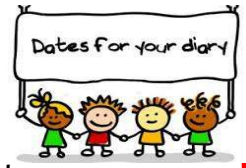




CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 27th JUNE 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now half way through this extremely long term. The sun has been shining and the weather has been hot – sometimes too hot! Please can you ensure that your child has a sun hat (with their name clearly marked) and that you apply sun cream on the days when the sun is predicted to be at its most fierce!

Thank you.

Lessons continue at a pace and we have completed all of our end of year assessments. I am really pleased with the focus and effort shown by the children and it is a great credit to them. There has been some real progress from our Phonics in Early Years and Key Stage 1 to our writing in Year 6. Well done everyone. It is no coincidence that this is linked to our improving attendance – the more the children come to school, the more they learn! Well done again and we need to keep this up for the next 4 weeks.

We have our summer fayre coming up in a couple of weeks and we will be looking to support that as much as possible. It will be great to see you there and don't forget you will get your annual chance to throw wet sponges at me!!

Have a good weekend!

Best wishes,
Rob Campbell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

2nd -4th July – Year 3 Residential
4th – 6th July – Yr 6 Residential
8th July – Sports Day
9th July – Art Exhibition
15th July – Whole School Transition Day
17th July – Yr 6 Leavers' Performance
22nd July – Yr 1 trip to Wollaton Park
24th July – Last day in school
25th July – Teacher Training Day

Sports Day – 8th July:

We are going to have another attempt at holding our Key Stage 1 and 2 Sports Day on Carrington Field on 8th July. Years 4, 5 and 6 will take place in the morning and Years 1, 2 and 3 will have their events after lunch. Keep your eyes peeled for more information and – if our record is anything to go by – don't hang out your washing on that day!!

Windrush Day Assemblies:

We held some assemblies on Monday to mark Windrush Day. We learned all about the families that came to England from the Caribbean in 1948 full of hope and expectation, only to find things here very different from what they expected. We talked about prejudice and how we have a welcoming and inclusive school. Truly "All are welcome here." Finally, I shared Floella Benjamin's account of "Coming to England" with Reception and Key Stage 1. We took some time to reflect how lucky we are to be in a school community where respect is not only important but drives everything that we do.

Every Day Counts



Attendance:

Our attendance target is 96%

Last term's attendance was: 94.4%

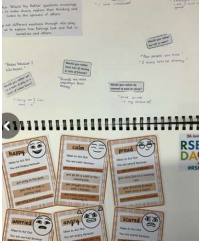
Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. At Claremont, we are committed to keeping our children safe from harm. Mr Campbell, Miss Davis, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Khan, Mr Greaves & Mrs Eager have responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. If we have any concerns reported to us, we will always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



What have we been learning this week?

Nursery have been investigating their own history, looking at baby photos of themselves and each other.

Reception have been learning about their feelings during the RSE Day



Year 1 have been making sculptures using clay in the style of the artist Barbara Hepworth

Year 2 have been learning to communicate clearly during RSE Day by playing a game of whispers!



Year 3 have been writing letters to children in an Italian school to find out about their lives in Italy.

Year 4 have been reading with their buddies in Year 1 – it is great to see our older children supporting the younger ones!

Year 5 have been learning about basketball with our super coach – Jimmy Jumpshot!

Year 6 continue to rehearse hard as well as learning key messages about relationships on RSE Day.

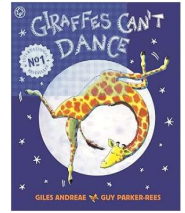
Acorns have been learning gymnastics skills with our friends from the gymnastics club.



Recommended Reads

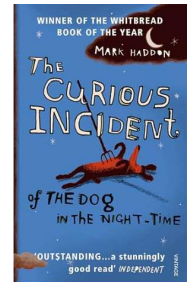
Giraffes can't dance by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees

The tall giraffe wants to join the dance but giraffe's can't dance – can they?



Coming to England by Floella Benjamin A true story of a girl's journey to England in search of a new life

The Curious incident of the dog in the night time by Mark Haddon
This is a murder mystery like no other.....



School Uniform.

As we come to end of the year, school uniform is probably the last thing on your mind. It is a really important part of what we do here, as it gives us an identity and a feeling of belonging! As we start thinking about next year, we are proposing to organise a swap shop where people can come and swap some of their current uniform for bigger sizes. I'm not sure exactly how it works yet, but we will be helped by our wonderful PTA.

Please also remember that PE kit is an important part of our uniform too – black bottoms and white tops (although we will be adding red tops to our options next year).

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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13-16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lawri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College