

# CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Autumn Newsletter No.5

6<sup>th</sup> October 2016

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Dear Parents,

### FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES – ALL WELCOME!

Do come and join Y6 tomorrow morning as they tell us about their history work and their trip to France. For Year 5 parents who want to find out what could be in store for their children next year, it's also a good chance to hear from the children's points of view!

### Y6 TRIP TO FRANCE

Year 6 were excellent to take to France, gaining a record '5 compliments' from other tourists on the various days for their behaviour. The visit went extremely well (apart from some late night fire alarms caused by various faults!); the children learnt a huge amount about D-Day, and came away with a good sense of the sacrifices made and the gravity and sadness of war. They also practised bits of their French and noticed a great deal about similarities and differences in culture. As always, we're really grateful to the staff (and this time a volunteer) for taking the children abroad, recognising the responsibility it entails – as well as the late nights and early mornings! Governors are intending to send out a brief questionnaire to gain parents' views about the visit.

### BIRTHDAY BREAKS

The School Council, a few years ago, solved a problem we had with children regularly eating treats after school as a result of their classmates celebrating their birthdays by bringing something in for all the class. Parents found this difficult because they want to ensure their children are in the habit of eating healthily but when their children had been given sweets or cakes it seemed very harsh to take it off them. It was also unfair for children with allergies to miss out. The School Council came up with the idea of 'birthday break' as an alternative – that's an extra 10 minutes' playtime for the whole class, on or near the birthday. They collect a 'token' from the class teacher, take it home and colour it in if they wish, and bring it back to school. It's all part of trying to give them healthy habits.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council campaigns came to a conclusion, and elections have taken place, with lots of children wanting to contribute towards improving the school. All the children, whether they were elected into the position they stood for or not, were offered a place on the Council and we will get started imminently!

### HARVEST FESTIVAL ON MONDAY MORNING

This was a lovely occasion and we're very grateful to the United Reformed Church for welcoming us. We're also grateful to all the parents who volunteered to help us get there – we can only do this with your help! Thank you too for the donations of food from Year R and for the money from children in other years. You raised £188 to help support our sponsored child in India.

### PARENTS' EVENINGS 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Letters were sent home on Tuesday with all children, so that you can request your preferred appointment times.

### INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS 17<sup>TH</sup> OCT

Please remember that children with siblings in school will be taken as a family group. **If individual photos are required as well, please inform the office in writing no later than 9.00am on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. If you don't wish your child to be photographed at all, please confirm in writing by the same date.**

### GREAT NEW PE EQUIPMENT - THANK YOU!

Thanks to your sponsorship of your children's activities when Olympic athlete Dominick Cunningham visited, we've now received some fantastic new equipment including basketball nets and Connect 4, which you might see in use on the KS1 playground.

### PTA NEWS FROM SAM HARRIS

Thank you to all those who attended the PTA AGM and first meeting of the year last night. It was a very productive meeting and it was fabulous to see some new faces. If anyone would like a copy of the minutes, please email me and I can arrange for these to be provided.

I'm now able to give you the following dates:

**Thursday 3rd November - Autumn disco**

**Friday 2nd December - Christmas Fair**

In addition to this we had some discussions about the **Kenilworth Christmas Lights Switch-on on Friday 25th November**. As you may be aware, we usually have a stall at this event but over recent years it has become increasingly difficult to find volunteers to cover it. We are therefore asking people early this year if they could man the stall during that evening, if only for half an hour. If we cannot find enough volunteers we simply will not be able to run the stall. If you can help that evening, please could you email me or let a member of the PTA know by no later than Friday 21st October when we will make a decision.

Some of you may be aware that there is a **Facebook group for the Clinton Community** but it is currently secret. In order to give people the chance to join this group, it will be made available as a closed group until the end of October, following which it will become secret again. If you are on Facebook and would like to join the group, please search for it and request to be added to it: it's a great way to share important information.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/45852915423130/>

In next week's newsletter I will publish the figures showing how funds were spent last year but I can tell you that already this year, we have committed once again to replenish the stocks in the Scrapstore Playpod, subsidise school trips and will also be providing £700 per term (£100 for each class) for additional resources for the children for science, history and geography. We therefore need to raise as much as we can again this year and we need your help to do so.

As always, any comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact me on [sch2k5@gmail.com](mailto:sch2k5@gmail.com)

Yours sincerely,

**SAM PATER  
HEADTEACHER**