



Cliffe Woods Primary School

September 2023 Newsletter



We hope you all had a lovely summer and would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our children and families, as well as to our new starters in Year R and throughout the school.

We would also like to welcome our new members of staff, Miss Ward and Mrs Burns in Year R and Mrs Squires in Year 5. We know that they will be welcomed by all in our lovely school community.

It is lovely to see the children looking so smart and keen to start their new year!



A reminder that as parents/carers of children at our school, you are all members of the PTA.

The PTA will be holding their Annual General Meeting in the school hall on Friday 15th September at 9am, and you are all welcome to attend.

Volunteers are always welcomed and any time that you are able to offer, however small, will be gratefully received.

Our hardworking team of volunteers continue to provide funding to enhance the experience of our children. The libraries in Key Stage 2 have benefited from exciting new books following visits to Waterstones in Bluewater, new laptops have been provided to name only two.

There are a number of events already planned, and details of these to help you prepare and keep the dates free are on the website under events calendar. (<https://www.cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk/>)

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A gentle reminder that children are expected to wear the correct school uniform (details are on our website) and have long hair tied back.

The PTA will be offering a second-hand uniform shop at the end of each term, which will be situated on school grounds, where good quality second hand uniform will be available.



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@CliffeWoodsSch



@CliffeWoodsPS



Clubs

After school clubs will begin on Monday, 11th September. Details of these will be sent out separately via Arbor.

We are delighted that with so many clubs now on offer, children will be able to attend more than one club per year.



Charity Events



Our kind and caring children are always keen to support a range of charities and come to us regularly with ideas. In fact, I have already been approached on the first day of term by a group of children to support their chosen charity.

We are, however, very aware that in the current climate some families are finding it more difficult to make ends meet. With this in mind, we will limit the charities that the children support to one event per term. We will share details of any events in advance.

Social Media



As the school community continually changes, we have archived our posts on both Twitter and Instagram accounts.

We will be removing all current followers over the next few days, and you will need to follow us again on Instagram @CliffeWoodsPS and/or Twitter @CliffeWoodsSch

AND

email socialmedia@cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk with details of your child's name and class as well as your Twitter and Instagram handles. You will then be given access to both Twitter and Instagram.

Sport

Following a very successful year for sport we are looking forward to achieving great things again this year.

The mini-youth games will be starting very soon, and Mrs Weir, along with Miss Watson, will be in touch with the children who are selected to represent the school. We are hoping for as many children as possible to be involved, so watch this space!



Excellence From All

School Improvement

As with all schools, at this time of year we think about how we can make our school even better than it is. With this in mind our improvement priorities for terms 1-3 are as follows:

- 1.To improve attainment in maths for all through a Mastery Curriculum;
- 2.To ensure high quality, inclusive outcomes for all learners;
- 3.To strengthen and embed leadership at all levels;
- 4.To develop a love of reading, building on vocabulary and language from the Early Years;
- 5.To work with all stakeholders to create a safe, equal and inclusive school.

Diversity

In line with priority 5, we are working with the Equaliteach organisation, with a focus on identifying and challenging stereo-type prejudice behaviour.

We will be working closely with all stakeholders on this priority.



Safeguarding

Just a reminder that children should not be using any of the playground equipment outside of school hours, as children must be fully supervised on this equipment by trained staff.



Please can parents/carers ensure all younger children are supervised whilst waiting to collect older children.

Sadly, I am sure we are all aware of the ever-increasing numbers of young people, including primary aged children who may be struggling with their mental health. If you are concerned about someone you know, we have attached a flow chart from the Early Health Team which may be of use in identifying when to get support and who may best provide this. As always, if you need to talk or want advice about an issue involving a child, please contact any of our Safeguarding Leads or Pastoral Support. As a reminder, the Safeguarding team in our school are Mrs Galea-Baker, Mrs Connolly, Mrs Robins, Miss Clear and Mrs Tinkler.

...and finally...

Each year group will be sending out a year-group specific newsletter on Friday, which will give useful information regarding the curriculum and requirements for each year group.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Connolly
Head of Schools



Diary Dates

Please take a careful look at the following dates, all of which can be found on the Events Calendar on the school website, and make a note of any that may affect your child.

Monday 11th September	Yr 5 Swimming Media Team to take Yr R Photos
Tuesday 12th September	Medway Test
Wednesday 13th September	Medway Test
Thursday 14th September	Parent Drop-In Session 3.30-5.00pm
Friday 15th September	PTA AGM at 9.15am
Tuesday 19th September	PTA Meeting at 7.30pm at Cliffe Village Club
Thursday 21st September	New Yr R Parent Lunch at 11.30am
Thursday 28th September	Dolphin Class Assembly at 2.30pm
Friday 29th September	Staff Development Day (School Closed to Pupils)

Have Your Say Meetings:

Friday 3rd November at 9.00am
Tuesday 6th February at 2.30pm
Friday 19th April at 9.00am

