

Clifton-upon-Dunsmore Primary School Newsletter



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



Autumn Term Issue 3 - 18th September 2026

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we come to the end of our third week of term, it is wonderful to see how much progress the children have already made. I have been kept very busy writing lots of postcards for lovely work, good answers and children working hard.

Reception joined us for assembly for the first time this week and sat beautifully in the hall.

Our School Council elections are well underway. Children chosen in their class elections to stand in the whole school election will be informed by their class teacher. Candidates may bring in posters from Monday to share with the rest of the school, ahead of the vote on Friday. Thank you to every child who has put themselves forward so far. It takes courage to share your ideas, and we have been impressed by the thought you have given to making our school even better. Even if you are not elected, we will listen to and consider your suggestions.

Pupil Leaders

We offer a wide range of opportunities for pupils to take on roles of responsibility in school.

Our Student Head team are: Willow, Taylor, Sianna and Filippo

Our House Captains are: James, Mustafa, Sophia and Ivy

We also encourage children to join other groups, such as School Council, Peer Mediators, Active Ambassadors, Art Ambassadors, Writing Ninjas, Eco Warriors and they work alongside staff to support the rest of the school in these areas.

PTA

Please consider supporting our PTA by attending its AGM on Thursday 8th October at 7:30pm in the School Hall. As school budgets become tighter, the money the PTA raises helps us buy extras that we would otherwise be unable to afford. Its events also bring us together as a school community and create lovely opportunities for our children.

Clubs we offer at Clifton

We offer a wide range of before and after school clubs and at the moment several have spaces available.

Badminton, Choir, Dodgeball, Lego, Cheerleading, Multi-sports, Little Chefs, Football, Gymnastics, 11+ tuition (Yr5)

If you would like your child to attend a club - please contact the office on admin3177@welearn365.com for more information.

Sock puppet club - our Year 6 team are setting up a sock puppet club for lunchtimes and need lots of clean socks - if you are tidying out your cupboards, please send your socks - we don't mind those with holes in. Please send your old socks to Year 6.

Appeal

We are trying to develop the Friendship Garden and our outdoor environment. We are looking for donations of bulbs, winter flowering plants, hanging baskets, seeds, and a wheelbarrow. If you are able to help please send donations to the office.



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

	Pupil's Pupil	Class Pupil
Reception	Isla	
Year 1	Leah	Jack
Year 2	Milo	Evangelina
Year 3	Sienna	Binuk
Year 4	Nathan	Daksha & Archie
Year 5	Adrianna	Annie
Year 6	Dexter	Willow

Attendance

The whole school attendance this week is 97.8% which is above our target of 97.5% - Well done.

Gold Award - Year 2 99.6%

Silver Award - Year 1 98.3%

Bronze Award - Year 4 98.2%

Digital Safeguarding

Keeping children safe online can feel challenging. Through our school safeguarding subscription, families can access practical advice on the Warwickshire Online Safety Hub. You'll find guidance on parental controls, social media and helping children make safe choices online.

<https://warwickshire.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

We are currently owed **£248.85** for dinners.

Please ensure that your account is settled.



House Points
Congratulations to:

Yellow House

who have won this week.

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THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

Pre-School - We have enjoyed our Power of Reading book "Hello, friend!" The children have thought really hard about how to be a good friend and how we can be kind to each other. They have also been busy looking at different emotions and how we can notice how our friends feel by their faces. We used mirrors to help draw different facial features using graphite pens. Maths this week has been tricky and we have worked really hard to have a go at answering the questions about prime colours.

Reception - In Phonics, we have begun our learning journey and the children have made a fantastic start. We have also been focusing on understanding personal space and the importance of keeping our hands to ourselves. As part of our "I Am a Clever Writer" work, we explored the story Stanley's Stick, which inspired us to create our own train and tickets. Alongside this, we have been developing our fine motor skills by taking part in activities to make our fingers and arms strong, helping to prepare us for writing.

Year 1 - We have had another fantastic week of learning! In Science, we have been exploring everyday materials and thinking about the different materials objects are made from. We have started our History work on toys, beginning to think about toys from the past and how they might be different from the toys we play with today. In Maths, we have been focusing on number formation and practising forming them carefully and correctly. The children have worked really hard and continue to show lots of enthusiasm for their learning. Well done!

Year 2 - In Maths, we recognised 10s and 1s in 2 digit numbers and made 2 digit number by building and drawing them on a place value grid. In English, our new text is 'The Paper dolls', we are learning how to write sentences to retell the story. In Science, we explored objects and materials around us, using a house as a case study to investigate materials used to build it. In History, we learnt about Remembrance Day and why it is commemorated to remember the events in the first world war. We ended the week with PSHE 'Being Me in My World' as we learnt about our 'Rights and responsibilities.'

Year 3 - In English, we used our inference skills to discover more about the characters in the book 'Stone Age Boy'. In Maths, we have continued with Place Value within 1,000. We have also enjoyed learning the different colours in French. In Science, we carried out an investigation 'Are rocks all the same?' In our History lesson this week, we explored the different animals that lived in Pre Historic Britain. As part of our Jigsaw lesson this week, we set ourselves goals that we want to achieve this academic year.

Year 4 - In English we have been learning about conjunctions and written a recount of Bothered by Bugs. In Maths, we have developed our understanding of place value and the positioning of numbers. In History, we learnt about the Roman military and decorated shields to commemorate Roman victories.

Year 5 - The children have worked hard and shown enthusiasm across the curriculum. In Maths, we have been working on using the correct vocabulary to explain each step of the process of using place value and exchanging. Our English text, Field Trip to the Moon, has helped us focus on using direct speech with a reporting clause. We have been practising how to punctuate our speech sentences accurately and have worked hard to apply this skill in our writing. In Science we have been learning why and how the Earth rotates creating moving diagrams to help understand and explain this concept. In PSHE, we discussed children's rights and explored some of the challenges that refugees may face. The children shared some thoughtful ideas and showed empathy when considering different experiences.

Year 6 - We have had a busy and exciting time in our learning this week! In Science, we investigated shadows and explored how and why they change. In Maths, we are beginning to develop our understanding of the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In English, we have continued reading Street Child, exploring the characters in greater depth and thinking carefully about their thoughts, feelings and actions. We have also been working hard to find evidence from the text to support and justify our answers, helping us to become more confident and thoughtful readers.

Dates for your diary

September

21st - School Council - Candidate Campaigns begin

25th - School Council Elections

October

5th - Harvest Festival

8th - PTA AGM 7:30pm (School hall)

11th - Harvest Festival at Good Shepherd (Newton) 11:00am

12th - Bikeability

19th - Careers Week

20th - Parents' Evening

22nd - Break up

23rd - Teacher Training Day

26th - 30th - Half Term

November

2nd - School Reopens

December

18th - Break up

PTA



The PTA AGM will take place on 8th October at 7:30pm in the School Hall.

We need your help to raise funds for our children.

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.



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WORSHIP

This year we will be continuing to reflect on our Christian Values through our Worship.

On Monday, Mrs Bernard helped us to explore the theme, "Kindness Changes the World." Psalm 145:9 tells us that God is good to all and shows compassion to everyone he has made. We thought about how the injured man in the story of the Good Samaritan might have felt when the priest and Levite walked past without helping, and how different he might have felt when the Samaritan noticed him, stopped and acted.

We used the WOW, OW and NOW parts of our Spirituality Tree to think about how we should treat others. We noticed the WOW of kindness and how good it feels when someone helps or includes us. We thought about the OW of feeling hurt, lonely or left out, and how important it is to notice when someone else may feel that way. Then we considered the NOW: what can we do about it? The children suggested simple ways to act, such as inviting someone to join in, using kind words and offering help when it is needed.

On Tuesday, we again joined together to sing our favourite songs and continue preparing for our Harvest Festival in a few weeks time.

On Wednesday - no assembly due to the Flu Immunisations.

On Thursday, Year 3 led the worship which focused on celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi. We learned about the festival and explored the values of respect and wisdom, thinking about how we can show these qualities in our everyday lives. It was a lovely opportunity to learn about another faith and reflect on values that are important to us all.

Year 1 enjoyed their first visit of the year to St Mary's Church. Rev'd Pete reminded the children about the special candles, Peter and Paul, before talking about some of the things God has made, including apples, rabbits, the sun and each one of us. The children loved joining in with the song Our God Is So Mighty. Thank you to the parents who came along and helped us.

On Friday, we celebrated our achievements in school this week.



NOTICE

Spirituality in School



CARE



ACT

NOW

At Clifton, spirituality is about taking time to notice what matters and reflect on our relationships with ourselves, other people, the world around us and God. Our Spirituality Tree helps children recognise WOW moments of wonder and joy, care about the OW moments when someone is hurt or things feel difficult, and think about the NOW—how they might respond through kindness, prayer or action. Rooted in our Christian vision, this gives every child space to ask questions, share their thoughts and grow in understanding, whatever their beliefs.

*"The Lord is good to all;
he has compassion
on all he has made."*

Psalm 145:9



Smart School Council Update

School Council Elections 2026

We are excited to announce that our School Council elections are coming up! This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to share their ideas, represent their classmates and help make a positive difference in our school.

We would like to let parents and carers know about the important dates:

 Monday 21st September – School Council candidate campaign.

 Friday 25th September – School Council election.

 Monday 28th September – The new School Council team will be announced!

We wish all of our candidates the very best and look forward to seeing lots of enthusiasm, creativity and fantastic ideas throughout the campaign.

Good luck to everyone taking part! ☀

Reading Millionaire

Who will be our next Word Millionaire?



Keeeeeep Reading!

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.