

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter



'With open minds and loving hearts, we will achieve.'



Autumn Term Issue 4 - 25th September 2026

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

What a lovely week we have had in school! It has been lovely to see school life settling into its rhythm this week. The children have been working hard in their classrooms, enjoying time with their friends and taking part in the many activities that make our school such a special place. I have particularly enjoyed visiting classes and celebrating the care and pride they are showing in their work. I have been kept busy writing lots of postcards. Remember, bring back 5 postcards for a special prize.

We have been delighted with the high levels of attendance this week and everyone enthusiastically celebrated our Gold, Silver and Bronze awards in assembly.

Our Harvest Festival service will take place at St Mary's Church on Monday 5th October. We are again supporting the Rugby Food Bank to help others in our area who struggle to buy the basic items they need. Please see the list of items we are collecting. If you are able to donate, please send your items into class in a bag on the morning of Monday 5th, and we will take them to church with us.



Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people feed their family.

Shopping list

Tinned Meat Meals
Tinned Spaghetti
Tinned Puddings
Tinned Tuna
Cereals
Sweet Biscuits
Tinned Hot Dogs
Savoury Biscuits



Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people feed their family.

Shopping list

Squash
Tinned Tuna
Cake Bars
Custard
Cereals
Washing Up Liquid
Tin sweetcorn / peas
Tinned Meat Meals



Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people feed their family.

Shopping list

Tinned Chicken Stew
Tinned Tuna
Cereals
Jellies
Raisin snacks
Custard
Tinned Puddings
Washing Up Liquid



Please donate an item or two from the list to help local people feed their family.

Shopping list

Tinned Meat Meals
Tinned Hot Dogs
Sweet Biscuits
Cereals
Jellies
Tinned Chicken Stew
Savoury Biscuits
Cake Bars

Careers Week

We are also planning our second Careers Week, beginning on Monday 19th October. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to learn about the world of work and see how the subjects they study at school could help them in the future. A form has been sent through ParentMail, and we would be grateful if any parents, carers or family members who could visit to talk about their job and what inspired their career choice would sign up.

Appeal

Finally, as we continue to develop our outdoor spaces, we would welcome any plants, bulbs or seeds for our garden, pots and tubs. Please send any contributions to your child's class. Thank you for your support!

PTA

Please consider supporting our PTA by attending its AGM on Thursday 8th October at 7:30pm in the School Hall. As school budgets become tighter, the money the PTA raises helps us buy extras that we would otherwise be unable to afford. Its events also bring us together as a school community and create lovely opportunities for our children.



Congratulations go to all of our children who live our Values throughout the week.

Pupil's Pupil Class Pupil

Reception

Year 1 We had no certificates this week due
Year 2 to School Council Elections
Year 3
Year 4
Year 5
Year 6

Attendance

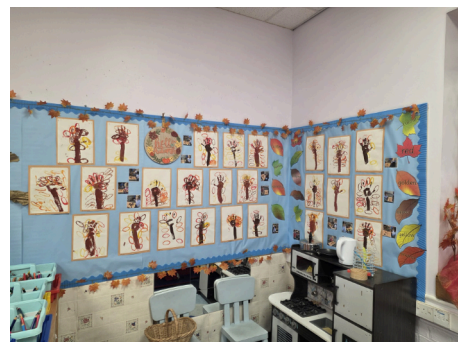
The whole school attendance this week is 98.61% which is above our target of 97.5% - Well done.

Gold Award - Year 1 100%

Silver Award - Year 4 99.4%

Bronze Award - Year 4 99.3%

Reception Work



OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

We are currently owed **£189.60** for dinners.

Please ensure that your account is settled.



House Points

Congratulations to:

Yellow House

who have won this week.

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THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

Pre-School - We have really enjoyed being out in the Autumn sun this week, we went on an autumn walk and collected lots of conkers, leaves, pine cones and twigs. They have been learning about the weather in the different seasons. Our rhyme time song this week has been 'Down at the Station.' The children created a train outside using crates and tyres, they took turns beautifully to be the conductor and decide where they were taking the passengers.

Reception - The children are settling in with growing confidence. This week, they explored the number 3 through counting and comparing, and learnt the sounds i, n, d and m in phonics. They also went on an autumn walk to notice seasonal changes and collect natural materials. Back in class, they printed autumn trees and made faces inspired by the artist Arcimboldo.

Year 1 - We have had another busy and exciting week! In Maths, we have been working on finding one more and one less than a given number, using practical resources and our number knowledge to help us. We have also been looking forward to the School Council elections. We have three awesome candidates in Year 1 who have all done a fantastic job putting themselves forward. We wish them all the very best of luck and are very proud of them for taking part!

Year 2 - In Maths, we learnt how to partition 2 digit numbers within 100 and to write numbers with 10s and 1s on a number line to 100. In English, in our text 'The Paper dolls', we are learnt how to write sentences using different sentence openers and time words to retell the story. In Science, we explored objects and materials around us, by investigating how and why objects change shape when you bend, squash, twist and stretch them. In History, we learnt about life on the front lines between 1914 - 1918. We ended the week with PSHE 'Being Me in My World' as we learnt about our 'Rights and responsibilities.'

Year 3 - This week, we started our new Maths unit on Addition and Subtraction, using practical resources to build the children's understanding of number facts and how the two operations are linked. In Religion and World Views, we began a Christian unit exploring what the Creation story in the Bible might teach Christians. The children shared some thoughtful ideas and questions about its meaning. In English, the children created their own drawings of the Stone Age boy from our class text, Stone Age Boy, thinking carefully about what his life might have been like.

Year 4 - In Maths, the children have continued to develop their understanding of Place Value and have been working with numbers up to 10,000. In English this week, the children have worked hard on writing direct speech, we still need to focus on our capital letters and inverted commas. In History, we have have learnt about Boudica and why we still remember her.

Year 5 - We've had another busy and enjoyable week of learning. We have been using number lines to help us round numbers and explain our thinking in Maths. In English, we really enjoyed watching a video clip of Medusa, which we are using as our text. Our focus skill is describing characters and settings, and the children have challenged themselves to include some excellent complex adjectives. In Science, we answered the question "Does the Moon move?" The children used movable diagrams to demonstrate and prove their responses, helping them to understand the Moon's movement in relation to the Earth. We completed our first No Outsiders lesson using the text The Boys. This generated some brilliant discussion about friendships, including why it is important to make sure everyone feels included. Well done, Year 5, for another fantastic week of learning!

Year 6 - We have continued developing our understanding of the four operations in Maths, recapping common factors, common multiples and rules of divisibility. In English, we explored the lives of Victorian children living in workhouses, wrote recounts about their experiences and continued reading Street Child, including a debate about whether Jim should escape. In Science, we investigated how light travels and reflects before creating our own periscopes. In RE, we explored the meaning of self, the soul and the different aspects that make up our identity. In History, we compared the lives of rich and poor families during the Victorian era, exploring the differences in their homes, work and experiences. Fantastic work year 6!

Dates for your diary

October

5th - Harvest Festival

8th - PTA AGM 7:30pm (School hall)

11th - Harvest Festival at Good Shepherd (Newton) 11:00am

12th - Bikeability

19th - Careers Week

20th - Parents' Evening

22nd - Break up

23rd - Teacher Training Day

26th - 30th - Half Term

November

2nd - School Reopens

December

18th - Break up

January

4th - Teacher Training Day

PTA



The PTA AGM will take place on 8th October at 7:30pm in the School Hall.

We need your help to raise funds for our children.

High 5



If any child begins to feel anxious or uncomfortable during play, we encourage them to calmly and confidently let the other child know that they are no longer enjoying the situation. This should always be done in a firm but respectful manner. If the issue continues, children are encouraged to seek support from an adult on the playground, who can help resolve the situation appropriately, rather than trying to deal with it themselves, using other means.



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WORSHIP

This year we will be continuing to reflect on our Christian Values through our Worship.

On Monday, we continued looking at our 'Ows, Wows and Nows' and talked about the importance of being kind. We discussed how a kind action isn't something we do to earn a reward or praise, but because it is the right and helpful thing to do. We talked about how the Good Samaritan was considered an enemy by the injured man, yet he was the only one who stopped to help and expected nothing in return. We finished by watching the Kindness Boomerang and reflecting on how one kind deed can lead to another.

On Tuesday, we continued our practise of songs for our Harvest Festival. We have one song in 3 parts with the choir harmonising in the choruses.

On Wednesday, Rev'd Pete led our Collective worship looking at What is Friendship? He shared some images for the children to find the common message - that of behaving like a friend. We then discussed the question - What is the most important; to be have friends or to be a friend. We then looked at some Bible quotes on friendship. We encouraged the children to think about those statements during the week and also encouraged them to think about how they can treat people in such a way that people will want to be their friend. Part of this is to help children to look out for others who are on their own, who might find it more difficult to make friends. And the task was set for the students to have a go at getting to know someone new in the coming week. It could be someone who's been in their class for a few years, but they've never really chatted with, or it could be a newcomer to the school.

On Thursday, Year 4 led a whole school worship based on Yom Kippur. The children learned that this is a special day in the Jewish calendar for reflection, saying sorry and making a fresh start. We thought about how we can put things right when we make mistakes and show forgiveness to others. The children explored kindness and charity and shared the story of the Good Samaritan.

Year 3 enjoyed their first visit of the year to St Mary's Church.

On Friday, we had our School Council elections. Well done to everyone who stood up in front of the whole school and shared their fantastic ideas and their posters. The results will be announced on Monday.



NOTICE



CARE



ACT



Parking around Clifton Village

We have received several complaints about cars blocking residents' driveways at drop-off and pick-up times. Photographs of inconsiderate parking have been sent to the local PCSO. Even if you are stopping for only a minute, please keep driveways clear and park with consideration for our neighbours.



Smart School Council Update

School Council Elections 2026

 Monday 28th September – The new School Council team will be announced!

Reading Millionaire

Who will be our next Word Millionaire?



Keeeeeep Reading!

Teacher Training Days for 2026 - 2027

Friday 23rd October 2026

Monday 4th January 2027

Thursday 25th March 2027

Monday 7th June 2027



Nuts and Eggs - Important Reminder

We have children in school with severe nut and egg allergies. To help keep all pupils safe, please do not send any food items into school that contain nuts or egg products, including items such as egg sandwiches.

We would also like to remind children to not share food with others, as they may not be aware of the ingredients.



Allergies

We have children with severe, life threatening allergies to **NUTS** and **EGGS**. Please do not send food containing these items into school.