

Busy Times Ahead

Friday, 16th June, 2017

Newsletter



CLARE COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

I hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break with your families. We have a very busy time ahead during the next half-term with lots of events for you to enjoy and share with your child.

During the afternoon of Wednesday, June 29th (1.30-2.45pm) we will be holding a **Humanities open-afternoon**. Each class will be running different events in which you are invited to participate or watch. Hazel Class are having a Roman Day led by an educational visitor who will involve children in a host of exciting activities (see information on p.2).

We hope this will be an opportunity for you to see and share in some of the learning you child has been taking part in this term. It would be great to see as many of you as possible. If successful, we plan to do similar events for different subjects in future terms.

Next up, I would like to thank Mr Shinn for planning and starting to organise a fun-filled programme of events for our **Sports Week** beginning on Monday, July 3rd. We want to ensure that all children are able to access a range of sports during this week in range of competitive and non-competitive formats.

For ease, during this week, it is acceptable to send your child in dressed in their PE kit, as there are daily events planned and teachers will be devising class-based sporting activities also.

Individual Pupil Reports will be going out on Friday, July 7th, and within these will be information on the staffing structure for next academic year.

There will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's report, should you wish to do so, with your child's teacher on Monday, July 10th, between 3.30 and 5.30pm.

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs. Lorna Stranger as our new Deputy Head. Mrs Stranger is an excellent addition to our teaching team; she currently teaches in Cambridgeshire and has a wealth of experience as a former Deputy and Acting Head of School. She is looking forward to joining us, and there will be an opportunity for the parents of children in her new class to meet her after school on Monday, July 10th, 3.30-4.30pm.

Many thanks for your continuing support for the school, on issues such as attendance and communication. It is so nice to have positive comments from parents— we really appreciate the thanks staff have received for running recent off-site trips.

**Rebecca Loader-
Headteacher**

School Dinners

From September, we are going to be changing the way we organise our dinner provision. You will no longer have to book a dinner for your child in advance; all we will need is the information on the day, and payment will be through Parentpay as before. If your balance does go below zero, then you will be sent a debt reminder through Parentpay (Make sure you set this up on your account) and we ask that you settle the amount promptly.

Please keep track of your Parentpay account in order to ensure that you have enough balance for the meals your child is having. We hope that the new system will be much more convenient for parents, and take away a lot of unnecessary stress after holiday periods.

Attendance



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As you know, it is in the best interests of everyone that children attend as many school days as they possibly can. We will always contact parents or carers if we suspect the child is genuinely ill or if there has been a first aid concern that we feel needs further attention.

However, sometimes there is a grey area where we need to make a judgement as to whether or not the child is well enough to be in school. In this case, we may wait a while and see if the child will play happily with their friends at breaktime or eat their lunch without a problem. In this case, they may be feeling slightly under the weather but we would make the decision that they are well enough to stay at school.

The current guidance from the DFE clearly states that children should be able to attend school if they are suffering from minor ailments such as coughs or

colds, and also, you will appreciate that we, like you, sometimes have to make a judgement call when a child says they feel unwell and actually they mean that they are a bit fed up or anxious. If you suspect that your child is feeling these emotions rather than actually being genuinely unwell, then we will always work with you to investigate the issue further and work through the root cause of the anxiety.

I am always willing to support parents or carers with long-term medical concerns, in ensuring that children can attend school but ensuring that they can access medication and the curriculum is adapted to their needs.

I am proud to say that the attendance at Clare Community Primary School continues to be above the national average, and I know that with transparency and collaboration between the school and your-

selfes, it will continue to reflect our joint commitment to delivering an excellent education to our children.



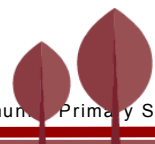
PTFA^{Many}

thanks for the PFTA for financing the coach travel for several school trips this half-term, paying for some key events and also gifts for our departing Year 6's. In addition to this they have also given £150 to continue to enhance our outside surroundings with plants and shrubs. We are so grateful for all their fundraising (supported by the rest of our lovely parents)

Gardening Club



You may have noticed the colourful pots of plants and new shrubs that are appearing round the sides of the school. Huge thanks to **Plants That Grow** just outside Great Yeldham for supporting their local community and giving us a generous discount– it is much appreciated!



A Midsummer Night's Dream

Wow! What a fantastic time was had by Years 4, 5 and 6 on Monday when they were entertained by the Blue Sky Theatre Company who not only organized an impromptu performance, but also analysed speeches and led Breakout Workshops in the afternoon for Years 5 and 6.

It was lovely to see the children confidently improvising

characters, giving questions and answers, howling with laughter and generally having a really great time becoming acquainted with a playwright whom they will encounter again and again throughout their school careers and beyond.

The feedback from children and staff was overwhelming: 'They loved it!' 'I had a

great time acting one of the characters.' ... 'It was really funny!'

For most children, it was the first time they had encountered Shakespeare, and I am really gladdened that they ended the day with such a favourable impression of the Bard— we will make sure that this is a repeating event in the calendar

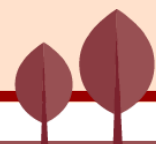


HAZEL CLASS ROMAN DAY

Hazel Class are going to have a Roman Day on Thursday, 29th June. Children are invited to dress up for the day. The day will be led by an educational visitor who is going to involve the children in a host of exciting activities filled with learning about the Ancient Romans in a fun and interactive way.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to the PTFA for contributing the majority of the money towards the payment for this day; some cake sale money is going towards it too which means that no contribution from parents or carers is necessary.

Please join us as part of the whole School's Humanities afternoon— you can even dress up if you like!! It is going to be great fun!



Please Support Our Appeal....



Clare Baptist Church
"To follow and worship Jesus
and make Him known"

**CARE 4
CALAIS**

Clare Baptist Church with Care For Calais Hygiene Packs for Refugee Children

Please donate any or all of:

Bottles of shampoo (up to 300ml)

Bars of soap and soap dishes

Children's toothpaste (75ml tubes)

Children's toothbrushes

Dark coloured flannels

We are also collecting adult packs - more information is available in the church.

The church will be making up individual hygiene packs to be handed out to refugees in the Calais area.

This will be our third trip to France to support the refugees.

For more information, please contact Rev Paul Graham on 01787 277864

We're in the News!

We are very proud of our Year 4 writers, some of whom have appeared in the Suffolk Free Press. Led by Mr Bareham, the class took part in a newspaper competition, and we were delighted to hear that Rose Broomhall had won! Take a look on our noticeboard for the full article or follow copy this link into your browser:

<http://www.suffolkfreepress.co.uk/news/clare-school-pupils-rise-to-suffolk-free-press-news-challenge-1-7997616>

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We are going to collecting old school shoes to send to the charity, `Sal's Shoes`, at the end of term. I will include more information in the next newsletter. Please don't send any shoes in now but wait for the next newsletter for more information...



Dates for your Diary

Thursday, June 22nd: Freshwater Theatre Company to visit Acorn, Beech, Cedar and Elm classes

Friday, June 23rd– Music Concert—**9.15 am (Parents of performers, please feel free to attend– you should have ben contacted separately)**

Thursday, June 29th– Humanities Open Afternoon 1.30-3pm

Monday, July 3rd– Friday, July 6th– SPORTS WEEK (see separate communication)

Thursday, July 6th– Sports Morning followed by PFTA Summer Fair

Friday, July 7th– Reports Out

Monday, July 10th– Parents' Consultation Evening 3.30-5.30pm

Tuesday, 11th July– Transition Day for all Year Groups

Monday, Tuesday, 17th, 18th July– Year 6 performances

