



# Cliffe Woods Primary School

2nd November 2023 Newsletter



We would like to extend a warm welcome back to everyone in our school community, and hope you had a lovely rest over the break.

## Charity Events

A huge thank you for the generosity that has been shown again. The Wear it Pink campaign raised a whopping £502.62, which has gone to a great cause.



We were also astounded by the contributions to the Christmas Shoebox Appeal – we handed over 41 filled shoe boxes – which we know will make some young people's Christmas a happier one. Our next whole school charity event is Children in Need, on Friday 17th November. The theme is 'Be Spotacular', and we invite children to wear something spotty for a small donation to this charity. Please remember that they need to be able to take part in their usual classroom activities, so uniform regulations regarding footwear and jewellery remain in place.

Poppies are now on sale in school, and Year 6 children will go round to the classrooms each day where children can donate to the Royal British Legion and then wear their poppy with pride.



Excellence From All

I am regularly approached by children with ideas to raise funds for the charity of their choice, which makes me extremely proud. I am though aware of the cost of living crisis, and so ask the children to ensure that their fundraisers are spread out over the term. The next pupil-led fundraiser is planned for the week beginning 27th November, when a group of Year 5 pupils will be selling a range of items to Key Stage 2 children to raise money for the RSPCA.



## Fireworks

Our annual firework spectacular will be taking place on Friday 10th November on the school field. Details have been sent out separately, and have been shared on social media and in local establishments. If you would like to purchase tickets, they are available from the school office or the Coffee Box.



## Book Fayre

The book fayre will be open on 23rd and 24th November after school in the school hall, so please do come along and browse the wonderful books on offer. Payment will be by card only.



## Reading Ambassadors

We have appointed additional reading ambassadors, who will join the team to share their love of reading and books that they have enjoyed. They are currently working on making reading areas more inviting after feedback from class surveys identified this as an area for improvement.



As the organisation 'Show Racism the Red Card' held their event on Friday 20th October, and we were not in school, we are promoting this today (2nd November) so please do ask your children about it.



Thank you to the parents who took part in the Equally Safe survey. We were really pleased that for those who took part, the views were very positive about the school being a welcoming and inclusive environment for all pupils and parents. Despite this, we are always striving to improve, and the areas for development from this survey were ensuring parents know how we deal with bullying incidents, and ensuring that the children are clear about how to report bullying incidents. With this in mind, we have updated our anti-bullying policy to make our procedures very clear. This can be found on our website or via this link

<https://www.cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk/statutory-information/policies/>

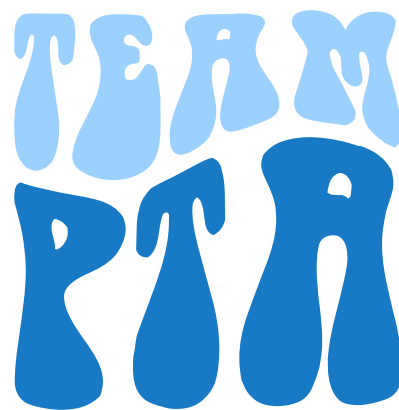
We are also working with our newly appointed 'Agents for Change', who are a group of children in Year 5, to produce a child-friendly version of this policy. They will then be given the opportunity to share this in an assembly, and it will also be added to the website.



## PTA

The PTA discos held at the end of term one were a resounding success. The children who attended all had a wonderful time, and much needed funds were raised to ensure that the children have wider opportunities at school. The PTA have agreed to part-fund some trips that would have been prohibitively expensive for some families, to cover the cost of the Early Years and Key Stage One pantomime, which is being held in school due to the temporary closure of the Brook Theatre, and to part-cover the cost of the whole school pantomime that is due to take place on January 12th for the whole school.

These additional opportunities could not take place without the hard work and dedication of our PTA committee and volunteers, we would like to say a big thank you to them all.



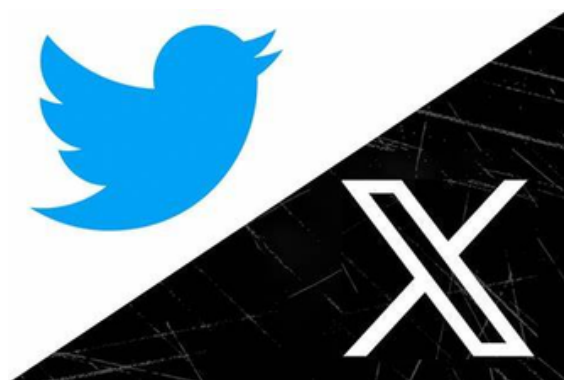
## Lost Property

Many of you were able to locate missing school uniform items at the lost property table laid out at the end of term. There is still a large amount of un-named, unclaimed items, and a table of with these will be laid out Monday 6th November. If your child is missing any uniform please do come and have a look at this table.



## Social Media

Some of you will have seen the updates on our social media sites and be able to follow some of the exciting activities that happen in school. If you have yet to register to follow, please email [socialmedia@cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk](mailto:socialmedia@cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk) with details of your child's name and class as well as your X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram handles. You will then be given access to both X and Instagram.



## Term Dates

The term dates for 2024-2025 have now been finalised, and will be on our website within the next few days.

## Pre-School Group

Just a reminder that a friendly group of parents/carers meet in our school hall during term time on a Thursday morning from 9 am, where pre-school children, toddlers and babies can play, and the adults can share a cuppa and a biscuit. All are welcome to come.



# Safeguarding

## E-Scooters

We have been asked to advise you of the growing concern surrounding the use of E-scooters. Kent Police are advising the public to ensure they understand the laws around E-Scooters. It is illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces, such as pavements, and the police are obliged to take action against anyone who is caught repeatedly using an E-scooter illegally or in a way that causes a nuisance to others. You risk a £300 fine, six penalty points endorsed on your driving licence and the E-Scooter being seized. If you do not currently hold a driving licence at the time of the offence, you may be prosecuted. If you purchase an E-Scooter, it can only be used on private land with the landowner's consent.

## Fire-Safety

Kent Fire and Rescue Service have issued a safety warning on the use of lithium-ion batteries following several battery related fires across the county. Lithium-ion batteries, or li-ion batteries (sometimes called LIBs) are commonly found in many items including mobile phones, laptops, e-bikes, hover boards and e-scooters.

Firefighters are urging the public to take care when storing and using these types of batteries, and to think twice before purchasing items from non-reputable suppliers.

## Online Safety

A reminder that we have a separate, online safety newsletter, that is coming out next week. Please do take a moment to read this, as there is useful information regarding how to keep children safe online.

## Fireworks

Whilst we talk to the children about keeping safe around fireworks, please can you reinforce this message with them, and where possible attend an organised display. There is of course one taking place here at school on Friday November 10th.



# Finally

As the nights draw in and the days get colder, we are all looking forward to the celebrations that Christmas and other festivals provide at this time of year. If you were thinking of booking a pantomime for your children, please be aware that we will be hosting a pantomime in our school hall for all children on Friday 12th January, for the small fee of £2.50 per child to cover costs.

Please ensure that your children wear reflective clothing if out after dark, and come to school with a warm coat, as we will go outside for fresh air in most weathers!

Yours sincerely

*Kit Connolly*



## Diary Dates

### Dates for the Diary

**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.**

Tuesday 7th November  
Wednesday 8th November  
Thursday 9th November

Friday 10th November  
Tuesday 14th November  
Thursday 16th November  
Friday 17th November  
Thursday 23rd November

Friday 24th November

Tuesday 28th November  
Thursday 30th November

MYG Basketball  
Yr R Open Day Tour at 10.30am  
MYG Basketball  
Crocodile Class Assembly at 2.30pm  
PTA Meeting at 7.30pm  
Fireworks Spectacular  
Yr R & Yr 6 Height & Weight Checks  
Frog Class Assembly at 2.30pm  
Children in Need – 'Be Spotacular'  
Yr 4 Trip to Harry Potter World  
Book Fayre  
Book Fayre  
EYFS Bedtime Stories  
Parent Consultations  
Parent Consultations

### Have Your Say Meetings:

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

