

CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter No. 1 10th September 2020



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Dear Parents,

After months of email updates, we thought it was time to return to the conventional newsletter format! For those new to Clinton, you'll receive a copy of this weekly letter by email, and it will also be on the school website.

INFORMATION FROM CLASS TEACHERS

You should have received an email yesterday outlining our plans to replace the traditional information evening, which we'd normally be holding later today. Reception parents will have a Zoom meeting; other teachers will do video recordings and provide additional information for you. Please keep an eye on your emails; different teachers will make arrangements at different times but we hope all the information will be with you by the end of next week.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

We're pleased to welcome two new Teaching Assistants; Mrs Danielle Rosamonde-Porter, who is working in the Reception class each morning, and Miss Annabel Betteridge, who is working in Year 5 this term. We're glad to have them as part of our staff team.

GOODBYE MRS PETTIGREW!

We're sad that Mrs Kate Pettigrew, who has been a TA here for a number of years, has decided to move on. We will miss her – and so will our recorder players! Kate has run our lunchtime recorder club for several years, and encouraged some great music-making! We wish her well.

TERM DATES

At this stage we don't have the usual range of events in the school diary! However, you can find term dates on our school website.

COLDS AND SNEEZES

We've checked the current advice from the DfE and the message is as follows.

If your child is displaying any of the following three symptoms,

- high temperature
- new continuous cough
- altered sense of taste or smell

you should keep them home and arrange a test. If they test negative, they can come back straight away, if they are otherwise well enough to be at school.

This means that if they appear to have a cold, but without a cough or high temperature, they can be at school (again, if they feel well enough to be here). It's also rather different from the advice we were given in the Summer term, and maybe could change again as things develop.

It's probably best to keep us informed by email or phone if your child has a cold – that way we can advise and can also let the class teacher know the situation.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

For children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 no payment is required for school lunches under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. For Children in Year 3 and above, school meals cost £2.38 per day (£11.90 per week). Reception children will be able to have school lunches from next week, so we'll email about menu choices and how the system works.

Please ensure that sufficient payment is made in advance to your child's ParentPay account. Please note that Educaterers do not offer credit and therefore meals will not be ordered where there is insufficient credit.

Should you feel, following a change in circumstances, that your child/ren may qualify for free school meals (regardless of their year group) then please apply online: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals> (or search for 'Warwickshire free school meals') A response is given very quickly and confidentially. It is important to do this even if you prefer to send packed lunches, as school receives vital additional income for each eligible child.

BEFORE SCHOOL CLUB

Another welcome back, to Before School Club this time. The bubbles are working well and everyone has settled quickly into new routines.

From next week, for a trial period of 3 weeks, we will be extending the opening time to 07:45. Current costs are £4.80 for arrival before 8.00 and £3.80 from 8.00 on.. We will be monitoring usage of the extended opening time throughout the trial period to assess its feasibility. There is no need to book for BSC; just turn up at the main school door and one of the Leaders will meet you.

PARENTPAY

All Reception parents should have received a letter this week with their user name and password information. Please sign up for the scheme, even if you feel won't need to make any payments at the moment.

GUITAR LESSONS TRIAL

It's a huge shame that peripatetic music lessons cannot go on as normal. One of the issues is the movement from school to school of the teachers. We are going to start guitar lessons from next week, however, because the teacher is only in one other school one day a week, and, with PPE and full 2m distancing as well as keeping children in class bubbles for lessons, we're going to see how this works. Peripatetic music teachers who work for Warwickshire music are not to return until 5th October at the earliest (and this includes Vicky Butler, orchestra teacher). Hopefully those lessons will be able to begin again at that point and we'll be better placed to manage it having trialled guitar lessons. More info for guitar learners' parents in due course.

Yours sincerely,

SAM PATER
HEADTEACHER