



Cliffe Woods Primary School

5th September 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome

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 member of staff, Miss Gamble, who will be working with Mrs Hatton in Year 2. It is lovely to see the children looking so smart and keen to start their new year.



Asda Cashpot for Schools

A new scheme has been set up by Asda, where customers can download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app, and then nominate a specific school to receive a percentage of the shop. This can be used towards additional resources for the children in our school. The link to find out about the scheme and sign up is <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

Once you have downloaded the app you can select Cliffe Woods as the recipient of any rewards in the cashpot!

Golfing Achievement

We are always really keen to share news of some of the amazing achievements of our pupils, and it is wonderful that we are able to do this in the first week back! Alfie H in Year 3 has qualified to play at the Rome Classic golf event and compete against other children his age from around the world. He will be representing the London US Kids team. We are extremely proud of his achievements and look forward to hearing how he gets on.



Excellence From All

PTA

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 13th September at 9:15 am, 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, improvements to our playgrounds and equipment to enhance the children's playtimes and new laptops have been provided to name a few.

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

Could we please remind you 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 at very low cost.



Reading

We will be appointing our reading ambassadors shortly, and they will keep you updated on all things books!

We would also like to share with you an opportunity to meet authors and illustrators this coming weekend. Details are in the attached flyer.



Clubs

After school clubs will begin on Monday 9th 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.

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:

- To prioritise and enhance science curriculum by implementing additional resources and CPD, leading to improved outcomes.
- To continue training for early identification of learning needs in order to implement effective interventions.
- To implement a more consistent and effective approach to teaching spelling, building on success of Little Wandle.
- To improve writing and word reading outcomes in EYFS.
- To embed and enhance trauma informed practices across the whole school.

Walk to School

We are planning once again to work with the Local Authority to encourage children to walk/cycle/wheel to school. The challenge starts on Monday 9th September, and this year we are increasing the active travel to two per week, which means that the children will have to walk/cycle/scooter at least two times a week to receive a badge. We know that for some of you who live outside of Cliffe Woods this can be tricky, so we encourage you to park away from the school, for example by the local shops in the car park, and to walk some of the journey.



Media Academy

We have been advised of an exciting opportunity for your children to explore the world of the media. There are free sessions available at Bluewater for children over the age of 8, and you can book a free session for any date during September for your children. You would just need to apply the voucher code SCHOOLMEDIA at checkout for a 100% discount. For more details on this exciting venture, we have attached a flyer and you can visit <https://www.madeinkent.co.uk/media-academy>.



Charity Events

Our kind and caring children are always keen to support a range of charities and come to us regularly with ideas. Some children have already planned their charity events and we try to spread these out over the year. We are, however, very aware that in the current climate some families are finding it more difficult to make ends meet, so we encourage the children to offer low cost items to Key Stage Two children that can be bought with their tuck money.



Safeguarding

Our most recent online safeguarding newsletter is available on our website
<https://www.cliffewoods.medway.sch.uk/news/newsletters/>

I would also like to remind you that the school and the school grounds are strictly no smoking and no vaping sites. We would appreciate your cooperation in this.

As we start the new year, please be mindful of keeping our children safe outside the school grounds. We really appreciate most of you who park considerately, ensuring that you keep our children safe, and are also considerate of our neighbours. As I said at the end of last term, we are investigating a 'School Street' initiative to protect our children further, and details of the consultation on this will follow soon.



Finally

Please could I remind parents in KS2 to wait behind the white line in the playground when collecting your children at the end of the day and could everyone ensure that children do not ride on scooters once they enter the school gates.

I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support – I know we will have another wonderful year with your amazing children and our hardworking, kind and caring staff.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Connolly
Head of School



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.

Monday 9th September	Yr 5 Swimming commences
Friday 13th September	PTA AGM - 9.15am
Monday 16th September	EYFS Parent Lunch (Parent to arrive at 11.15am)
Tuesday 17th September	Medway Test
Wednesday 18th September	Medway Test
Thursday 19th September	PTA Meeting - All Parents Welcome - 7.30pm
Tuesday 24th September	Parent Drop In - From 3.30pm (no appointments necessary)
Thursday 26th September	Dolphin Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Thursday 3rd October	Shark Class Assembly - 2.30pm
Friday 11th October	Phonics Information Session for Year 1 - 2.45pm
Tuesday 15th October	Harvest Festival Assembly
Wednesday 16th October	Individual & Sibling Photos
Friday 18th October	Wear It Pink Day (further information to follow)
Monday 21st October	Flu vaccination
Tuesday 22nd October	Last Day of Term 1
Wednesday 23rd October	Staff Development Day (Children do not attend)
Monday 4th November	First Day of Term 2

Have Your Say Meetings:

Wednesday 6th November at 9am
Tuesday 4th February at 2.30pm
Monday 23rd June at 2.30pm