

CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter No. 12

30th November 2017

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**BOOK
FAIR
COMING SOON!**

Dear Parents,

FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES AT 9.00 AM

As always, we'll be glad to see you!

EXCITING TIMES!

We have been really pleased to have received pledges towards our fundraising initiative which could in turn lead to a fantastic opportunity for our school. Last week, in the newsletter and in other communications, I requested that people asked the companies that they worked for if they would support our project with even a small amount of money and we have had 3 people come forward so far. A concrete pledge has been provided by Prime Facility Services. This is a good start, but I'm hoping that collectively we can engage at least 10 different businesses. Please ask and let us know as soon as possible so that we can make our project happen. If you need more details, please see [here](#). This could make a massive difference to your children.

GOVERNOR NEWS

Andrew Williams has asked me to include this update. The governors' Quality and Standards Committee met last month and discussed the recent SATs results amongst other items. We were delighted with the results, which are testament to the children's hard work and the excellence of the Clinton team. On 16th November the Resource Management Committee also met and reviewed the school finances, safeguarding and many other items. We were pleased to learn then that the government is providing additional monies for sports, though funding generally for schools remains uncertain.'

YR - Y4 CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION TICKETS

Each family in YR - Y4 was sent a ticket request form last week. Seats for the Friday morning and Tuesday evening productions are particularly in demand. We'll allocate tickets early next week; please don't miss out because you haven't returned your form. There's a copy on the website if you need one; the link is <https://www.clintonprimary.co.uk/letters-flvers-forms/>

PROBLEM SOLVING

We know that being able to solve problems is a great life skill and we work on the elements of problem solving a great deal in school. Good problem solvers experiment, try different ways of doing things and show tenacity. Problem solving isn't reserved for maths and science, they are doing it in history, geography and lots of other subjects. Problem solving is also something we all do for fun and we'd like children to be doing this lots at home as well. Building things inside or outside is great! Even computer games often develop problem solving skills (though we would always recommend limiting screen time and DEFINITELY not have them playing them an hour before bedtime as it's been proven that it affects sleep). Lots of children are enjoying trying to solve the Rubik's cube in year 6. There are also some puzzles (which I've brought in from home) which year 5 have been trying to solve and really getting into the challenge of it!

Do you have any puzzles of this nature that you don't need any more at home that we could challenge children with in school? If so, please send them in and we'll put them to good use.

SCHOLASTIC HALF-PRICE BOOK FAIR: MON, TUES AND WED NEXT WEEK 3.10 - 3.30

Thanks to the kind parents who've offered to help, we're able to run this as planned. Please do come along if you can. Every child who visits the Book Fair will be entered in a prize draw to win a £5 book token, and there are five of these on offer.

SLEEP

I've written about the importance of sleep before and we definitely notice the difference in children's learning power when they have not had a good night's sleep. Often it affects concentration and it definitely affects memory. It's such a simple thing, but matters more than we realise. We work incredibly hard at school to plan lessons meticulously so that purposeful learning can happen but that's a waste of time if children are tired.

CLINTON BLUE SPORTS T-SHIRTS

Please could Y6 parents send these back into school following the event at Kenilworth School last week? Thank you.

CHRISTINGLE CANDLE COLLECTING BOXES

As usual, we've been given a supply of these to enable parents to support the work of the Children's Society if you wish to do so. If you'd like to find out more, please see <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/>. If you'd like to contribute (even just your loose change will help make a difference to vulnerable children), please send your 'candle' back by the end of term - or you could take it to the Christingle service at St Nicholas' Church on Sunday 3rd December at 3.00 pm (poster attached).

PTA NEWS FROM SAM HARRIS

In case you missed last week's update, it's attached again this week. The main news items are as follows:

Tomorrow - 'wear what you like' day in return for a jam jar filled with something a child (or adult) would like to win as a tombola prize (please remember when choosing outfits that children will be making Christmas crafts in school so there'll be much paint, glue and glitter around!).

Sunday 3rd December - Kenilworth lights switch-on.

Friday 8th December - wear a Christmas jumper or other festive-type top, with usual school trousers or skirt, in return for bringing a Christmas Fair item. The Fair is from 6.00 - 8.00 the same evening - look out for updates soon!

Yours sincerely,

Sam Pater

**SAM PATER
HEADTEACHER**

How children at Clinton help others

There is a line in our unique Clinton Song which goes “Growing our strengths and talents, ready to use for you”. We aim for children to learn to be good citizens.

Here are some of the ways children contribute to our school:

- Every year-group has children doing jobs to help out their class;
- Children from years 3 to 6 are e-safety cadets, helping to promote safety online;
- Children from years 4 to year 6 run clubs for other children, teaching them what they know about a whole range of things, from ICT to Art to Sport and so on!
- Year 4 children are ‘play-makers’, playing alongside children in the infants to enrich their games;
- Year 4 (and now year 5 children) have been teaching playground songs to the infants;
- Year 5 children learn to become peer mediators, helping others to solve their playground quarrels;
- Year 5 children keep everyone up to date in the school newspaper (year 6 children have been helping them as editors);
- Year 6 children run the school council;
- Year 6 children are responsible for setting up assembly;
- Children in years 5 and 6 play in the orchestra to welcome children into assembly every week.

The children also help their wider community. In the last 12 months:

All children took part in world book day to raise money for book aid;

- Year 2 raised money, via their own stalls, to help the survival of polar bears;
- Year 2 used their writing skills to raise awareness of the plight of England’s hedgehogs;
- Year 2 country dancers performed for everyone at the summer fair, to add style to the event!
- Year 4, through their work about immigration, promoted equality;
- Year 5 raised money by completing the pipeline challenge;
- Children in years 5 and 6 sang with the African Children’s choir, supporting their charity;
- Steel panners from year 3-6 played at PTA and CHIME events to help create the atmosphere;
- Year 6 promoted the injustice surrounding land rights in India by having a ‘march’;
- Year 6 created and ran stalls to help the PTA and CHIME to raise money for us;
- Year 6 children raised money for a range of their chosen charities, including Global Care, which enables us to sponsor a child through her education in India, through business enterprise;
- Year 6 helped run the High Five netball tournament and, more recently, national fitness day events;
- The school council raised money for Children in Need.