

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter



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



Autumn Term Issue 5 - 2nd October 2026

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we finish another week and move into October, we have been blessed with some lovely weather and are enjoying the signs of autumn all around us. The children are working incredibly hard, and it is a pleasure to celebrate their achievements and the pride they are taking in their learning.

On Monday, we will celebrate the season with our Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church. We are always grateful for donations to support our collection for Rugby Food Bank. Please see the list below and send any donations with your child on Monday morning in a bag they can carry.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Crowley has been appointed as our new Year 6 teacher and will join us after half-term. We look forward to welcoming her to our school community.

Finally, a huge well done to everyone for such wonderful attendance throughout September. We have held our monthly draw for children with 100% attendance—congratulations to all those who achieved this, and to our draw winners!

Bug Club

During lunchtimes, many of the children have been excited to forage in the garden looking for bugs and we have found some amazing insects living in our Friendship Garden. We do encourage very good hand washing afterwards. We have learnt that some of our garden inhabitants have found their way home, possibly in lunchboxes - we will be discouraging this as we aim to ensure they are returned to their original habitat safely.

Parents' Evening

This year we will be offering face to face appointments on Tuesday 20th October. These are 5 minute appointments. Details will be sent out on ParentMail explaining how to book an appointment on Monday 12th October.

Parent Governor Forum

We warmly invite parents and carers to meet with our governors on Tuesday 20th October. Two sessions will be available to help families attend:

9:00–10:00am in the staff room

5:00–6:00pm in the Pre-School room

The forum takes place on the same day as parents' evening.

We welcome the opportunity to hear your views and work together to create a positive learning environment for all our children. Alongside any concerns or suggestions for improvement, we would love to hear what you value about our school and what you feel is working well.



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

	Pupil's Pupil	Class Pupil
Reception	Freddie	Jomi
Year 1	Marnie	Freddy
Year 2	Ruby	Dawson
Year 3	Billie-Grace	Aseena
Year 4	Skye	Olivia
Year 5	Fisayo	Charlie
Year 6	Demi-Leigh	Nidhir

Attendance

The whole school attendance this week is 97.63% which is above our target of 97.5% - Well done.

Gold Award - Year 1 100% (2 weeks running)

Silver Award - Year 3 99.6%

Bronze Award - Reception 99.2%

Careers Week

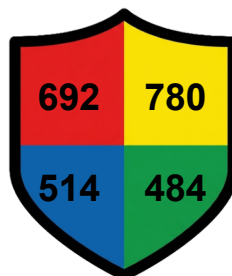
Thank you to everyone who has already offered to support our Careers Week. There is still time to get involved, so please let me know if you would be able to help.

I will put together the timetable at the end of next week and contact each volunteer individually to confirm arrangements.

OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

We are currently owed **£240.95** for dinners.

Please ensure that your account is settled.



House Points
Congratulations to:

Red House

who have won this week with 155 points.

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THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

Pre-School - We have continued with our autumnal activities this week, collecting lots of conkers on our walk and using them to create art by dipping. We also enjoyed an autumn scavenger hunt through the main school; checking off each item as we spotted it. Our rhyme time song was 'Miss Polly had a dolly' and the class has shown how caring they are in the home corner looking after all the babies. We have now finished our Power of Reading book 'Hello, friend!' The children have thought really hard about how the characters were feeling.

Reception - We have been exploring the number 4, practising counting and recognising amounts using five-frames. We identified our counting rules, learning to count one object at a time (1-to-1 counting) and that the last number we say tells us how many objects there are altogether. We enjoyed reading 'Love Makes a Family,' and talking about the special people in our families. We drew pictures of our families, and talked about people who are important to us. We have also been focusing on "Kind Hands," using our hands gently, safely and kindly to help and care for others. We had a lovely week of sharing and showing kindness!

Year 1 - We have had another brilliant week of learning! In Phonics, we have been learning some new digraphs: 'ou' as in cloud, 'ay' as in play and 'ea' as in treat. The children have been practising spotting these sounds in words and using them in their reading and writing. In Maths, we have been exploring the greater than (>) and less than (<) symbols and using them to compare numbers. The children have enjoyed putting their new learning into practice. Well done, Year 1!

Year 2 - In Maths, we learnt how to compare 2 digit numbers within 100 using the correct vocabulary, and ordering numbers according to size. In English, in our text 'The Emperor's New Clothes, we learnt how to write questions, using different question openers and the question mark punctuation at the end. In Science, we investigated the suitability of various materials for different objects based on their properties. In History, we learnt about the role of women in the home front between 1914 - 1918 in the First World War. We ended the week with PSHE 'Being Me in My World' as we learnt about our 'Rewards and Consequences.'

Year 3 - In Maths, we have been Adding and Subtracting using mental and written methods using base 10 equipment to help us. We have been writing diary entries in the role of a stone age boy, focusing on sentence openers and introducing possessive apostrophes. In Art, we have been drawing leaves using pastels and charcoal and in Computing we designed a poster about the importance of internet safety. Our RE learning was the Creation Story and how our world was made "very good."

Year 4 - We have had a fantastic week. We have worked hard developing pronoun usage for direct address and have written diary entries as a Roman Centurion. In Maths, we have continued learning about place value and how to round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. In History, the children learnt about Boudicca and explored why we have a monument of her at Westminster. The children learnt about body percussion and began composing their own music.

Year 5 - In writing, we have been exploring the myth of Medusa, using fronted adverbials and dialogue while also learning a new skill: crafting imaginative setting and character descriptions. In Maths, we have been working on rounding numbers to the nearest 100, 1,000 and 10,000. In History, we discovered what life was like in Ancient Greece. Each child was given a different topic to research, such as food, clothing or jobs, and they have been

gathering their findings to design a poster, which they will present to the class soon.

Year 6 - From investigating light to exploring Victorian justice, Year 6 has had a week full of discovery! In Maths, we began Unit 3, Four Operations, sharpening our calculation skills and tackling new challenges. Our scientists experimented with light to investigate how refraction changes how we see things. In English, we have been gathering ideas and shaping persuasive arguments for next week's debate. Meanwhile, History took us back to Victorian times to explore the fascinating—and often harsh—world of crime and punishment!!

Dates for your diary

October

5th - Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church

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

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

12th - Bikeability

19th - Careers Week

20th - Parents' Evening

20th - Parent Governor Forum 9:00-10:00am and 5:00-6:00pm

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 explored the theme, 'Courage to Do the Right Thing', and explored how we can make kind and fair choices, even when this feels difficult. Linking to the Good Samaritan, we reflected on the courage needed to help others, speak up when something is wrong and stand up for someone who needs support even if they aren't one of our friends. Using our Spirituality Tree, the children considered how small acts of bravery and compassion can make a positive difference in our school community. We considered how important honesty and truth are also when discussing issues in school and how difficult saying sorry and forgiving others for mistakes can be.

On Tuesday, we enjoyed our final rehearsals for our Harvest Festival Service and added in some of our other favourite harvest time songs.

On Wednesday, we gathered together to draw up our rules and expectations of the playground and the types of activities that are suitable to play. We have been introducing some new options for the children, including chalking, bug club, dance, some of our older children are keen to organise activities with the younger children. We talked about how we should be kind to everyone and ensure that everyone can take part in our games.

On Thursday, We were delighted to welcome Chris from Rugby Youth 4 Christ to Clifton-Upon-Dunsmore for a wonderfully energetic assembly! It kicked off with a quick game of Wiggle Wars (picture two hoops, a pool noodle and the fighting spirit of a Gladiator from the TV show).

Chris then shared the story of the Good Samaritan. He explained that because the Samaritan and the injured traveller came from such different backgrounds, people would have expected the Samaritan to walk on by. Instead, he stopped and helped, and that's exactly what made him the 'Good' Samaritan. It was a lovely reminder for us all to show kindness to everyone, whatever our differences.

Year 4 enjoyed their first visit of the year to St Mary's Church. They learnt about kindness, friendship and being God's people.

On Friday, we celebrated the children's achievements and announced our new Values Ambassadors: Dinuk, Charlie, Maddison, Adrianna, Nevaeh, Arush and May.

Year 1 were chosen as class of the week for being superstars.



NOTICE



CARE



ACT



Smart School Council Update

School Council Elections 2026

Congratulations to our new School Council:

Year 1 - Thea	Year 2 - Jascia
Year 3 - Aseena	Year 4 - Olivia
Year 5 - Luca	Year 6 - Leah

A huge thank you to all the parents who supported their children to stand for election. We were so proud of them all. Their posters have been collected in and will form part of the new Council's meetings.

The new school council have already been busy canvassing the children for ideas of playground activities.



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

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.