



Clawton Primary School Newsletter | 24th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another two weeks have flown past with lots going on at Clawton - we hope that you enjoy reading about the different activities in each class.

It has been lovely to see two of our classes being Inspiring Adventurers and visiting Beer Mill - we know that there are more trips in the pipeline! We are continuing with our reading focus and had a visit from Holsworthy Library's librarian, Mary Weblin. We learnt about the different types of books and services that the library can offer us.

We marked Remembrance Day by making poppies on pieces of wood and then hung them in the outdoor classroom. It was great to see all members of our school community create one of these and the school demonstrated a great level of respect during our two-minutes silence.

We are very grateful to Tina, Sadie and Ads for kindly taking on the roles required to run our PTA. The PTA is such a valuable team of people that organise events and activities which have a huge positive impact on the children at school. The staff team at Clawton are really looking forward to working with the PTA and supporting their events.

That being said, there is already a lot that has been planned and we will give you as much notice as possible. Please do keep an eye on Dojo regarding this.

Kind regards,
Mrs Steyn



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Key dates:

8th December - PTA Christmas Party
(KS1 - 3.30 - 4.30pm)
KS2 - 5 - 6pm)
13th December - Christmas Jumper
day and Christmas Dinner
15th December - Last day of term
2nd Jan - Non-pupil day
3rd Jan - First day of Spring Term
2024

Focus virtue this week:

Courage and Determination

I learned that **courage** was not the absence of fear, but the **triumph** over it. The **brave** man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who **conquers that fear.**

– Nelson Mandela



Parent Safeguarding Advice

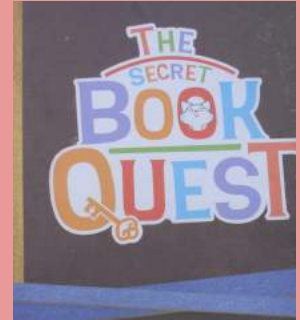
On the school website, we have some very useful safeguarding tips around online safety, social media, devices, gaming and mental health to provide some support or guidance if needed.

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

Owls

Academic:

These last couple of weeks we have been continuing with our topic about local superheroes (people who provide us with a service). We have looked at the role of a librarian and how they provide us with a service. We had a special whole school assembly last Wednesday where we had Mary Weblin from Holsworthy Library talked to us about what services they can provide. We learnt that we were able to borrow up to 20 books at a time, play with lego and join in with a Book Quest challenge. This is a challenge to read 50 books and receive a certificate and badge. It is all free to join and everyone is welcome! So why not pop along to Holsworthy Library and let your child explore their love of reading!



This last week we have been looking at the job role of a farmer and how they provide us with a service. We have learnt that they are important because they provide us with farm shops, where they sell their fresh produce that they have grown. Owls have had their own farm shop role play and have enjoyed being farmers.



In History, we are still learning about Florence Nightingale; so far we have learnt that she was a nurse who looked after the sick soldiers in the war. She gave them clean hospitals, healthy food and clean clothes.

Character:

Our Owls are really enjoying earning their house points. They have decided to now have their little marble houses in the big preschool registration house and have their people next to their correct house.



Community:

Owls took part in the ShoeBox Appeal again this year. Operation Christmas Child which was organised by the Samaritans. They have donated some lovely items and will definitely put a smile on some children's faces this christmas! We also took part in wearing spots last week for Children In Need.



Digital and Innovation:

We have watched some short videos about different job roles too. We watched a video about nurses, Anti-Bullying, Children In Need and farming.

We have been really creative this week with lots of pictures about farm life. Matching up animals to their correct place on the farm. Owls have made some super sheep this week using cotton wool and googly eyes.



We have been super creative with vegetables too and made some supertatoes and supercarrots! This was a very popular activity and such good fun!



Hedgehogs

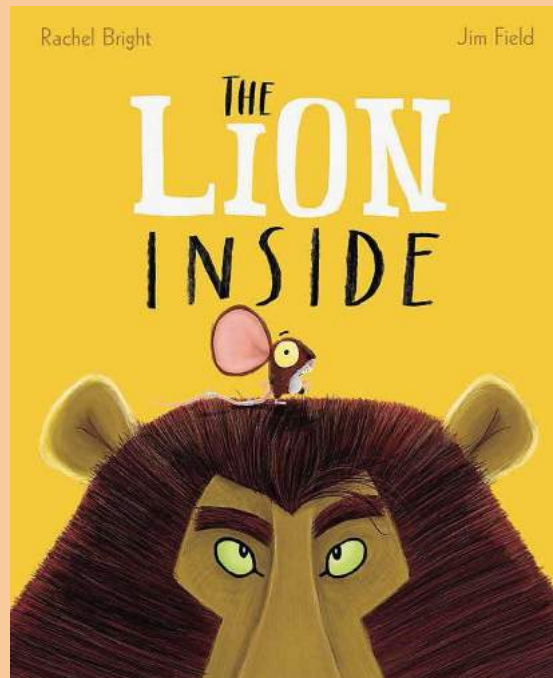
Academic:

The children have been fascinated to learn about life during WW1 over the past 2 weeks. We have had a particular focus on what conditions were like in the trenches, how animals supported the soldiers and what it meant to be part of The Home Front. Some children were motivated to take our research into their play and created this magnificent model of the Front Line. They used blocks for the trenches, made Lego soldiers and added rats, dogs, elephants and horses. Why don't you ask the children how some of these animals helped during the war.



Character:

Our focus virtue has been courage this week so we have been talking about how brave everybody would have had to be during WW1. We read one of our favourite books, 'The Lion Inside' to remind us that even the biggest, most confident creatures can be scared sometimes but we have to 'find our brave' to face our fears. The children then enjoyed learning about Sergeant Stubby, a brave little dog who was awarded several medals for saving the lives of hundreds of soldiers during the First World War.



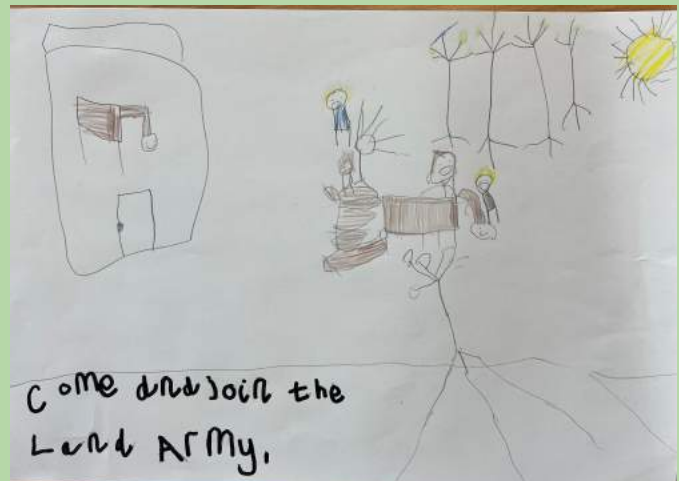
Community:

Despite it being wet and muddy, we really enjoyed our trip up to Beer Mill on Monday afternoon. Elaine taught us about how animals are able to survive through the colder months and we had lots of fun trying to find the minibeasts she had hidden in various shelters. We also touched on adaptations and the food chain before finishing off our afternoon with a game of Poohsticks down by the river.




Innovation:

After learning about the Home Front and all the different jobs women had to do during WW1, the year one children designed Propaganda posters to encourage people to join their workforce. Many children said they would work in the munitions factory, despite developing yellow skin from all the chemicals while others would join the Land Army. What job would you do?



Squirrels

2-D Shape	3-D Shape
 Square	 Cube
 Rectangle	 Cuboid

Academic:

This week Squirrels have come to the end of our maths unit. We will soon be moving on to the Shape unit looking at 2D and 3D shapes. In Topic we have been looking at different Facts about the UK and where we are located on the map. We have also been looking at Explorers and where they have travelled. Some explorers travelled thousands of miles across different countries.

Character:


Our Character Virtues over the last couple of weeks have been courage and determination. We have also spoken about how we demonstrate resilience when we find things a challenge. Squirrels have also shown determination with their learning this week trying to get it all finished neatly and presented in a way they are proud of.

Community:

Over the last half term Squirrels have been collecting things to put into the Shoe Box for the Operation Christmas Child Charity. Thank you for all your kind donations. We have now sent these away to those children who need them the most! What a fantastic Christmas these children will have. Thank you for all your generosity and compassion.



Digital and Innovation:

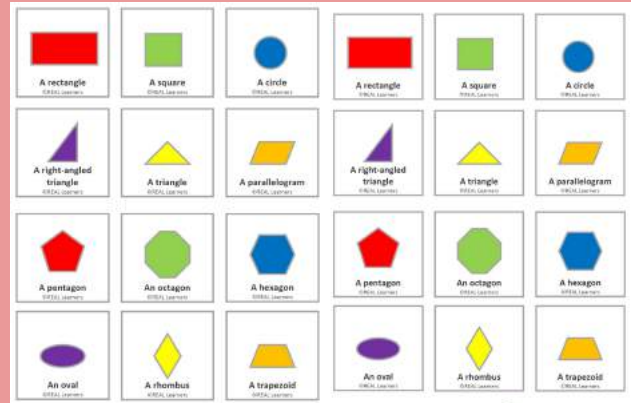


Squirrels have been learning how to use Chromebooks. This week we looked at Google Earth and lots of children found our school and their homes. This encouraged a lot of discussions. They managed to navigate their way around the Chromebooks to find the correct place to be. They found Clawton school and used creativity to find their route home.

Foxes

Academic:

The year 4s in Fox class have come to the end of their addition and subtraction unit in maths and will be moving onto a one week unit on the area of shapes. We have moved onto third person stories in literacy and have been concentrating on specific grammar. We looked at speech and fronted adverbials and how we can use them in our third person adventure stories.



Character:



Courage and determination have been our character virtues for the last two weeks. Lots of the Foxes have been showing these virtues in lessons by persevering with things that they have been finding difficult. In class, we have been learning about having a growth mindset from Mojo (the class dojo monster). We are trying to make sure that we are positive about our learning in order to reach our full potential.

Community:

Fox class have been working as a community to care for our class gerbils. They are all very keen to feed and vacuum around from the gerbils. Digger and Sneaky (the gerbils) are slowly getting braver around the children and the children are very keen to make sure that they are quiet to ensure that they are happy.



Digital and Innovation:



Foxes have been looking at Leonardo Da Vinci as an artist and as an inventor. We had a go at drawing our very own versions of the Mona Lisa. We discussed the mysterious smile which has captivated viewers of the painting for hundreds of years. We came up with ideas about why Da Vinci decided to paint the mysterious smile.

Badgers

Academic:

This week Badger class have been learning about Shakespeare and reading sonnet 18, Shall I compare thee to a Summer's Day. They have compared this to Wordsworth's poem, Daffodils. They have learnt about metaphors, personification, archaic language, rhyming couplets and iambic pentameters.



Character:

As usual character education is high on the agenda for Badger class. They are all excellent at showing respect, have been inspiring leaders with the younger children around school and as always, show determination and motivation with their work.

Community:

Last week Badger class went to Beer Mill Farm. They helped Elaine to weed some of her new trees and they put up Dormouse breeding boxes. We also investigated the organisms that live under the thatch that grows around the trees.



Digital and Innovation:

Last week we had an online workshop with Olivia from the National Army Museum in Chelsea. She showed us lots of artefacts and talked to us about the Blitz. She also told us about the different jobs people had during WW2.

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.



School Council News

The School Council's Pumpkin Competition raised £17.50 from all the funky pumpkins that were created. This money is going to help us pay for all of the ingredients for our classes to do Christmas baking.

School Council also organised a non-uniform day to help Children In Need and we raised £100. From the Toddler Group all the way to the Badger Class!!

Thank you to everyone who brought in their pound coins and for the toddlers for giving their money to the Children In Need too!

Matilda and May

School Council



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.

