been focussing upon the theme of Conflict and Resolution and that was purposefully planned for this time of year to coincide with this most important of days. We will be taking part in the 2-minute silence at 11am and children will be reflecting upon why the 11th hour or the 11th day of the 11th month is remembered as it is.

Children In Need

Next Friday is Children In Need Day and we would like to raise awareness of the fantastic work that is done through funding from Children in Need by having a non-uniform day in school where children are invited to wear their Children in Need clothing or something yellow/spotty. Of course if children don't have anything that falls into those categories then non uniform is fine. During the day children will be taking part in activities that look at the work of Children in Need and further information around any individual class activities will be sent out at the beginning of next week.

EcoClub

An adjustment has been made to the time and price of the EcoClub, to make it easier for families to use the Clubs. The EcoClub, running alongside the cooking club, will now run from 3:15-4:15 at a cost of £2 per child, to cover for materials & snack. To save on costs, contact us if you can donate any materials. To give you some ideas: we have in mind to grow bulbs and seeds, plant trees, and build raised beds or bird feeders and houses for wildlife, and do science experiments. Children are advised to bring suitable footwear and warm clothes, or a cover for school clothes, as we may get muddy.

Plant cuttings & plastic bottles & plant pots (to fit in a big bottle) for School garden



We have very exciting plans to turn part of our school grounds into a fully-fledged school garden. This will include a vegetable garden, wildlife areas and a herb garden or sensory garden. Teachers and children are now developing plans and projects for each class to help in the process. One of our first steps is to try and grow new interesting shrubs. We ask everyone to bring in a branch of an interesting or favourite shrub and leave this in a bucket near reception. Please add a note on plastic with your child's name and the shrub name (or a description). We also ask children to bring in empty clear big lemonade type bottles. At the EcoClub on the 12th and 19th November we will be turning your branches into 'hardwood cuttings'. Your cutting may take hold and become a plant to enjoy for many years in our school garden! Many thanks for your support.

Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Policy/Agreement and General Trip Slip 19-20

Many thanks to everyone who has signed and returned these to school – unfortunately there are still quite a few outstanding and we do need one for each child before we run our IT lesson with the children about the 'Acceptable Use' Policy. If you have mislaid your copy please request another from the school office.



PTA

Please can all raffle tickets be returned by Monday - stubs and money. Every child should have come home with a book of tickets so last chance to sell them over the weekend! Please return any unsold ones you may have if you haven't been able to sell them. There is a small pile in the office if anyone would like any more to sell. There will be 20-25 excellent prizes on offer – you have to be in it to win it – so don't miss out!! Prizes will be draw at the Ladies Night on Friday 29th November – we hope to see you there!

Thank you for returning Christmas card orders, these will now be sent off and will return before the end of term ready for Christmas!

The Scary hair and cake sale for Halloween made an amazing £315 in total so thank you to everyone who helped or baked cakes, especially to Preschool for all their efforts.

There are still a few lottery numbers to be had - £10 a number please see Becky Vernon or Kirsty Dunkin. The first draw will take place at the end of term. Don't forget the next meeting is next Wednesday 13th November at Rydon Inn 7pm, all welcome.

Free to a good home!

We have had some work done in Squirrel Class during the half term break and have some decent 'kitchen' type units (beech effect) and worktop (grey) if anyone can make use of them. We like to 'recycle' where we can but we do need them gone by the end of next week so that we can tidy the hall (they are there to view if anyone would like to take a look). We also have a two-door lockable cupboard (wood effect), a mobile unit wood effect), a table (needs a bit of glue!) and maybe a couple of other bits & pieces. First come first served!

Pre-Winter Tidy Up

Simon, our caretaker, is going to be busy having a pre-winter tidy up of the grounds – if anyone is able to give a couple of our sheds a coat of preservative before the winter that would be really appreciated – they are supposed to be done once a year to give them a prolonged life expectancy! We would of course provide the materials (and refreshments!).

Christmas Dates

As well as the dates for the Christmas Performances we would like to give out the extra following dates;

Christmas Craft sale with mince pies and Brass Band – Tuesday 17th December – School Hall - 2pm

Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 18th December

Christmas Carol Service – Thursday 19th December – pm - (venue to TBC)

Safeguarding

We are currently reviewing our medical records and First Aid practices at Clawton Primary to ensure that we are continually keeping children safe. We have a high number of qualified First Aiders in school - whose names are displayed around the building should you ever need one - on hand to support children but all staff at Clawton Primary recognise their duty of care to attend to children who require basic first aid and support when issues arise.

We want to ensure that we are keeping our children as safe as possible, therefore please could you update any medical information that is required for your child in school. Any medicines that are to be administered must be signed for in the office and children who require inhalers or other forms of medication on site must be known to the office and to class teachers.

We are working on Health Care Plans for those children in our care who need one and will be in touch with parents should we need to complete one for your child. Medical information includes any food allergies or allergies to plasters.

It is vitally important that we hold and share the necessary medical information for your children to keep them safe in school and we would ask parents to ensure that they regularly communicate with staff in school regarding any medical needs for their child.

Safeguarding is everybody's business

Reflection and Feedback



We are totally committed to continually improving the level of provision at Clawton Primary School to ensure that we are providing high standards for both our children and parents/carers. If you have any feedback, thought or suggestions for us regarding the following, we would be delighted to receive it to support our self-evaluation and development.

Parents Evening

Home School Learning

Reading

Thank you for your continued support