



CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, we have come to the end of this half term and it has certainly been a busy one. Thank you to everyone who has completed our parental survey – your views and feedback really help us to shape the future of the school. It has been wonderful to see how smart our children look in their uniforms and how amazing they look when they get a crazy socks day as part of the rewards system. Coming to school remains our highest priority. If the children are absent, they miss out on sequences of learning, they miss out on consolidating friendships and they miss out on the key interactions that will enable them to have a strong and hopeful future. Please help us help them by sending the children into school every day that you possibly can (even if they have a little snuffle...). I would like to thank our PTFA for all of their support this term. Now that they are finally constituted, there is the potential to help the school in so many more ways. Mrs Bilson and Ms Hartley are really driving the group forwards. See either of them if you are interested in joining. Finally have a safe and peaceful half term and I look forward to seeing you all again on 2nd November for the start of the second term.

REMEMBER every session at school counts!

Best wishes,
Rob Campbell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

November

2nd – First day back at school

11th – Parents' attendance workshop

19th – Individual Photos

December

8th – KS1 Panto visit

15th/16th Nativity Performances

18th – Celebration Assembly and last day of term

Behaviour, relationships and expectations

Alongside attendance, behaviour and relationships are a real focus for our efforts this year. I have talked previously about our OPAL initiative and the revamp for lunchtime provision – this is a long process and will happen over the next 2 years or so. In addition to this, I am revising our relationships and behaviour policy, building on the work previously done. I maintain that the key to positive behaviour choices is explicit teaching of the skills required, an understanding of the needs of the children and being able to celebrate the good stuff by catching the children being good. The policy will be based on relationships and understanding and will be the focus of my whole school staff development next term in the run up to Christmas. Your views count so please have your say in our survey:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/yaQ3047tbN>

Attendance:

Our attendance target is 96 %

This year's attendance so far is 94.5%. We need to work hard to keep this higher!!



Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. At Claremont, we are committed to keeping our children safe from harm. Mr Campbell, Mrs Middleton, Mrs Cutler, Mrs Cundy, Mrs Khan & 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 combining collage and paint to represent the animals from their book.

Reception have been learning about the people who help us at home and in the community.

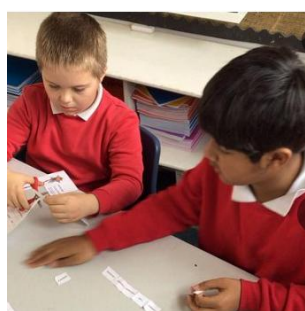
Year 1 used their D and T skills to make props for their "Coronation Day" later on this week.

Year 2 have been learning about astronauts in their "Mission to the Moon" topic.



Year 3 used charcoal to create images of Stone Age bison.

Year 4 have been discussing feelings in RHSE, thinking about how different people deal with different feelings.

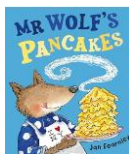


Year 5 made Cam toys to build a Chinese theatre.

Year 6 have been learning all about the first world war, drawing sketches of what they think the trenches looked like.

Acorns made necklaces and masks using pasta and their threading skills.

Recommended Reads



"Mr Wolf's Pancakes" by Jan Fearnley. Mr Wolf is making pancakes – YUM! But he doesn't know how to make them and keeps getting stuck.



"The Lost Homework" by Richard O'Neill. This new book champions the idea that many skills learned at home are as important as those learned at school.

"Jakub's Otter" by Coral Rumble In Italy, Jakub finds hope as he listens to an old, wise woodsman, who teaches him about otters, especially one injured otter called Piccolo.

Year 6 – Secondary School Choices

The time of the year has come around again where our Year 6 parents and carers need to choose which school they would like our Year 6s to go to. As usual, the deadline for applications in 31st October which is right at the end of our holidays. Applications after this date will be treated as late and all places will be allocated before looking at those ones in after the deadline. Make sure that you get the benefit of choice and complete your online application here.

<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/information-for-residents/education-and-schools/school-admissions/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/> You should choose a number of schools and remember that location and having siblings at a school does not guarantee a place.

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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

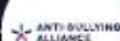
It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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