

Clifton Primary School
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What a term it has been – right up to the very last days the children have excelled themselves in making the most of any opportunities and giving their all. We have had some huge successes to be proud of but are equally delighted with each and every child who has tried their absolute best this term.

We love the Buddy system we have developed at Clifton and are so proud of the relationships it facilitates between our oldest and youngest children. Today Hedgehog staff said they were almost surplus to requirements as the Big Buddies helped their littler buddies to make their way around the Easter Egg hunt.

Thanks to Fox Class for their beautiful wax rubbing crosses that were on display in the church porch today. They depicted the Easter Story and were a work of such creativity and collaboration.



We wish you all a very happy Easter time and hope you all have time to relax and recuperate ready for the last term of this school year.



End of Term Celebration

We hope those who came to this afternoon's End of Term Celebration found it as joyful as we all did. Once again, the children did themselves proud and we could not have wished for more.



U Dance

After weeks of hard work and practise, Fox Class finally had their chance to sparkle on stage in front of very admiring audiences last Thursday. They approached the whole process with enthusiasm and dedication, creating many parts of the dance themselves, and were a joy to watch. Even seeing it for the 20th time you could not stop a smile spreading across your face.

They were chosen to end the show due to their joyful and vibrant performance and certainly lived up to this expectation. We were all full of admiration for what they achieved and are so proud of them all.



Bouldering Final

Our Bouldering Team certainly 'rose to the challenge' of the Eden Rock tournament last week and were so proud to return to school with a fabulous shocking pink trophy. Well done to Jesse, Natanya, Gabriella, Harry, Oliver and Marcus for coming first in the Mixed Teams.



Ball Sports Festival

Sunday's beautiful weather might not have lasted as far as Wednesday but it did not stop Fox Class giving their all at Action Ants Ball Sport Festival. There was plenty of activity to keep everyone warm and it looks like the cold and drizzle did not manage to dampen their spirits.



All Aboard for a Train Ride

Hedgehog Class took a train from Armathwaite to Appleby last Monday to inspire their work on the book *The Train Ride*. Thanks to the Settle to Carlisle railway for providing this wonderful experience free of charge and for giving them a cosy room with a log burner for their picnic lunch (as seen in last week's Herald)



Lots of Socks – World Down Syndrome Day

Last Wednesday Kellie Margerison and Cora told us all about Down Syndrome and encouraged the children to wear lots of noticeable socks the following day to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day. The socks were definitely noticeable and Fox Class even wore theirs to the U Dance Festival. Kellie also set them a challenge to design some eye catching socks and to ask her any questions they may have about the condition. Kellie was so delighted with their responses that she bought them all a packet of sweets as a thankyou. The 4 winners (of some very BIG easter eggs) were Max, Zak, Ethan and Matilda. Well done to all and thankyou Kellie for providing the children with an insight into Down Syndrome.



Hockey

Amazing teamwork from everyone today in the hockey final. The children should be so proud of themselves. Thanks to Joanna for all her support and coaching.





Clubs

Running Club battled the dreadful weather this week and Mrs Davies was so impressed with everyone's enthusiasm.

Friday afternoons have been a very relaxing and creative time for the members of our sewing club. They have amazed Mrs Roberts, Miss Holmes and I with their needle skills and patience but are beginning to see the fruits of their labours.



Staffing News

Mrs Collin has decided that she will not be returning to Clifton after her Maternity Leave. We are sad to see her go as she made such a wonderful contribution to our school in her time here, but we do understand her wanting to spend more time with her new family. We are sure she will visit us soon to say a proper farewell and we wish her well for the future with her family. We will update you on our staffing plans for next year in the coming term.

Library Visits

Due to staffing issues we had to postpone Fox Class' second visit to the Library this week. We will rearrange it and second visits for all children in the Summer Term.

In the meantime, please do pop along to the library yourselves to choose new books. Many children have told us that they have discovered new favourite authors at the library and love the fact that they can get books they love reading for FREE.

Alternatively books can be renewed online via this link. cwflibraries.org.uk

We have been asked to share this information with you regarding events taking place over Easter.

Wordsworth Grasmere are coming on Tuesday 2nd April in the afternoon, bookable by calling the library or clicking the link www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/westmorland-and-furness-libraries-

Craft drop ins on Thursday 4th, Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th. Everyone would be welcome to stop by!

Penrith Library opening hours are listed below but books can be returned to and borrowed from any Cumbrian library

Monday: 9.30am to 6pm	Tuesday: 9.30am to 6pm	Wednesday: 9.30am to 5pm
Thursday: 9.30am to 5pm	Friday: 9.30am to 5pm	Saturday: 9.30am to 4pm

Outdoor Learning

We will let you know exact dates next term but it will be Squirrels and Foxes doing Outdoor Learning next term. Despite it being the Summer Term the weather can be unpleasant still so please send in a complete set of suitable clothing and wellies. Please ensure all items are labelled with your child's name. Please be aware that shorts are not acceptable clothing for Outdoor Learning. The children are outside for a long period of time and the weather can be wet and cold. It can also be a health and safety risk when children are around fires and in nature with nettles/brambles etc.

Deer class made 3-D maps of the Secret Garden this week and everyone worked hard to produce detailed and accurate maps whilst being creative with the natural resources. Everyone then explained their creations to the rest of the class, highlighting particular features.

We also had a chance to check up on the frogspawn and tadpoles in the pond.



PE LESSONS next term are as follows.....

Squirrel Class – Monday and Thursday

Fox Class – Monday and Friday

Deer Class – Wednesday and Friday

Please can children come to school in their PE kits on these days. Please send PE kits in to keep on the pegs for Hedgehogs as changing time is a good opportunity to develop independence skills

PTA News

BINGO – thanks to all who attended the Easter Bingo and have joined the 100 Club. Grand totals are still being calculated but will be revealed soon.

A BIG thankyou to the PTA for organising the Easter Egg hunt on the last day of term and in particular to Gill Graham who braved the damp and cold to lay out the Easter Hunt clues.

Date for your diary - Car Treasure Hunt on Sunday 16th June – a perfect Father's Day treat!

NEXT MEETING – 18th April @ school @ 7pm



Summer Term Clubs

Monday lunchtime – running club with Mrs Davies. For all children in Year 1 – Year 6. Children must bring in a PE kit and trainers that they can get muddy.



Tuesday lunchtime - Cheer Club with Jennie Davidson and Miss Hunter.



Sewing Club – Fridays **until 4.30** with Mrs Roberts & Mrs Brabant.

If your child would like to come please book it in Parent Pay under After School Club (1 hour).

Lunchtime Drama Club – Wednesdays

Miss Simpson will run a Homework Club for Year 6 children on Tuesdays

Dates for the Diary



Monday 15th April – Start of the Summer Term

Tuesday 23rd April – Hunter Hall Cross Country for Y1,2 & 3

Wednesday 24th April – Action Ants Adventure Sports Festival (Hedgehog Class) & County Dodgeball Competition (Deer Class)

Thursday 25th April – Tag Rugby Tournament (Fox & Deer Class)

Monday 6th May – May Day Bank Holiday

Thursday 9th May – UCC talk for Year 5

13th – 15th May – Fox Class Residential

W/B 13th May – Year 6 SATs week.

Tuesday 21st May – Deer Class trip to Keswick

Thursday 23 May – Hedgehog & Squirrel Class Adventure Day & Sleepover (Rec, Y1 & 2 only) & Swimming Gala

Friday 24th May – Sponsored Walk

W/B 27th May – Half Term

Monday 3rd June – back to school

Separate letters are sent for all sporting events and trips

TERM DATES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

Summer Term

Start - Monday 15th April End - Friday 19th July

Half Term Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Please remember there is a small change in term dates compared to those published on the Westmorland & Furness website.



And finally.....as regular as clockwork, Betty and her feathered gentleman friend are back.

Having once again opted for the most inappropriate place to build a nest outside Hedgehog Class, Mrs Chalmers and Miss Wilson came to their rescue and constructed an especially sturdy wooden platform. Nest building has continued today so we will let you know how they all get on.



Remember you can keep up to date with events and photos on our Friends of Clifton Primary School Facebook page so please join if you have not already.

If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Nikki Brabant, Tasha Coutts & the Clifton Team