

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter



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



Autumn Term Issue 6 - 9th October 2026

Telephone: 01788 542027 Email: admin3177@welearn365.com

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We have had a very busy week in school, beginning with our Harvest Festival on Monday. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations, which will be passed on to Rugby Foodbank to support families in our local community. It was lovely to come together to celebrate Harvest and reflect on the importance of sharing what we have with others.



We are now noticing a real change in the weather, with rain and colder days reminding us that autumn has arrived. Please ensure your child brings a named coat to school each day, as we try to give the children opportunities to enjoy fresh air and outdoor play at break times and lunchtimes whenever possible.

We are also continuing to develop our outdoor learning environment and would be very grateful for donations of bulbs and winter-flowering plants. These will help brighten our school grounds and give the children opportunities to plant, care for and watch things grow. If you are able to help, please bring any donations to the front office. Thank you for your continued support.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening appointments can be booked from Monday 12th October. Each appointment lasts five minutes. If you have more than one child, please leave a short gap between appointments to allow time to move between teachers.

Parent Governor Forum

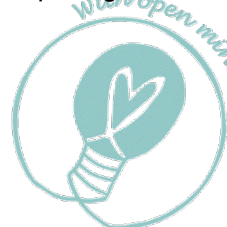
A reminder of our Parent Governor Forum on Tuesday 20th October. Two sessions will be available to help families attend:

9:00–10:00am in the staff room

5:00–6:00pm in the Pre-School room

Careers Week

Everyone who volunteered to support our Careers Week has now been contacted via ParentMail with their confirmed timetable slots. Thank you for giving your time to inspire our children. We are looking forward to an enjoyable week exploring a wide range of jobs and careers.



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

	Pupil's Pupil	Class Pupil
Reception	Lachlan	Arthur
Year 1	Willow-Grace	Ophelia
Year 2	Oliver	Freddy
Year 3	Jude	Eve
Year 4	Gabriella-Rose	Uchechi
Year 5	Aminah	Milo
Year 6	In class awards	

Attendance

The whole school attendance this week is 98.22% which is above our target of 97.5% Well Done.

Gold Award - Reception and Year 1 100%

Silver Award - Year 2 99.2%

Bronze Award - Year 5 98.5%

Arts Council

Arts Council have launched an Autumn Colouring Competition to raise funds for resources for the Arts Shed. The Arts Shed is opened to children during lunchtimes to provide opportunities for them to get creative. Our Arts Council arrange activities for them to do - but we need your help to buy new resources and equipment - please support us by entering our competition - £1 per entry Thank you.

OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

We are currently owed **£163.10** for dinners.

Please ensure that your account is settled.



House Points

Congratulations to:

Red and Blue House

who have 284 points this week.

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

Pre-School - We are so proud of how the children joined our Harvest Festival in church on Monday. We have worked very hard in Maths this week, focusing on matching buttons to shirts and each others' shoes to create pairs! We have started our reading book, 'Amazing,' which is helping us to identify similarities and differences between us. Our rhyme time song this week has been 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star,' which has included some lovely glittery activities. We have been fine tuning our fine motor skills learning how to hold and use the scissors safely while snipping out spikes for our hedgehogs.

Reception - It has been another busy week of learning, growing and developing our independence! In Maths, we have been exploring the number 5, using a five-frame to develop our subitising skills and recognise quantities without counting. In Phonics, we have been exploring our new sounds, practising blending sounds together to read words, and sorting objects by their initial sounds. We have been learning about keeping ourselves safe, thinking about how we can make safe choices in different situations. We have been reinforcing the work from last week on kind hands through this week's book 'The Kindness Tree.'

Year 1 - Unfortunately, Mrs Mayall has been poorly this week, and we are all hoping she feels much better soon. In Maths, we have been finishing off our current number unit and putting all of our recent learning into practice. In English, we have started reading Beegu and have really enjoyed getting to know the story and its characters. A big thank you to all of the other members of staff who have come together to support Mr Page with getting the children's reading done this week. It has been very much appreciated!

Year 2 - In Maths, we learnt how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s with numbers to 100, and in 3s. In English, our text is 'Stubby - a true story of friendship.' We learnt how to write a character description and use the exclamation mark to make our writing interesting. In Science, we discovered different materials come from plants, animals, rocks and oil, coal and gas. In History, we learnt about the role of animals between 1914 - 1918. We ended the week with computing - learning about why we use passwords and in PSHE we learnt about our 'Rewards and Consequences.'

Year 3 - In Maths, we have successfully finished Unit 2, and developed our skills of adding and subtracting using the column method. In History, the children got creative, completing their own cave paintings and designing rocks using Stone Age symbols. We worked together to create our very own Stonehenge models using junk modelling materials. The children showed fantastic creativity and teamwork! In English, we have started our new text, 'Cave Baby,' and have been creating setting descriptions to include in our Star write this week.

Year 4 - We have had an enjoyable week. We revisited sentence construction and developing detail using noun phrases. In Maths, we have been exploring addition with thousands and tens of thousands. In Science, the children created their own classification grids using their own criteria for organism organisation. In History, the children learned about the Roman entertainment of Gladiatorial battles and the impact this had on Roman society. The children also enjoyed choreographing a battle in the style of Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Year 5 - In English, Year 5 have been using relative pronouns and relative clauses while writing biographies of Katherine Johnson, and in Maths we have started Unit 3: Addition and Subtraction. In History, the children have compared the Ancient Olympics with the modern Games, while in Science they have been exploring the

question, "Why are the Earth, Sun and Moon spherical?" Well done, Year 5, for another fantastic week of learning!

Year 6 - It's been a weird and wonderful week in Year 6, especially in Science, where the children dissected pigs' eyes to identify the different parts of the eye and see up close how they work together to help us see. A big thank you to Lilah's dad for kindly supplying the eyes! In Maths, we've continued working on the four operations, building confidence with different division methods and revising BIDMAS, while in English we've been reading Street Child, using evidence from the text to make inferences and compare the similarities and differences between characters.

Dates for your diary

October

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

12th - Bikeability

19th - Careers Week

19th - Individual Photographs

20th - Parents' Evening

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

21st - Pre-School Parents' Evening

22nd - Year 6 trip

22nd - Break up

23rd - Teacher Training Day

26th - 30th - Half Term

November

2nd - School Reopens

11th - Remembrance Day Service

17th - No Outsiders Lesson 2

30th - Advent Service

PTA



Thank you to everyone who attended the PTA meeting on Thursday. We have some great ideas for fundraising this year and some good projects to work on to help provide much needed resources in school.

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.



Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter

WORSHIP

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

On Monday, St Mary's Church and Reverend Pete kindly hosted us for our Harvest Festival Service. The Choir started our service with a beautiful song called 'We're so thankful.' Rev. Pete shared a poignant message about the true meaning of harvest and the vital work of our local Food Bank. He showed us how the word HARVEST is just one letter and an anagram away from the word STARVE, a powerful reminder of why sharing what we have matters so much. The children played a key part in this moment by holding up each of the letters. We finished the service by singing some of our favourite harvest songs, including 'Harvest Handclap' and the much-loved 'Harvest Samba'.

On Tuesday, we welcomed Hannah, as we do every week, to lead the whole school in hymns during Singing Assembly. We also began looking ahead to our next key event, Remembrance Day, and started learning some songs for next month's service. As a reminder, Hannah spends every Tuesday with us, running a wonderful Choir Club before school, teaching recorder lessons to Year 3 and leading a Recorder Club at break time. If the choir or recorder clubs pique you or your child's interest, please don't hesitate to get in touch to find out more.

On Wednesday, Year 6 led a thoughtful assembly on Michaelmas, exploring the values of courage, kindness and perseverance. They reflected on how these qualities can help us face challenges, stand up for what is right and support one another, encouraging everyone to put these values into practice each day.

On Thursday, Year 2 led our assembly on the theme of the Jewish celebration called Simchat Torah which celebrates the Torah-ending and beginning. Torah symbolises the never ending nature of learning and growth in the Jewish calendar year.

On Friday, we had our Celebration Assembly which was a real joy, with lots of successes shared from across the school. It was lovely to see our school values being shown by so many amazing individuals, both in and out of the classroom.

Our Class of the Week was Year 5, who were recognised for their growing maturity and for becoming fantastic role models for the rest of the school. Well done, Year 5!

We also had a first for the year in our attendance award. Instead of one winning class, we had two, as both Reception and Year 1 achieved 100% attendance for the entire week! We might need to print off a few more gold trophies at this rate!



NOTICE



CARE



ACT

BUT THIS I SAY: HE WHO
SOWS SPARINGLY WILL
ALSO REAP SPARINGLY,
AND HE WHO SOWS
BOUNTIFULLY WILL ALSO
REAP BOUNTIFULLY. SO
LET EACH ONE GIVE AS
HE PURPOSES IN HIS
HEART, NOT
GRUDGINGLY OR OF
NECESSITY; FOR GOD
LOVES A CHEERFUL
GIVER.
II CORINTHIANS 9:6-7



Smart School Council Update

Miss Bradshaw is delighted to welcome our newly appointed school councillors to their first meeting of the year, where they will discuss plans for the months ahead. She is looking forward to hearing their wonderful ideas for making our school even better and working together to put them into action as the year progresses. Congratulations to all our new councillors!

School Photos Day: Monday 19th October

Our school photographer will be visiting on Monday 19th October. This round of photos will focus mainly on individual portraits, but there will also be an opportunity for brothers and sisters across the school to have a photo taken together.

Please make sure your child arrives in full school uniform on the day. If Monday is usually a PE day for your child, please send their PE kit in a bag so they can get changed after their photo has been taken.

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.

CLIFTON

Open minds and loving hearts we will achieve

AUTUMN

COLOURING COMPETITION



Get creative and colour a pumpkin!

£1 per entry with a chance to win prizes!

DEADLINE

Friday 6th November