



# Clawton Primary School Newsletter | 10th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all had a lovely half term break, I can't believe that two weeks have already passed. For my input into the newsletter this week, I hope that it is clear how grateful we all are that we have such a lovely and supportive school community. Without this support, many of the activities and facilities that have been put in place over the past term would not have happened.

As you have all been told, we are delighted to have received the ACE School of Character Quality Mark Plus award. This reflects the hard work and dedication of all of the staff at Clawton, but also the enthusiasm of the children in embedding our character approach and the support that we have received from home - thank you.

The cabin is almost finished, but we are already using the space for our learning and the children have thoroughly enjoyed working in there. Once the finishing touches have been fitted, we will send out photos of it! Thank you to the PTA and members of the school community who gave up their half term to make sure that it was completed so quickly and to such a high standard.

We are also excited to have our new library installed and we are grateful for the parent helpers who have offered to help us to sort out all of the books. It makes such a difference to the entrance of the school and we will be using the library to help us to promote a love of reading.

We had a fantastic school trip to Davidstow, where the children were all Inspiring Adventurers and Researchers - learning about World War 2. I was really pleased with the conduct of the school and we were complimented, as a school, by the owner. It is exciting to hear that some of the classes will be visiting Beer Mill over the next few weeks, we will look forward to hearing about what they have been learning.

It's a busy term ahead, with lots of exciting activities planned, so please keep an eye on Dojo for updates and any last minute changes to plans. We will try to give as much notice as possible.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Steyn



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**Key dates:**  
14th November - KS1 Reading workshops at 9am and 3pm  
15th November - KS2 Reading workshops at 9am and 3pm  
8th December - PTA Christmas Party (KS1 - 3.30 - 4.30pm)  
KS2 - 5 - 6pm)  
13th December - Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Dinner

**Focus virtue this week:**

**Courage and Compassion**



## 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/>

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Two sessions to support 5-9 years old around challenges they face in our ever changing world - please can I ask you share this with our parents please and anyone else relevant?

Following feedback from those attending Let's Talk Teenagers and Let's Talk Pre-Teens we are really pleased to announce the launch of Let's Talk Primary, there will be two sessions aimed at parents and carers of young people aged from 5 to 9 years old, it is a chance for you to hear about the challenges young people face in this ever changing world and to hear about the tools and techniques you can use to support your children. There are two sessions and the topics covered will be as follows:

### **Session 1 - Tuesday 14th November**

Development

Anxiety Landscape

Family life

Ever changing risks and world

The online world

To sign up to Session 1 please go to [Let's Talk Primary Session 1](#)

### **Session 2 - Tuesday 21st November**

Relationships

Gender stereotypes

Positive body image

Mental health

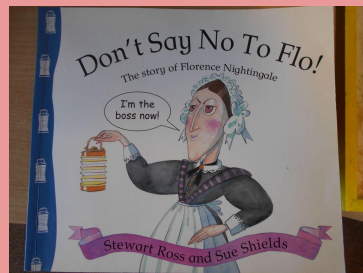
To sign up to Session 2 please go to [Let's Talk Primary Session 2](#)



## Owls

### Academic:

Owls have been learning all about superheroes. In particular our local superheroes like our doctors/nurses, teachers, police officers and farmers and anyone who provides us with a SERVICE. We have learnt that a superhero can be anyone who helps others. Even we could be a superhero by helping our friends and family.



We have started a new Talk For Writing text - Don't Say No To Flo written by Stewart Ross and illustrated by Sue Shields. Which is a story all about Florence Nightingale, a nurse who wanted to help sick soldiers in the war.

For our History, we have researched all about Mary Jackson and Nelson Mandela, how a nurse helps people, what Diwali is and why we wear poppies.



For Science, we have been busy with experiments. We started off by making potions for Meg & Mog, mixing colours to make medicines and explored how blood gets pumped around our bodies.



### Character:

Our character virtue has been all about **COMPASSION**. Our Owls have shown compassion towards their peers by looking after them if they felt poorly or upset. They have been busy doctors and nurses and nursed Vicky back to health. They have demonstrated **FRIENDLINESS** and **HELPLESSNESS** by helping to set up activities.

Whenever we walk around the school building, Owls show their fantastic walking without being reminded and they have been rewarded by several teachers with house points! Keep up the good work Owls!



### Community:

Owls had Nurse Mandy Mitchell in for a visit on Wednesday. She talked to the children about her role as a nurse. Prior to her visit, some children asked if she would be wearing clothes like Florence Nightingale? Nurse Mandy showed the children some of the medical equipment that she uses to help people. Owls were very **CURIOUS** and waited **PATIENTLY** for their turn. Nicky and Claire even had our blood pressure taken!



### Digital and Innovation:

As we are covering History and Service this half term, we have been watching a few short videos to get a clearer understanding of some of the topics. We started off with black history month and looked at a couple of our house mascots - Mary Jackson and Nelson Mandela. We discovered that both were superheroes. Mary Jackson was good at maths and became a scientist for NASA. Nelson Mandela went to prison for standing up to what he believed in, he was the first black president in South Africa.



For Klassen, we made our own Chapattis, just like they do for Diwali.



## Hedgehogs

### Academic:

This week, the children enjoyed learning about The Gunpowder Plot and why we celebrate Bonfire Night. We read a story and then the year one children had fun dressing up as the characters and acting out the events. Some children then took this into their play and built their version of The Houses of Parliament. They included a cellar for Guy Fawkes to hide the barrels of gunpowder in and then drew on previous learning from another topic by remembering to add Elizabeth Tower and the River Thames.



### Character:

This week we have been thinking about the character virtue of compassion through Remembrance activities. Our trip to Davidstow gave us an insight into what life would have been like during WW2 and how difficult and upsetting it would have been during that time. The children have been making their own poppies to wear as a mark of respect and will continue to learn about our war heroes over the next few weeks.





### Community:

We would like to say a **big thank you** to our wonderful PTA for purchasing some resources to introduce light play into the class. We have bought some transparent 2D and 3D shapes for our light box, a light rope and a mini projector so that we can have backdrops projected onto a wall for our construction and small world play. They have arrived and are being well used already!

### Innovation:

After learning about The Gunpowder Plot, the children got creative and made firework pictures. The reception group learnt how to make springs by folding strips of paper and the year one group used forks for relief printing and then added silhouettes of The Houses of Parliament. Don't they look effective!



## Squirrels

### Academic:

This week we have looked at a range of events, from Bonfire night to Remembrance day. We have spoken about why these are important events and why we still remember them to this day.

In Maths we have been continuing with our Addition and Subtraction unit. The children have been working hard on this and learning different methods to help them learn. The children have been building a lot of resilience with this.

In English we have been looking at Formal Invitations. We have only touched upon this, looking at the features of an invitation and will investigate these features further..



### Character:



This week we have been focusing on **courage** and **compassion**. This has linked into Remembrance day and the courage the soldiers demonstrated whilst fighting in the war. This follows on to our new topic for this half term of significant Explorers and the courage and compassion these explorers demonstrated.

### Community:

On Friday last week we visited Davidstow War Museum. The children were brilliantly behaved. The children asked lots of questions demonstrating curiosity. The children were fascinated by the air raid shelters, but did not like how loud the noises were.



### Digital and Innovation:



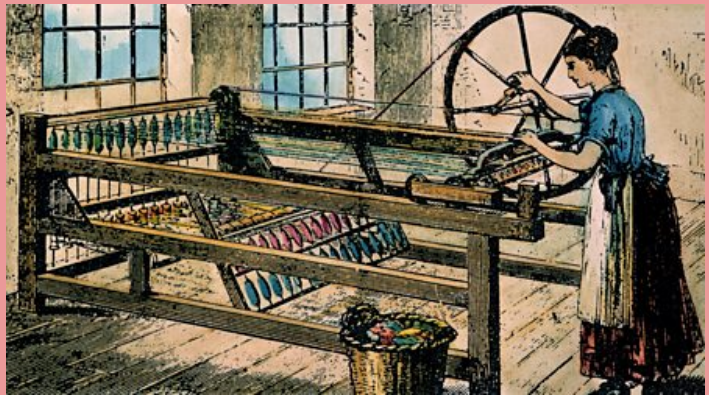
This week the children have been innovators when we created our Poppy displays. Using wood log slices and fingerprinting poppies on these. You can view these in the outdoor classroom!



## Foxes

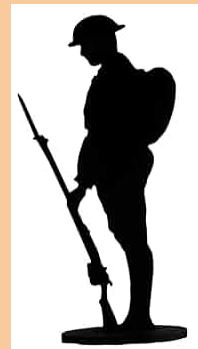
### Academic:

Foxes class have been working really hard to complete all of their NFER papers. They have shown excellent resilience as they were quite tricky and they took a long time. We have also started looking at our topic. We looked at what was invented during the Victorian industrial revolution and discussed how they helped to change the world. In maths we have been looking at addition and subtraction and in Literacy we have been critically analysing poems.



### Character:

This week's character virtue is compassion. The children have all been showing compassion to our new gerbils by making sure they are nice and quiet so as to not scare them. They have also all been very keen to help out with making sure that they are well looked after. The children also showed compassion to the soldiers that have fallen when we had a 2 minute silence for Remembrance.

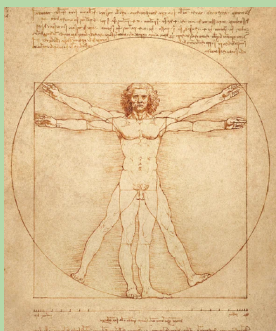


### Community:



Last Friday we visited the Davidstow war museum. The children showed the character virtues of respect and compassion. The children were fantastically behaved and showed lots of curiosity by asking questions. The children also showed courage when they experienced a fake air raid. It was quite loud but a few children overcame their fears to experience it.

### Digital and Innovation:



We started to look at Leonardo da Vinci as an inventor and an artist for our art unit this term. The children found it interesting to find out that he was a polymath (a person who knows a lot about lots of different subjects) and we looked at all of the different disciplines he was interested in. The children showed great innovation on the day we were at home because of the storm. They made some fantastic and well researched TV weather reports which were a real joy to watch.



## Badgers

### Academic:

This week children in Badger class completed their Assessment tasks for Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and grammar and also maths. They all coped really well and have shown great progress since the beginning of term. They are also all completing homework in both maths and comprehension every day.



### Character:

Badger class had an amazing day at Launceston college at the Rugby festival this week. They learnt new skills with coaches from Exeter chiefs in the morning and then spent the afternoon playing games of tag rugby. They were all extremely enthusiastic and obviously loved it. Some got muddier than others!



### Community:

Year 6 children had the opportunity to learn how to use the defibrillator today. First they learnt how to recognise a heart attack and then a cardiac arrest. They then learnt how to do CPR and what to do if they found someone collapsed. They then had instruction on using the defibrillator. Hopefully, they will never need to use it but it is amazing to think that children of that age could save a life.



### Digital and Innovation:

On the storm day last week the children were asked to make a presentation based on climate change and then link that to the weather we have been experiencing. Some coped really well and sent me presentations with moving words and pictures which were amazing. Others had more of a problem as they had no power or internet! It just goes to show how much we rely on technology now in all our school work!



## Clawton Toddler Group

It's been a busy couple of weeks since half term, the toddlers enjoyed making and eating their breadstick sparklers and making their firework paintings.

This week, we tried something new with the support of the whole school, as it was world kindness day. The toddlers visited each class delivering pictures showing different ways we can be kind, in return each class gave the toddlers a present. It was a lovely way for all the children to come together.

Next week we will be doing Children in Need activities followed by road safety activities the following week.

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.





## School Council News

Here are some photos from the School Council's Pumpkin Competition. There were some fantastic and very creative versions of a pumpkin.





## 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.

