

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter



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



Autumn Term Issue 7 - 16th October 2026

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we head into the final week of this half-term, the children have been completing assessments to help teachers understand their progress and identify the next steps in their learning. This information will inform our planning for next half-term, ensuring that teaching provides the support and challenge each child needs. We are using a new system to analyse assessment information this year and look forward to sharing more about this with you later in the year.

We have a busy four-day week ahead, with plenty to enjoy before our half-term break. Please remember that school finishes on Thursday next week, as Friday is a teacher training day and school will be closed to pupils. We will be saying goodbye to Ms Rahman on Thursday and thank her for her time with our year 6 class and wish her the best for the future. Thank you for your continued support throughout this half-term.

Photograph Day - Monday 19th October

Children will have their individual photographs taken. Those with siblings in school will also have a family photo. Please ensure the children are in correct School Uniform. Those with PE will need to change into their kit for their lesson.

Parents' Evening 20th October

We are looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

Parent Governor Forum

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

We are looking forward to an enjoyable week exploring a wide range of jobs and careers.

Remembrance Day



After half-term, poppies and other Remembrance items will be on sale during break and lunchtimes. Each class will have allocated times to make purchases. If you would like your child to buy an item, please send their money in a named envelope, with the amount clearly marked on the outside.

We have paper poppies, slap bands, wristbands, clip-on poppies, zip pulls, pencils and stickers available. We suggest a donation of £2 for slap bands, wristbands and clip-on poppies. Donations for all other items are at your discretion. Thank you for helping us raise much-needed funds to support veterans and the Armed Forces community.

Our Remembrance Day service will take place on Wednesday 11th November at 10:45am. Weather permitting, we will gather on the playground, and parents are warmly invited to join us.



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

	Pupil's Pupil	Class Pupil
Reception	Robyn	Elijah
Year 1	James	Ethan
Year 2	Isabelle	Oscar
Year 3	Ronan	Stanley
Year 4	Adam	Freddy, Ayaan
Year 5	Gracie F	Brooklyn
Year 6	Lilah	Rajita

Attendance

The whole school attendance this week is 96.49% which is below our target of 97.5%

Gold Award - Year 3 99.2%

Silver Award - Year 5 97.1%

Bronze Award - Year 1 95.7%

Teacher Training Day

Reminder that Friday 23rd is our Teacher Training Day. So we break up for the half-term holiday on Thursday 22nd October.

OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

We are currently owed **£235.20** for dinners.

Please ensure that your account is settled.



House Points
Congratulations to:

Red House

who have 238 points this week.

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

Pre-School - We have loved singing Mary, Mary Quite Contrary in rhyme time; drawn our own gardens and flowers and explored using water colours to paint them. We have been reading 'Amazing,' and have thought hard about what makes them amazing and unique. In Maths, we have continued our topic of matching using shapes as the focus. We have also been looking at our value of friendship and how we can be good friends, sharing and turn taking with our outside activities and equipment.

Reception - We have been comparing groups of objects using the words 'more' and 'fewer.' We have also completed our Little Wandle phonics learning for Autumn 1—well done, everyone! After reading The Colour Monster Goes to School, we reflected on our own experiences and shared our favourite parts of school. Alongside this, we have enjoyed a variety of threading activities, strengthening our hands and developing the coordination we need for writing.

Year 1 - The children have been absolutely awesome this week and have continued to impress us with their enthusiasm and hard work! In English, we have been reading Lost in the Toy Museum and using the story to support our writing tasks. This has linked really well with our History learning about toys, giving the children lots of opportunities to make connections. In Maths, we have started our new unit looking at part-whole models and exploring how numbers can be split into different parts. The children have made a fantastic start and should be very proud of themselves.

Year 2 - In Maths, we have been learning how to add and subtract numbers to 100 using number facts like our number bonds to 10. We used our text, 'Stubby - a true story of friendship', to learn how to write a character description and use the exclamation sentences to make our writing interesting. In Science, we learnt about the 3Rs, how to 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle,' materials. In History, we learnt about a significant person called Walter Tull who was a footballer and joined the army in the First World War. We ended the week with PSHE 'Being Me in My World' as we learnt about our 'Learning Charter'.

Year 3 - We have worked so hard on our assessments, and the children have shown fantastic perseverance, determination and a brilliant attitude towards their learning. We are incredibly proud of the effort they have put in! In Science, we explored how fossils are formed and had great fun creating our very own. In History, we discovered what life was like at Skara Brae, and how people lived in the past. In Music, we began composing our own pieces, focusing on dynamics, pulse and tempo. The children enjoyed experimenting with different sounds and bringing their musical ideas to life. Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic week of learning! We are so proud of all your hard work and enthusiasm.

Year 4 - We have had a busy week full of assessments and hard work. In History, we learnt about the difference in lifestyles of the Romans and the native Britons during the Roman invasion. In Maths, we have continued developing understanding of 4 digit addition and subtraction.

Year 5 - The children have shown great perseverance, determination and wisdom as they completed their Reading, Maths and SPAG assessments. In Science, we planned our meteorite investigation. In Maths, we practised adding and subtracting using the exchanging method. In PSHE (Jigsaw), we recapped children's rights and discussed how we could help children in different scenarios.

Year 6 - With just one more week to go until a well-deserved break, the children have been working through practice SATs papers, following the same routine they will experience during the actual tests to help them feel familiar with the process. In Science, we carried out an experiment, using torches and prisms to explore how white light splits into a spectrum of colours. We brought drama into our English lessons by putting Jim in the hot seat! The children took turns playing Jim and asking him questions to explore his thoughts, feelings and actions. Having finished our Victorian topic, we are excited to round off our learning with a trip to the London Dungeon next week! Thank you to parents for your prompt responses and payments. Your support is much appreciated!

Dates for your diary

October

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 - the London Dungeon

22nd - Break up

23rd - Teacher Training Day

26th - 30th - Half Term

November

2nd - School Reopens

9th-10th - Cash4Clothes collections

11th - Remembrance Day Service 10:45am

12th - PTA Disco

17th - No Outsiders Lesson 2

30th - Advent Service

PTA



A calendar of events has been added to the newsletter and will also be sent out via Parentmail.

Our next event is Cash4Clothes.

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, Mrs Bernard introduced the theme, 'Peace Begins with Me.' We explored how each of us can help make our school a peaceful place through our words and actions. We reflected on Psalm 34:14, "Seek peace and pursue it," recognising that peace is something we need to actively work towards each day. We considered everyday disagreements and whether our responses would bring calm or create more conflict. The children were encouraged to pause, listen and use phrases such as "I'm sorry," "Let's start again," and "Can we sort this out?" Through choosing kindness, showing forgiveness and asking for help when needed, we can all play our part in building a peaceful and caring school community.

On Tuesday, we continued our preparations for Remembrance Day. The whole school has been working closely with our choir to develop their harmonies, and the children have been learning about the difference between alto and soprano voices and how they blend together. We can't wait for you to hear the results at next month's service!

On Wednesday, Miss Weeks and our Values Ambassadors led our worship on the theme of Dignity. Dignity is important as it means that everyone matters and we should treat each other with respect and kindness. We considered some famous rulers who conducted themselves with dignity, including Jesus, the Prophet Muhammad, Guru Nanak and Buddha. We finished by discussing the Golden Rule - Love your neighbour and treat others as you would wish to be treated.

On Thursday, Mr Northedge dropped a crisp packet in assembly and left it there, which started a conversation about "What you permit, you promote." We heard the story of the Good Samaritan and celebrated 100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh. The children have been challenged to be change makers who don't walk past litter or unkindness. Please ask your child how they've been a change maker this week!

Year 6 were joined by Rev'd Pete at school on Thursday.

On Friday, we joined together to celebrate the children's achievement and as always it is so lovely to hear the reasons why they have been chosen by the peers and teachers.

Class of the week will be announced next week.



NOTICE



CARE



ACT



Smart School Council Update

It was lovely to meet our newly appointed School Council team this week! We had a fantastic first meeting, sharing ideas and discussing our hopes for the year ahead. We are excited to work together to make our school an even better place for everyone. We look forward to listening to everyone's ideas and working as a team to make a positive difference to our school community.

Student Head's Team

Our Student Head Team and House Captains meet with Mrs Bernard each Friday to share ideas and discuss how we can improve our school. This half-term, our focus has been the playground, where we have introduced activity zones to offer children a wider range of ways to play. Skipping, the obstacle course, music and construction activities are all proving popular.

We have also requested funding from the PTA to purchase two new games benches, which will arrive after half-term, and have sourced some large chalkboards that will be ready for the children to enjoy then too. We are delighted to have collected enough socks to launch our Sock Puppet Club after half-term. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Arts Council Competition

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted their entry to the Arts Council Competition - the final date for entries is Friday 6th November. See poster for details or download from Class Dojo.

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



Learning
Growing
Belonging
Together

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School PTA

Family Events Calendar 2026 – 2027

Great events. A brighter school. Together. ❤️

Stronger
Together
for Our
School

Children
Families
Community

Autumn Term Fun times to start the year!

Event	Weekday	Event Date
 Cash4Clothes	Mon/Tue	9 – 10 November 2026
 Neon Disco	Thursday	12 November 2026
 Christmas Fair	Saturday	5 December 2026
 Christmas Party Day	Thursday	17 December 2026

Autumn
Fun!



Spring Term New Term, New Adventures!

Event	Weekday	Event Date
 Movie Night	Friday	22 January 2027
 Valentine's Disco	Thursday	11 February 2027
 Muffins4Mum	Friday	5 March 2027
 Cash4Clothes	Mon/Tue	19 – 20 April 2027

Good
Times
Ahead!
❤️



Summer Term Let's make it a great finish!

Event	Weekday	Event Date
 Summer Disco	Thursday	27 May 2027
 Doughnuts4Dad	Friday	18 June 2027
 Summer Fair	Friday	9 July 2027

Summer
Smiles
Last a
Lifetime!
❤️

Small events
make a big difference ❤️

Same
Brighter
Together

Support
Our School
See You There! ❤️