



Clawton Primary School Newsletter | 10th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have all settled back into the routines and expectations here at Clawton and it has been so nice to spend time in each of the classes, talking to the children about their learning. The Year 3 children have now got their Chromebooks and our Key Stage 1 children have also enjoyed using a set of Chromebooks that are there for them to use in school.

As we progress further into the term, the children are starting to achieve their Inspiring Changemaker awards by taking part in off-site activities such as Beer Mill for our Owls and Hi-Five Netball for some of our Badgers. They are Inspiring Adventurers. We are looking forward to the children inviting a special person to lunch on the 12th October. Hopefully you will have received an invitation by the time you receive this letter.

After school clubs are in full swing now and it has been great to see so many children attending and engaging with the extra-curricular activities on offer - they are Inspiring Skillbuilders. I am really grateful to the staff for giving up their time in order to run these.

We have had contact from [Reverend Paul](#), the new vicar at Clawton Church and we are really looking forward to having him come and visit us for assemblies. He was so impressed with the courtesy and respect that the children showed him as we looked around the school. I was really proud of the children as these have been our focus virtues.

We are still aiming for over 95% attendance and our current attendance percentage is 93.75%. Whilst we appreciate that there have been some illnesses going around which require a quarantine period, we are focusing on the late marks as these do bring down our attendance rates. Letters will be sent home in two weeks if attendance is below 90%.

As the weather has started to become a bit more unpredictable, please could you



Clawton School
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Inclusion Team contact details:

James Creek - 07596 476 145

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Key dates:

12th October - Bring a Special Person to Lunch

19th October - Harvest - 2pm

19th October - PTA Halloween Disco
20th October - Non Pupil Day / End of Term

30th October - Start of Term 2

Focus virtue this week:

Friendliness

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make certain your child brings a coat into school every day.

It has been great to see so many of you interacting with Dojo and our Facebook page. We really appreciate all of the “shares” and likes that we are getting.


Kind regards,

Mrs Steyn


Latest News



Clawton Primary School
www.clawton-sch.org
01409 253618




Community Update



Hello from Revd Paul.

I came to Ministry after 20 years in the Royal Navy and since then have been Rural Dean of Exeter, Head of Chaplaincy and Psychology in a university, and have been a school Governor three times.

In May, I happily became Rector of seven parishes in Ruby Country Benefice including Clawton and Tetcott.



My university had 92 religions from 125 countries, so I became very experienced working across faiths, I also researched, and lectured our trainee teachers, on bereavement, wellbeing and safeguarding for children, which became my specialist area.

I love history, church buildings, books, mountains, rugby, running and am a massively geeky birdwatcher.



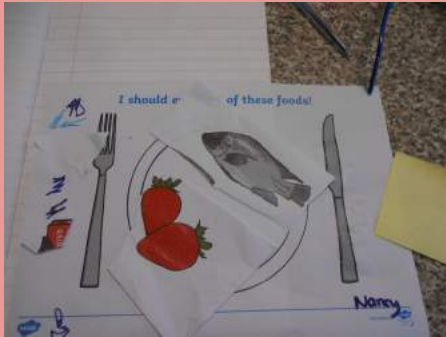
Parent Safeguarding Advice

On the school website, we have some very useful safeguarding tips around online safety, social media, devices, gaming and mental health to provide some support or guidance if needed.

To find what these look like, follow this link [👉 https://alumnismat.org/online-safety/](https://alumnismat.org/online-safety/)

Owls

Academic:



Over the last couple of weeks, Owls have been learning how to stay healthy and all about our five senses.

To stay healthy, we have learnt that we need to eat healthy food including all our vegetables, we need to do a little exercise everyday and brush our teeth. We have looked at what our five senses are and discovered that we need our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our hands to touch, our noses to smell and our tongues to taste.



For our Talk 4 Writing - Owls have been exploring clay and have created some amazing clay rainbow fish. In maths we have been focusing on our circles and counting and matching to the correct number.



In Science we have realised that even though we all look different on the outside - we are all the same on the inside. To research this, we did an experiment with some hard boiled eggs. We painted them all different colours on the outside, then cracked them open to find out that they are all the same on the inside.

Character:

Owls have been learning how to be kind, take turns and understand why it is important to share with their friends (just like the Rainbow Fish). They have been using sand timers and demonstrating patience whilst waiting for their turn. By sharing and being polite, Owls have enjoyed a peaceful setting and some lovely friendships are being formed.

We have now joined the whole school with the houses. Owls have been learning how they can gain house points by demonstrating the character virtues.

Community:

This week, we had a special visitor. PC Brown came in and talked to the children about DNA. We learnt how we are all unique - how we all have different fingerprints, shoe patterns and facial/body features. She showed us how they take a DNA sample by using swabs and then placing them in a special bag



called an 'evidence bag'. This bag had a special symbol on it, to indicate that it contained body fluids.

PC Brown let us all take part in printing our finger prints onto a certificate and have a go at dressing up as a police officer!



We also took part in World Animal Day this week. We have been raising money for PAT (Pets As Therapy) Owls have dressed up in some fantastic costumes!



Digital and Innovation:

We have been very busy continuing with activities that are linked with our Talk 4 Writing innovation. Owls have been retelling the story using a story map and then sequencing the story by cutting out key characters and glueing them into a sequence. This activity has demonstrated good use of scissors and glueing.



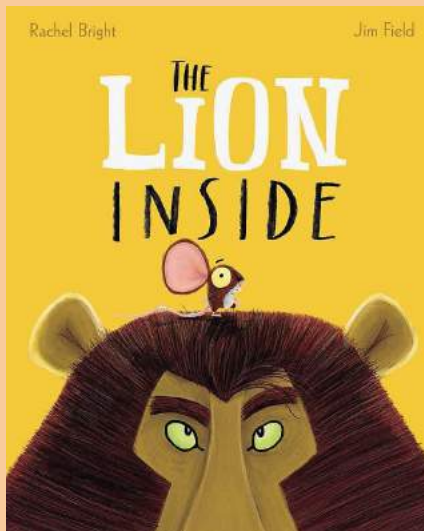
Hedgehogs

Academic:

The children are now well into their first Play Project of the year, where they plan their own learning through continuous provision and link it to our topic. During our brainstorming session they came up with some amazing ideas, including making puppets of themselves, building their houses and writing books about all the things they can do. Play projects are a great way to revisit prior learning and practise lots of different skills..... we love them!



Character:



This week we enjoyed reading a text called 'The Lion Inside' which is a lovely story about a little mouse and fierce lion who face their fears of each other and end up the best of friends. We then followed this up by talking about the qualities we would want a good friend to have and making friendship bracelets for each other.

Community:

We had a lovely surprise from preschool this week when some of our little Owls delivered a handmade friendship potion for us. We were really touched, what a thoughtful and caring thing to do! The children also looked fabulous in their outfits for our World Animal Day this week. Thank you to everyone who supported the cause and helped to raise some money for PAT (Pets as Therapy). All of us love seeing Lucy each week! 🐾

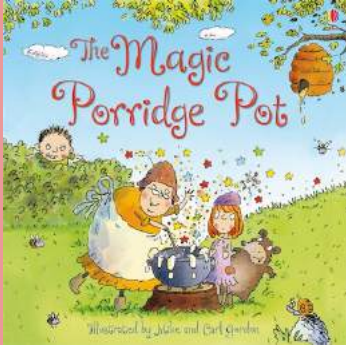
Innovation:

Hedgehogs have been very creative with pebbles this week and turned them into self-portraits or family portraits! We love how they all look different, just like us!



Squirrels

Academic:



This week Squirrels have been writing their own versions of The Magic Porridge Pot. We had a lot of fun making and trying our own porridge last week to see what it tasted like! Some children decided it wasn't for them; others loved it.

We have just finished our place value unit in maths this week. We will be regularly revisiting this to ensure all children are secure in their understanding of this unit.

In Science this week we have been looking at Mammals and what a mammal is. This is following on from looking at us as Humans. The children have been really focused with all the learning this week.

Character:

Our focus Virtue this week is Friendliness. This has also been our focus in PSHE. Looking at what is a friend, how we are all friends and what could make someone upset. Luckily, Squirrels all have well formed friendships and are happy to talk about any issues that are bothering them.



Community:



Over the last couple of weeks we have welcomed Lucy, our PAT (Pets As Therapy) dog, into school. Lucy helps the children to remain calm and ready to work. The children are very gentle with her. They have all made Lucy and her owner Jane feel welcomed.

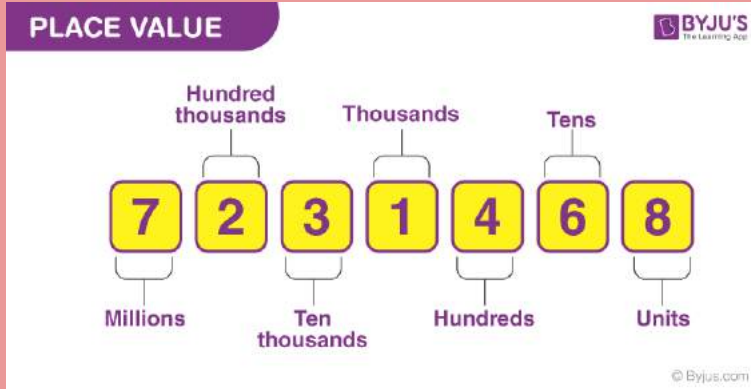
Digital and Innovation:

I loved seeing all of the costumes on Thursday this week, when we had our National Animal Day. It has been lovely to see all the innovative ideas to create an animal look. Well done parents and children for your creative skills and efforts!



Foxes

Academic:



Fox class have been working hard on writing their own stories in the style of the BFG. The children have been busy drawing pictures of their character and their settings in order to support their writing. In maths year 3 have finished their number and place value unit and we have started to recap the parts that they have found most difficult.

Character:

The children have all really enjoyed seeing Lucy (the PAT dog). She popped into our classroom just after lunch last week and I had lots of questions about her. The children that have met her (so far) have all been very positive about the experience and I hope the visits continue to help different members of the class.



Community:



The children dressed as animals on Thursday to raise money for the PAT (Pets As Therapy) charity. There were some fantastic animal costumes and we raised money in order to help the charity continue their good work in schools and beyond.

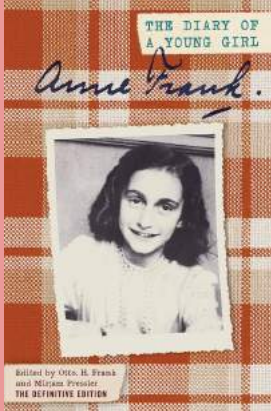
Digital and Innovation:

The children have been continuously working on their mechanical signs to promote recycling during DT. There have been lots of innovative ideas coming from the children and they have been working really hard to make sure that they move well using levers and linkages. This has linked quite closely with our science which is based on forces.



Badgers

Academic:



Badgers have started their unit of work on diary entries this week. They have thought about how a diary is written, who it is for and they have had a go at writing their own. They have also listened to diary entries from WW2 and have now started to read the Diary of Anne Frank and to watch the video diary of Anne Frank.

Character:

Several children in Badger class have now had the opportunity to meet Lucy the PAT (Pets As Therapy) dog. They have loved this and have returned to class happy, calm and very keen to work. Her visits are extremely successful and she is a tremendous asset to our school. (I think Lucy gets very spoiled and has lots of treats during her visits!)



Community:

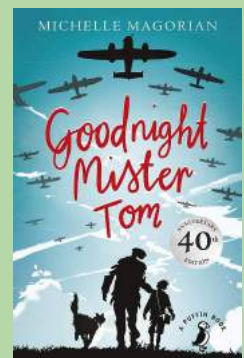


On Thursday some of the class had a day of netball at Launceston college. They mixed with several other schools in the morning learning new skills and improving old ones. They also played matches in the afternoon in a competitive but friendly way. I was very proud of them. The children also had Fitness training with Mr Pugh from Holsworthy college which they all enjoyed and which left them exhausted!

Digital and Innovation:



Badger class have mostly finished building their Anderson shelters. These were quite tricky as they also had to make the furniture and attach this inside. This project has fitted in really well with our class reader, Goodnight Mister Tom, as he too has just built his Anderson shelter in the book.



Clawton Toddler Group

We run every Friday throughout term time 9am-11am in the school hall, it would be great to see some new faces, so please spread the word.

Free School Meals

Could your child be entitled to Free School Meals? If you are in receipt of any of the following your child should be entitled to Free School Meals:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

To check eligibility and apply visit

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals/> This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.



Do you receive any of the following?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by the Inland Revenue) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- In the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for free school meals/Pupil Premium

The school office will help with your application. If your application is successful not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will receive £1,300 additional funding (per child). This is called Pupil Premium.

All applications are confidential.

