



CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 16th JANUARY 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first Newsletter of this Term and this calendar year. I hope that you all had a peaceful and happy holiday and we are very much looking forward to continuing to work with you.

The Spring Term is the business term when it comes to teaching and learning. We really knuckle down to the key learning messages and accelerate the progress of our pupils. This requires them to be in school and on time every single day. The continuity of regular attendance helps our children to set their routines and build on their previous learning. Most of our children can't bring themselves so are reliant on you to bring them. Please make every effort to get them into school on time every day.

We are delighted to welcome back Junior Jam to supplement our music learning. They will work with each class from Year 1 to Year 6 to deliver interesting and structured lessons to help our children to develop their musical knowledge and skills.

We are also working with Nottingham Forest and Nottinghamshire County cricket Club this term as well as developing our after school clubs offer. An exciting Term ahead....

Best wishes,
Rob Campbell
Headteacher



Attendance:

Our attendance target is 96 %
Last term's attendance was 93.2%

Dates for your diary:

20th January – Year 4 trip to Magna
26th January – Year 5 trip to the Galleries of Justice
10th/12th February - End of Half Term discos
13th January – Last day of Half Term

Behaviour and Relationships Policy

We have spent some time thinking about our behaviour and relationships policy and have started trialling some new reward/consequence procedures. The aim is to cement the positive relationships and behaviours displayed across school, building on a culture of mutual respect. We are seeking to reward positive behaviour choices whilst working with the children to understand that negative choices have consequences.

All of the children now have a reward card with spaces to collect reward points. These are scratch cards that have a mystery reward at the end. These are fun low-stakes rewards such as wearing own clothes to school for a day. Children are also selected to be the Star of the day, Assembly Hero and have weekly rewards for Golden hallways (children moving around school calmly and sensibly), fine diners (for good choices in the lunch hall) and star players (for good choices in the playground). Rewards such as a Headteacher's tea Party and Top Table dining on Fridays are included in the procedures. Negative behaviour is dealt with following a graduated approach, leading to time to reflect in a different classroom. Assemblies are held every Friday to celebrate the successes of the week and recognise children for special mentions from their class teachers.

Key negative behaviours such as swearing, verbal or physical aggression, damage to property, theft, bullying and discriminatory comments are dealt with directly by the school's leadership team. More details will follow.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility At Claremont, we are committed to keeping our children safe from harm. Mr Campbell, Miss Davis, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Khan, Mr Greaves & Mrs Eager have responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. If we have any concerns reported to us, we will always take action to protect a child and inform the relevant agencies where necessary..



What have we been learning this week?

Nursery and Reception have been learning about "The Ugly Five" to look at the concept of one more in maths.

Year 1 have been constructing houses to build our version of Pudding Lane as part of their history topic.

Year 2 have been writing about their own Marvellous Medicine in English.



Year 3 have been visiting a soggy Sherwood Forest this week to learn about Robin Hood.

Year 4 have been investigating temperature and the speed that ice melts - very useful at this time of year!

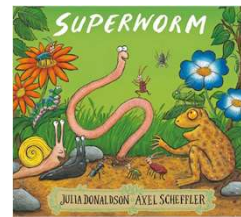


Year 5 had a spectacular start to the term with their Victorian day. They looked at work from the artist William Morris.

Year 6 have been learning about climate change and arctic environments.

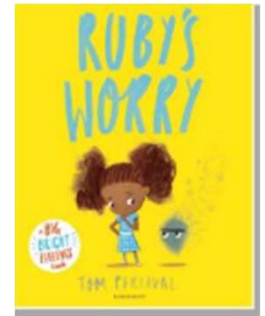
Acorns have been making kites as part of their fine motor skills development.

Recommended Reads



Superworm by Julia Donaldson. A super hero worm helps all of the animals in the garden.

Ruby's Worry by Tom Percival - Ruby loves being Ruby. Until, one day, she finds a worry that gets bigger and bigger.



Charlotte's Web by EB White - On foggy mornings, Charlotte's web is a thing of beauty.....



PTFA - Lost property and donations

After a really successful and enjoyable Christmas Fayre, our PTFA are looking forward to welcoming you all back into our community. Please don't forget our regular Wednesday morning coffee mornings. This term, we are focusing on our lost property and uniform. There is a lot of lost property without names. We will keep it for a short while before recycling it. Please come and speak to us if you want to find a lost item, or better still, make sure it is marked clearly with your child's name. We are also looking for donations of clean socks and underwear to help any of our children who have an accident in school and need changing. Please bring them to the office marked for the attention of the PTFA. Thank you.

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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine a week before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school: whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently: so, it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education easier possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Passionate about empowering adults who spend time with and care for young people, Becky specialises in creating practical strategies that promote wellbeing and resilience in children during life's transitions.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: