

CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter No. 10
18th November 2021

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Dear Parents,

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Thank you for helping to promote anti-bullying week by having your children wear odd socks on Monday this week! This week children have explored the theme of 'One Kind Word' more fully and it would be good to talk further with your children about what they've learnt. Also, our anti-bullying policy is available on our website so that you can see how we manage bullying behaviour. There are some poems attached, which children in Year 3 and 4 have written.

Assemblies this half term (for Years 1-6) are focussed on 'Relationships and Communication' and children have been learning about how to *be considerate (smiling when we talk to others; using manners; being patient; finding out how others feel; letting others go first)* and how to repair friendships if they're broken (*using empathy to understand the other person's feelings; being brave to face up to where we've gone wrong; saying sorry; showing kindness; being playful*). Please do ask them what they remember!

COVID LATEST

During the course of the week there have been a handful of positive cases amongst children and we currently have 3 staff isolating with Covid. Thank you for your continued vigilance with LFDs and acting upon emails from us to take PCRs. The Local Authority's ball-park figure for a period of home learning is around 25% of a class, though we would certainly be in communication with them if we were heading in that direction. We know some of you have become regulars at PCR testing sites and appreciate your patience.

HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT - Year R and Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme

The school nursing team will be in school on Monday 6th December to carry out the height and weight measurements for children in Years R and 6. Emails have been sent out to parents with further information and the opportunity to opt out of the process should you wish.

INSTRUMENTS AND MUSIC

Music lessons have now been up and running for some time and we hope your children are enjoying them! Please help your children to get into a good routine of remembering to bring their instrument and any music on the right day:

Mondays – brass

Tuesdays – cello, woodwind, orchestra for Y5 pupils

Wednesdays – guitar

Thursdays - keyboard

Fridays – violin, orchestra for Y6 pupils.

CLINTON APPEAL 2021

Thank you so much for your donations. We have raised over £800 so far, so almost half our target and the teachers are starting to get excited about adding great new books to book corners for children to choose from. That's over £100 per class already! If you are intending to donate, then please take the time to do-so. We'd like to update our library books too, and ignite more interest in reading. Thank you.

VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR

The book list for this year's Virtual Bookfair was emailed home on Wednesday. There is a wide range of titles on offer and something for everyone! Please do take a look and make any orders by Monday 29th November. By supporting the bookfair, you will receive 10% off the RRP and school will also receive 10% of the total purchases.

EMAIL

We have been experiencing some glitches with the admin email recently. If you send an email and do not get a response within 24hours could we ask you to follow up with a quick phone call, please. It would seem that we're not receiving every message but we don't always realise this!

CHILDREN'S SPELLING HOMEWORK

As a staff we're constantly learning from research about brain development and, in particular at the moment, memory. For children to really learn new spellings, they need to be looking at them several times over a week. We know that one session might put the words 'lightly' in their memory – enough to get them right in a test – but there's little point in that if they don't remember them a few days later. Revisiting in short bursts is best – and even better, revisiting spellings from earlier in the year. It is harsh, but those children who can't spell their age-group words or the rules they've been taught won't be allowed to meet the government standard by which they are assessed in Years 2 and 6 (except in exceptional circumstances). Little and often throughout their whole school lives helps them to become good spellers! It's an investment in them that needs routine and momentum.

Yours sincerely,

SAM PATER
HEADTEACHER