



CLARE COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Baa-rillicant Fortnight!

Newsletter



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I can't believe that two whole weeks have gone since I wrote the last newsletter. Time has flown and we are well into the swing of the summer term with lots of exciting activities happening throughout the school.

On an extra-curricular front, I am delighted that a parent, Giles Bryant, is giving up his Tuesday lunchtimes to run a Gardening Club with our children. Each week he will work with a different year group to maintain, replenish and develop our fantastic green space. It is thanks to Mr Bryant that we already have some lovely fruit trees and colourful planters. This week the Year 6s enjoyed planting potatoes and have been challenged with publicising our compost makers!!

In just a few weeks, we have been particularly active sports-wise with

teams competing in football and netball tournaments and more events planned for the next two weeks with local schools. See page 4 for Mr Bareham's report...

Another lovely thing that happened this week was our visit from some lambs, brought in by another parent, Portia Brown. Every class in the school was taken out to admire and pet our visitors and it was amazing to see the children's (and adults') reactions. We had some great questions about where things like milk come from, with some interesting misconceptions being put to rights! Visits like these really enrich our curriculum and I am so grateful to parents for being keen and willing to offer their services.

All these things underpin our core values which are being expounded each week during assemblies and PSHE. Last week we thought about Citizenship and Community, and this

week we have touched on Learning to Learn. In the next three weeks before half-term, we will be delving into Aiming High, Respecting Ourselves and Others and Enthusiasm for Learning.

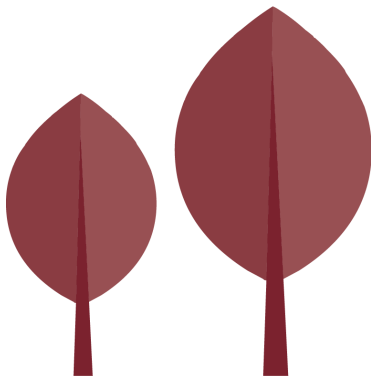
I have introduced Headteacher's certificates along with the Gold Certificates which are written in the Gold Book each week for academic or personal achievements, and of course the Kindness Book, run by the School Council. The Headteacher's Certificates will be given out to children who I feel have embodied one of our core values. The certificates will be displayed in the front entrance along with the Gold Book, so do stop for a look as you go past.

Rebecca Loader-Headteacher

Next week is of course SATS week for our Year 6's...

They have worked incredibly hard for the last few weeks in particular, revising tricky concepts and going over past papers. We feel that they are as ready as they can be for the actual tests and we know that they will do their best. Having their breakfast in school before the SATs should introduce a lighter note, and Miss Illingworth is going to do a mock run-through today so that the procedure on Monday is stress-free and everyone knows what to expect. Try and get some relatively early nights over the weekend, Year 6, and take it easy, so that you are nice and fresh for Monday morning!

You will know that the writing assessment is collected from writing done by the children up until the middle to end of June, so the focus doesn't end after these tests, but this writing is very much part of Oak class's normal lesson pattern and we are confident that it will be taken in their stride.



'Housekeeping'

Thank you so much for your support over the new playground arrangements. A lot of parents have commented personally to me how they feel that their children have responded well to a more structured beginning to the day and we certainly feel that everyone is benefiting from an orderly and calm start to the morning.

The number of children who are late to school seems to be reducing and I thank you for your efforts to get your children on the playground by 8.45. It is my aim to completely eradicate lateness and I will be speaking to the children to encourage them all to think about how they get ready for school in the morning, and how it is their responsibility to make sure that they are organized and well behaved for you when you are trying to get them to school on time. Believe me, I know this tricky time of day only too well myself! Obviously

there might be the rare occasion where things fall apart, but that should be unusual rather than a weekly occurrence.

Linked to this, we will not be allowing children to phone home if they have forgotten book bags or homework. I'm sure you will agree that part of getting older is accepting responsibility for our own mistakes, and delivering forgotten items to individual classes can take up a lot of valuable time for our hardworking office staff first thing in the morning.

Likewise, attendance is monitored very carefully by myself and Mrs Wiffen on a weekly basis, and I would encourage you to send children into school if you have the slightest doubt about whether they should be off or not. If we think a child is genuinely ill, we

will always send them home.

Thank you for your patience with our technological issues last week– we are now fully resourced and working at full capacity. The vast majority of parents are using Parentpay effectively and this saves the office staff a lot of time in the morning chasing up payments and dinner choices. Please remember to book your child's meals a week in advance because we are not able to book meals on the day as exact numbers are catered for with only a very small margin for error. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



PFTA

The PFTA would like to invite you to a meeting next week which will take place in the school Music Room at 2pm on Wednesday, 10th May. I will be there and it would be brilliant to see as many parents as possible. I know, from other schools, what a great fundraising force and positive influence this association can be, and it would be lovely to see some new faces becoming involved. Even if you cannot attend this meeting, please get in contact with Nikki Terri on if you would



UNIFORM

It might actually be getting a bit warmer in the next few weeks— you never know! If this is the case, please make sure that children come with a sunhat for breaktimes and lunchtimes and a bottle of water to keep them hydrated. If you feel that they need to apply sunscreen, then please do this before

they come to school as we cannot administer this ourselves.

I have noticed that a few children are not wearing school sweatshirts or cardigans. Please help us to stay smart and part of a team, by sending your child in with the correct uniform. The children are used to our

expectations and they don't like standing out by being dressed incorrectly.



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday, May 9th– Year 2 and Year 6 at Clare Country Park pm

Thursday, May 11th– Year 5 at Clare Country Park pm; 2.45pm Acorn Class Assembly

Thursday, May 18th– Oak Class Assembly 2.45pm

Thursday, May 25th– Larch Class Assembly 2.45pm

Monday, May 29th-Friday, June 1st– Halfterm Break

Tuesday, June 6th– Year 6 Trip to Houses of Parliament

Thursday, June 8th– Hazel Class Assembly 2.45pm

Thursday, June 15th– Year 3 Class Assembly 2.45pm

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

Monday, July 3rd– Friday, July 6th– SPORTS WEEK

Thursday, July 6th– Sports Afternoon

Friday, July 7th– Reports Out

Monday, July 10th– Parents' Consultation Evening 3-5pm/5-6pm

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

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

See overleaf for more information on future





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Year 5/6 Netball Competition – Castle Manor Academy – 27/04/17

Year 5/6 Netball team showed great spirit and teamwork at a recent competition at Castle Manor Academy. Losing the first game 3-1 to a well organised Place Farm, Clare bounced back with two victories against Hundon and Kedington, losing a tough final game to New Cangle.

Overall Clare Primary narrowly missed out on second place due to goal difference, finishing third overall. The team showed excellent sportsmanship throughout as well as demonstrating great skill and technique.

Netball practice is held by Mr Bareham on Tuesdays 3-4 up until half term, it's not too late to join!

www.clare.primary.net



***Dates for Year 6 parents regarding transition to secondary school will be communicated separately**

****The new term dates for next year can be found on our school website, and we have chosen to adopt the same teacher training days as Stour Valley Community school to reflect our partnership with them.**

Lastly, it was lovely to meet such a welcoming and friendly bunch of parents last week at the Celebration Assembly. Many thanks for your warm wishes. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the class assemblies which had an impressive start from Beech Class this week. Just to remind you that the outside gate will be opened at 2.35pm ready for the assembly to begin at 2.45pm.

