



## Clawton Primary School Newsletter | 14th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fantastic two weeks back at school. The children are busy rehearsing for the production, Rock Bottom, and if the singing that they have been doing with me is anything to go by, we are in for a treat! It really has been a great reflection of cooperation across the whole school, from Owls up to Badgers, everyone is involved in some way or other!

Rev. Paul visited us last week to talk about his time in the forces as part of our commemoration activities for D-day. The children were captivated by his travelling experiences and how he spent three months at a time on a submarine. He told me afterwards that Clawton are the most polite and attentive children that he has visited, which is a great testament to their character virtues. I was extremely proud of them all!

Next week, we will be having a visit from Giles King-Smith, the son of the late author Dick King-Smith. If you have any books by Dick King-Smith or would like to look at his website (<https://www.dickingsmith.com/>) with your child this weekend, it is a very interesting read. Reading for pleasure is an area of focus for the school at the moment as we aim to develop a love of reading in all children. We will also have a visit in July with the Holsworthy Librarian, Mary Weblin, who will set out the Summer Reading Challenge.

We are looking forward to Sports Day, and keeping everything crossed that the weather is good to us. Please do keep an eye on Dojo for any information regarding this.

I understand that there has been a bit of confusion with the term dates, for clarification here is the correct link to the relevant calendar -

<https://alumnismat.org/term-dates/>

I am currently in the process of reviewing the website with IT to get this updated.

Kind regards,

Mrs Steyn



**Clawton School**

**Contact details:**

**01409 253618**

[clawton.sch@alumnismat.org](mailto:clawton.sch@alumnismat.org)

[www.clawton-sch.org](http://www.clawton-sch.org)

**Inclusion Team contact details:**

James Creek - 07596 476 145  
Hannah Gleeson - 07399 814945  
Caroline Merrit - 07398513856

**Key dates:**

Giles King-Smith - 18th June  
Sports Day - 19th June  
Whole school beach trip - 28th June  
Sports Day Back Up - 4th July  
Production - 11th July  
Whole School Beer Mill - 12th July  
Last day of term - Tuesday 23rd July

**Focus virtue this week:**

**Citizenship**



## 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/)

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## PTA News

We will keep you updated on any future events that will come up through the rest of the year, so keep an eye out for any dates that are communicated out.

Thank you for your continued support, from the PTA

## **Vacancies**

Local Schools Committee (Volunteer):

Foundation/Community Governor

Parent Governor

## **Attendance Expectations**

### **What YOU must do:**

- Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
- Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

### **What WE will do:**

- ★ Check your child's attendance every day.
- ★ Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- ★ Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- ★ If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

## Owls

### Academic:

As we returned back to preschool after half term, Owls have come back with lots of enthusiasm and dived straight back into their learning adventures. We are on an African adventure this term, with learning opportunities around every corner.

Last week we discovered a great story called 'Handa's Surprise'. Just like Handa, we tried carrying a basket of fruit on our heads but found it tricky as the fruit kept falling off! Owls demonstrated resilience and kept trying different ways to balance the fruit. For our klassen last week we had the seven fruits (well six, as we couldn't find guava) that were mentioned in the story. Owls cut up the fruit and enjoyed them in the outside classroom.



We have been exploring African music. Listening to some African songs and playing the Djembe drums. This week we have been exploring the art of Kente (African weaving). Owls have been creating some lovely Father's Day crafts.



### Character:

We have been focusing on our Citizenship virtue and Owls have now become Inspiring Volunteers. This was achieved by volunteering to help tidy the school garden during their gardening session. They helped Wendy and Sarah to pull up the weeds, thus being good Citizens!



**Community:**

During our gardening session, as well as tidying up the school garden, Owls have been focusing on worms. We have found out where they live, what they like to eat and how they make compost.

We explored the wormery with its many layers and fed them some fruit peelings. We then explored the compost heap and found lots of worms. The boys enjoyed this more than the girls!



**Digital and Innovation:**

With Handa's surprise being a popular activity to explore these last two weeks, we all sat and watched the dvd story. Owls noticed some differences between Handa and themselves. They noticed that Handa carries items on her head and we carry items in bags.

Our new Talk for Writing story brings 'Sunny' (our preschool mascot) to life. As we learn all about Sunny's habitat and family through a fun story 'Meerkat Mail' written by Emily Gravett. So far we have learnt that Sunny lives in a big family in the Kalahari Desert where it is very dry and hot and Sunny needs to look out for jackals.



# Hedgehogs



### Academic:

This week we received a box of fruit all the way from Africa. We have enjoyed identifying them, learning about how they grow and tasting them. We have decided that we are going to turn them into a delicious smoothie so that we can practise our food preparation skills. We also took part in lots of fruit based activities such as observational drawings and picking out pomegranate seeds with pins to develop our hand muscles.



### Character:

This week the children tested their patience with a fruity challenge! They were given the task of balancing a coin on a floating lemon which proved to be very difficult! Some children were extremely determined to succeed and spent a whole afternoon using their critical thinking skills to test different approaches. Some children thought coins with a larger surface area may be more successful while others wanted to try a bigger lemon. Another child thought that maybe the heavier coins would work. Well done everyone, you showed so much resilience with this activity!





### Community:

After receiving the fruits from Africa, Mrs. Paget challenged us to become Inspiring Researchers and find out which continent other fruits grow in. We used our critical thinking skills and decided that they couldn't grow in Antarctica because it would be too cold so it had to be one of the other six!

### Innovation:

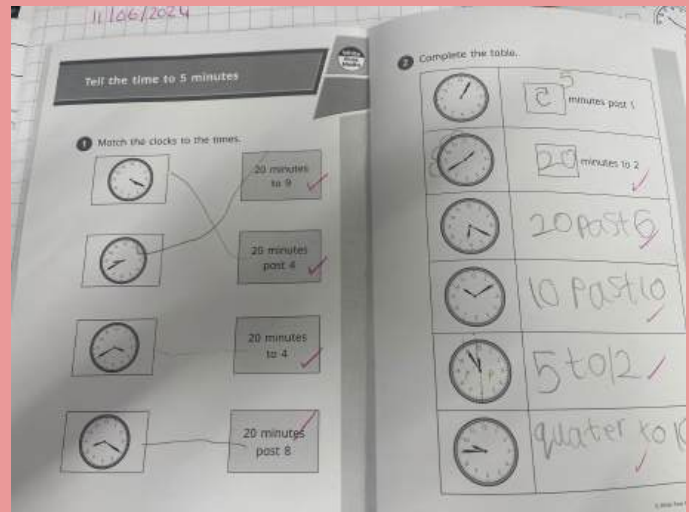
We have been recapping on our ICT skills this week, particularly using the tools on the Paintz App. The children were asked to create a digital picture of a pineapple and print it for display. We will also be revising our word processing skills over the next few weeks.



# Squirrels

## Academic:

Squirrels have been fantastic at learning to tell the time this week. We have looked at past the hour and to the hour, o'clock, quarter past and quarter to, and 5 minute intervals. The children have found this a challenge but have demonstrated resilience, creativity and determination! In English this week we have been focusing on similes and alliteration. These have been very creative!



## Character:

Our focus virtue this week has been citizenship. The children have been fantastic citizens around school in all areas, demonstrating a friendly warm environment. The children have embraced keeping the field clean and tidy at lunch times and break times. The children have also demonstrated creativity and resilience during learning times too this week.



## Community:



All of the children have been practising for Sports Day and we are very excited to share this afternoon with you next week! Don't forget to cheer on your team!

## Digital and Innovation:

This week as part of our Geography topic about features. We have used the Chrome book to look at different types of maps. We first looked at paper maps then we compared these to online versions of maps. We looked at what is the same and different and identified the human features of Clawton, allowing us to become Global Citizens!





## Foxes

### Academic:



The children have shown amazing resilience as they tackled tricky perimeter problems in maths. They wrapped up their diary entries with some really creative ideas. We've also just started diving into newspaper reports and their curiosity is leading to some fantastic discussions about what makes a good news story. On top of all that, they've taken on their final NFER papers of the year with a lot of motivation and determination. It's been a busy 2 weeks, but their hard work and enthusiasm has kept them going.

### Character:

This week, our focus has been on the character virtue of citizenship, and the children have really embraced what it means to be good citizens both in school and in the wider world. In the spirit of school citizenship, we've been collaborating with Badger Class on our upcoming school production, and it's been wonderful to see everyone working together and supporting one another. As global citizens, the kids have been learning about environmental regions and comparing their own lives with those of children in Norway. They were particularly fascinated—and a bit jealous—of the idea of Norwegian children husky sledding to school!



### Community:

The children have been showing wonderful community spirit by teaming up to plan their final computing project of the year: creating an advertisement for our school. They will be using the various skills they've learned throughout the year to bring this project to life. So far, they've been brainstorming ideas and working together beautifully, combining their talents to create something special.

### Digital and Innovation:

Last week, we kicked off our exciting new art project for the half term: 'Fabric of Nature'. The children showed the character virtue of creativity and began creating mood boards inspired by the rainforest, gathering and arranging images, colours, and textures that capture its vibrant flora and fauna. These mood boards are helping them generate ideas for designing their own fabric patterns, which they will develop over the coming weeks. The creativity and enthusiasm they've shown in bringing their rainforest visions to life have been fantastic, and we can't wait to see their moodboards evolve into beautiful fabric designs!



## Badgers



### Academic:

Badger class have now completed their next chapters for the book 'The Boy who grew Dragons'. They were very imaginative and used similes and metaphors in their writing in order to make the reader want to read on.

### Character:

For D Day Badger children looked at the landing sites on the Normandy beaches. They also cooked wartime carrot biscuits which were surprisingly nice and enjoyed an assembly focused on our character virtue of citizenship with Rev. Paul.



### Community:

This week we joined a virtual trip to the Eden Project. We had a tour of the Rainforest biome and learnt about how plants are adapted to life in the rainforest. Some have very waxy leaves to shed the rain, others have leaves that curl up to make predators think they are dead!

### Digital and Innovation:

All of KS2 have started work on the Production this week. They have words to learn, songs to sing and they need to remember where and when they need to be on stage. The production is 'Rock Bottom'. Children will be bringing home costume letters soon!


## Summer Holiday Activities

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# Holsworthy Cricket Club **YOUTH ACADEMY**

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Open to All Abilities  
Aged 7 – 12

Summer Holiday 

## Softball Cricket Camps

**9am – 3pm**

Stanhope Park, Holsworthy, EX22 6FP

Tuesday 1st August

Tuesday 8th August

Tuesday 15th August

Tuesday 22nd August

Tuesday 29th August

**£15 per day per child**

Book all 5 days for the price of 4 —£60—


For more information please contact Dan Marks at:  
holsworthycricketclub1873@gmail.com or 07719 337218

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# Holsworthy Cricket Club **YOUTH ACADEMY**

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Open to All Abilities  
Year 1 — Year 6

Summer Holiday 

## Softball Cricket Camps

**9.30am – 2.30pm**

Stanhope Park, Holsworthy, EX22 6FP

Tuesday 30th July

Tuesday 6th August

Tuesday 13th August

Tuesday 20th August

Tuesday 27th August

**£12 per day per child**

—Book all 5 days for £50—

For more information please contact Dan Marks at:  
holsworthycricketclub1873@gmail.com or 07719 337218

# SUMMER SCHOOL CREATIVES



Workshop opportunities for young people aged 8 - 14

Focusing on a story local to North Devon and working in residence with an art form specialist, young people will develop their skills and knowledge in their choice of visual art, storytelling or photography + film.

- Online registration [beaford.org/events/ssc](http://beaford.org/events/ssc)
- Cost is £50 per day
- Discounts/Bursary available

Weekdays 24th – 31st July  
2nd – 4th September  
9:30am to 4:30pm

Bridge Chambers, The Strand  
Barnstaple, EX31 1HB

NB These courses will only go ahead if there's sufficient uptake - please spread the word!

**Booking deadlines:**

Book for July courses by 17th July  
Book for September courses by 12th August



Queries to [caroline@beaford.org](mailto:caroline@beaford.org)



[beaford.org](http://beaford.org)

## 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.

Everyone is always welcome, we are quite good at a cup of tea and a chat too.

Clawton Parent and Toddler Group

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/222733272986271/?ref=share>



## 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.

