



CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this week's Newsletter. We are entering the winter festive season soon and events are coming thick and fast. We will do our best to communicate them to you so that you don't miss a thing. Please stay in touch using ClassDojo.

I would be most grateful if you could take a minute to complete our parental survey. You can find it [here](#). Your views and opinions are so important to us and help us shape the future of the school. We will also have the chance to catch up at Parents' Evening on the 9th and 11th December. As coughs and colds get more frequent this month, please remember that school attendance is of the utmost importance. If our children are not here, they are not learning and can quickly fall behind. Remember that school attendance is everyone's responsibility.

Finally, please remember to keep an eye on what your child can access on their phones and devices. There are a number of dangers that unrestricted access to the internet can pose and I would urge you all to consider applying parental controls to your children's devices.

Best wishes,
Rob Campbell
Headteacher

Attendance:

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



Dates for your diary:

5th December – Year 3 to the Butterfly House
8th December – Key Stage 1 to the Panto!
9th and 11th December – Parents' Evenings
10th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Nativity performance by EYFS
16th December – Christmas Fayre and Enterprise Fair
17th December – Christmas Dinner Day
19th December – Last Day of Autumn Term
5th January 2026 – INSET Day
6th January 2026 – Children return to school.

A Fond Farewell

Next week, we are saying a fond farewell to our beloved Sports Coach, Mr Ash who is leaving us to travel the world. Mr Ash is the kind of person who typifies what we are trying to do at Claremont. In the 6 1/2 years that IO have known him, Jordan has always put our children at the heart of everything he does. His position means that he gets to work with every child in school and he knows each and every one of them well. His kindness and generosity are matched by his skills as a sports coach and enthusiasm for his work. He will be missed by everyone here at Claremont and we all wish him every success for the future.

Junior Jam

In order to cover for Mr Ash's absence, we are welcoming the provider Junior Jam to Claremont. This is a progressive music programme that will be delivered by a music expert across Years 1 to 6. We are really excited to be working with them. PE will now be taught by class teachers.

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 working to complete jigsaws, looking for patterns and improving their fine motor skills.

Reception have been learning about kindness and celebrating diversity and trying to share a smile.

Year 1 had a visit from the Road Safety Team who taught us all how to stay safe on the roads..

Year 2 have been learning about the importance of personal hygiene and how important it is to wash our hands.



Year 3 have been getting ready to visit the Tropical Butterfly House next week, learning about the tropical environment.

Year 4 have been learning about the states of matter in science and making oobleck which is a liquid AND a solid!

Year 5 have been writing persuasive letters as part of their English topic. Ever wanted to visit China? – speak to Year 5!

Year 6 made gas mask boxes in preparation for their visit to Beaumanor Hall last week.

Acorns have been making items to sell as part of the school's Enterprise project.



Recommended Reads

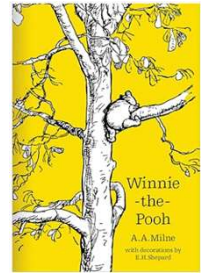
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE



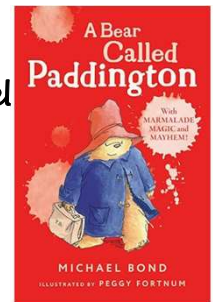
STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
When Max gets sent to bed, he travels to where the wild things are...

Winnie the Pooh by AA Milne – take a stroll through the Hundred Acre Wood with Pooh, Piglet, Tigger and co.



A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond – Marmalade sandwiches anyone?



Our community

Our community is such an important part of what we do here at Claremont. Respect and tolerance for each other is central to that. At times, things will go wrong and may even get us to feel angry. This is the time when we must remember to think clearly and act appropriately. There have been a couple of incidents on the playground after school where some parents have shouted at my staff, me and occasionally other people's children. This is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated. If there are issues that need discussing, then please contact us so that we can have a calm discussion in a less public setting. Please respect each other. Thank you in advance.

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-18-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 137 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College