



CLARE COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tuesday, December 14th,
2022

Newsletter



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PRIMARY SCHOOL

Time to Say Goodbye!

I can't believe that the end of term is only a few days away, and also that I have come to the end of my time as Headteacher of Clare Community Primary School, and what an amazing time it has been.

I have had such a fulfilling and happy 4 and 3/4 years at Clare. Some of the things I am most proud of are the far-reaching and engaging curriculum and extra-curricular activities we have developed, the wraparound care that has been built up, raising the money for the Gazebo, establishing the Governing Body, receiving the 'Good' OFSTED in February 2020, setting up the Nurture room which supports all our children so inclusively but, most of all, I am proud of the relationships I have developed with the families using our school, my staff team and our incredibly supportive Governing body. This is what inspires me and has helped me to keep going even when there have been obstacles in our path.

There are almost too many highlights to mention: our school appearing on 'Look East', not once, but twice; the inventive and specular Mantle of the Expert projects that have taken place throughout the school, maintaining our high standards of educational provision for all

children throughout the lockdowns, the first Art Exhibition we held, the school plays, and particularly the two pantomimes in which the Drama club performed; the events in the local community, especially those using Clare Country Park; the weekly Celebration Assemblies with their array of certificates and most of all the warm and supportive atmosphere that is evident in every corner of school.

Every school is so much more than just the sum of its parts. What makes this school special is the sense of community throughout and the sense that we are there for the whole child—their wellbeing and that of their family is of paramount importance. For us, and for me, the very least a school can do is to teach a child the skills of reading, writing and arithmetic.

I have been incredibly lucky to have my first headship in such a school and realise my personal aspiration of trying to create what sometimes has seemed like our own special oasis during a time where sometimes the outside world has seemed very bleak and increasingly divided.

Although, I will miss our fantastic pupils and staff so very much, I also feel that we have arrived at a point where it is relatively easy to hand on the reins to Mrs.

Stranger— there are robust and aspirational systems in place to support and encourage your children make the best academic progress they can and make an excellent start on the educational ladder. I know that Mrs Stranger and her team are more than capable of continuing the journey I began in April, 2017, and I am looking forward to hearing of their successes along the way.

Thank you to you all for your support of me, personally, during these past five or so years, through the good times and the not so good! I have learnt so much during this process and I will be able to use much of this in my new school also.

It is time to say good bye to you all as the headteacher of Clare, but I will see many of you around Clare still, and of course I still remain a parent at the school for two more terms.

For the last time...

Warmest wishes to you and your families and enjoy a truly magical Christmas and start to 2022.

Rebecca Loader
Headteacher



School Council Messages

Chocolate Tombola

Last week, the school council organized a chocolate tombola. We received over 300 chocolate supplies from your kind donations and we would like to thank you very much. The school council then took their time to label up the chocolates and made an amazing display.

It was a huge success; we have raised over £255.23 I think everyone enjoyed taking part in the chocolate tombola as they had a smile on their face.

I think that a chocolate tombola was a very good idea because everyone loves chocolate (sort of.)

We raised a lot more money than we expected and were glad the chocolate tombola was a massive success.

We are glad that so many people took part in our chocolate tombola as well as everyone enjoying it.

We would also like to say a huge thankyou to Ivy who helped out with it all.

Teddy Tombola

This term we have raised £200.97 for Children in need and playground equipment. Lots of children participated in this event and we are very proud of every child that has brought in money to help our school and charity. We are happy to take in any ideas to raise money for better things around our school. If you do have any ideas, please tell Mrs. Stranger. School council has voted to do a new charity every term and as this term was CHILDREN IN NEED day we decided to do children in need as our charity. Next term we have decided to do an animal charity to raise money for.

ATTENDANCE

As you will appreciate, with the advent of Covid-19, attendance has become a logistical nightmare for schools, and indeed parents as we try to navigate various restrictions and guidance from various government departments.

As we go forward into the new year, we would like to clarify some of our own school expectations regarding holidays during term-time and daily attendance.

Holiday requests

Family holidays **will not be authorised** during term-time. If you are taking your children out of school for this purpose, the time off will be marked as unauthorised, and you could receive a Penalty Notice. Please see the Attendance Policy, which is on our website, for further details.

Daily Attendance

Up to this point, we have urged parents to keep their children from school if they are even slightly ill, and we thank you for your support with this. Moving forwards, we would ask parents to use their discretion in deciding if their child is fit to attend school or not, obviously still following government advice on the procedures to follow if you suspect your child's symptoms could be Covid-19.

Although children are not officially late until after 8.50am when the gates are locked, please could you ensure that children are lining up with their classes at 8.45am on the playground, so that they can enter the school together and be fully part of the morning routine. It is disturbing for both the child and the class if they get into a pattern of always entering slightly later than everyone else.

Attendance Procedures

Parents are asked to contact school before 9.00am to notify us of a child's absence.

Authorised absence, e.g. illness or medical appointments, must be supported by a phone call, email or letter from parents explaining the reason for the absence.

Where parents fail to make contact providing a reason for absence, the School Attendance Officer will endeavour to contact them. If contact is not made by 12pm, the police will be contacted, in line with our safeguarding policy.

LOST PROPERTY

Please pick up any lost property from the box outside the front office by the close of school on Friday. Any remaining items will be permanently disposed of after this date.

KS2 CAROL CONCERT IN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

A reminder that this event starts at 2pm on Thursday, 16th December.

This event is for KS2 only. As stated yesterday in the Bulletin, we have decided to hold an in-house event at school for KS1/EYFS as we have had so much excitement in the last week. We are sorry that parents are not invited on this occasion.



Clare Baptist Church

Wrap up warm, bring a lantern and
join us for..

Carol Singing

Date: Friday 17th December

Time: 18:00-20:00

Location: Market Square

Clare

*The singers will have collection buckets in aid of
the church refugee camp trips*

