

Clovenfords Primary School

Kindness Respect Honesty

Weekly Update – Friday 8th March 2024



Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

There was a lovely buzz in school yesterday as we celebrated **World Book Day** which started with our Big Booky Breakfast. It was a great turnout with lots of families attending with their children and a good book! We very much enjoyed welcoming everyone who was able to make it into school. The children really enjoyed looking at all the photos of the bedtime reading that have been sent in so far.



If you were unable to come to the breakfast event yesterday, we hope to see you at our **Café Conversations Open Afternoon** on Monday 11th March. This was a very popular and successful event last year whereby we turned our gym hall into a café with cosy spaces for families to spend time together sharing in their child's learning. Full details for this are below.

We also have the latest in our **Parent Handbook Bitesize** section for you to keep up to speed with all the essential info you need as a family to support your child in school.

Our **Pupil Progress Consultations** online booking system is now open for you to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. This consultation will focus on learning, progress and attainment.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary

Monday 11th March	Open Afternoon Café Conversations – from 1.30pm – see below
Wednesday 20th March	Pupil Progress Consultations - 5.00pm-7.00pm
Thursday 21st March	P6/7 Class Assembly – 1.30pm – all P6/7 parents welcome
Thursday 21st March	Pupil Progress Consultations - 4.00pm-6.00pm
Friday 29th March	Good Friday - Easter Holidays begin
Monday 15th April	All resume
Tuesday 16th April	P7 Parents Residential Information Evening - 6.00pm
Monday 22nd April	YID Class Photos

Open Afternoon – Café Conversations

We are looking forward to welcoming you into school on **Monday 11th March** to share in your child's learning. This will take place in the gym hall in the style of a 'café' with comfy seating and tea and coffee being served.

We hope that this relaxed environment will encourage meaningful conversations between you and your child about their learning and allow you time and space to explore their learning together. If you have more than one child in school, they will come to their café conversations session together.

To support numbers, space and shared iPads there will be two sessions. Please come at the time below according to your child(ren)'s house:

1.30pm-2.15pm – Caddon and Fairnilee*

2.15pm – 3.00pm – Peel and Meigle*

If you are not sure which house your child is in, please contact the school office in the first instance.

***For parents who have children in ELC we would ask that you come at 2.15pm, regardless of which house any older sibling is in.**

Children in P4-P7 will bring their iPad so you can look through their online profile and achievements together. If you have a child in ELC-P3 you can bring a personal mobile device – your phone will work best – to access your child's online profile. There are also a number of shared iPads that our P7 leaders can support you and your child with to access their portfolio. Alternatively, older siblings who have their own iPad can sign out and access sibling ELC-P3 profiles during your time together. Your child will bring their QR code to log into their profile. Children may also bring jotters and other learning they would like to share with you.

Our P7 leaders will be supporting across the afternoon outwith their own family slots. Their duties will include:

- Welcoming you into the hall, then collecting and returning your child from their classroom.
- Supporting ELC-P3 with shared iPads to log in and out of online profile using children's personal QR codes.
- Helping to serve refreshments.

All parents, ELC-P7 are asked to arrive at the main school entrance at their allotted time.

As part of the afternoon, we would like to invite you to comment on your child's learning and a feedback form will be provided for you to do this on the day.

Wider Achievements

Anna joined in rugby training recently with the Borders Clan. THE CLAN unified rugby was set up so that players with physical and learning disabilities can play alongside able bodied players (enablers). Anna's dad volunteers with the Clan as an enabler. Anna joined in training in Peebles and got a try (and muddy!!) Great effort Anna!



Also achieving outside of school are Brownies, Eva and Charlotte who have been working towards their Take Action badge. This week they made poo bag dispensers and placed them around the village. A fantastic example of responsible citizenship.

Parent Handbook Bitesize

Here is the next instalment of our Parent Handbook in chronological order as it appears in the handbook, this week focusing on Communication:

Communication

Absence Procedures

If your child is absent from school through ill health, please contact the school between 8.30am - 9.00 am to inform the office and to give an idea of how long your child may be absent. If no contact has been made from home, then the office staff will either send a text message by Groupcall or will telephone to find out the reason for the absence. Requests for absences such as medical appointments should be emailed/phoned to the school office.

If a child has to leave early, for safety reasons it is essential they are collected from the school office by the parent/carer. Children will not be permitted to leave school during school hours without a known adult to accompany them.

Holidays should not be taken during term time, unless in exceptional circumstances. If you do need to request a holiday during term time, please email or write to the Headteacher in advance, giving dates of absence. Family holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances, will be marked as an unauthorised absence on the register.

Communication with Parents

The headteacher's Weekly Update is emailed every Friday to all parents and families in the school community.

The Update covers aspects of the life of the school and gives information about events and activities. These updates are emailed using Groupcall - please ensure you have given the school office your most up to date email address in order to receive a copy. You can also find our Weekly Updates on our school website.

Letters are issued for specific reasons such as a class outing. Parents will be asked to return permission slips for outings and sports activities. Please note that if permission slips and other relevant forms are not returned by the date required and we do not have written permission from parents, then for health and safety reasons, children may not be able to take part in an outing.

Each class also has a communication group on Showbie which allows you to see instant up to date news about events /information pertinent to your child's class. You will also be able to access regular updates and information on learning that is taking place each week via your child's online learning portfolio on Showbie. When your child enrolls, an online portfolio will be created for them and you will be sent the relevant information to join their class communication group.

We have a school Twitter (X) account which is linked to our website. You will find snapshots of learning activities happening in school across the week as well as useful school and community information for families. Our Twitter handle is: **@Clovenfords_ps**

Concerns or Complaints

We aim to ensure your child is safe, happy and has regular opportunities to experience success and achievements as well as having a consistent level of pride in their learning. If you are unhappy

about any aspect of your child's education, it is important that you contact the school as soon as possible.

If something goes wrong, or you are dissatisfied with our services, please tell us and we will do our best to put things right. We deal with all complaints in accordance with the Scottish Borders Council complaints handling procedure. This can be found on the council's website:

www.scotborders.gov.uk

If you do want to make a complaint, you can do it either in person, by phone, in writing or by email. You can do this through your child's teacher/practitioner or a senior member of staff (the Headteacher, Principal Teacher or Early Years Officer) or indeed any member of staff. You can also make a complaint via the complaints form on the council website, (see above).

If we are unable to resolve your complaint, or if you believe your complaint requires formal investigation, you may make a complaint directly to the Education and Lifelong Learning Department at Scottish Borders Council. Again, this may be done in a variety of ways:

- In person at Scottish Borders Council customer services office
- By phoning Customer Advice and Support Service on 0300 100 1800
- By email: PeopleComplaint@scotborders.gov.uk
- In writing
- To your local councillor
- Via the complaints form on the council website: www.scotborders.gov.uk

Emergency School Closure

In the case of an emergency closure such as adverse weather conditions or a heating or power failure in the school, parents will be advised by text message to a mobile phone via our GroupCall system. It is therefore essential that we have up to date mobile numbers for all parent contacts for such situations. Messages will normally also be announced on Radio Borders and information put on the school website and on our Twitter feed.

For children travelling on school transport the bus company may decide that transport times will be changed to earlier in the day if there is worsening weather conditions. In this event, the school will contact those parents by text message or email (GroupCall) to clarify if the child should leave early on the school transport or wait to be collected in school. The school will ensure that the child gets on school transport **only if it has been confirmed** that there is someone at home to meet them.

Clovenfords Parent Handbook pages 12-13

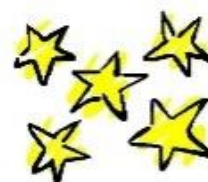
World Book Day Assembly

It was a booky assembly this week with lots of emphasis on reading for pleasure and sharing videos and photos of the children engaging in our Big Booky Bed and Breakfast event. We hope the children enjoy spending their World Book Day token which has been sent home with them today.

Congratulations to the following Star Achievers for continuing to show our school values and aims in action, as well as use their learning powers to continue to progress in their learning:



ELC	Molly
P1/2	Amber
P2/3	Struan
P3/4	Brodan
P5/6	Finn
P6/7	Zac





The biscuits were as popular as always and the children are looking forward to baking next week.



School's Out Clovenfords

A reminder you can contact School's Out at: admin@schoolsoutclovenfords



Clothingfords

Clothingfords is available for you to come and browse across the school day as well as during after school and evening events. Please do not be shy about coming in to use this great facility! There is a great mixture of good quality, used items. Please pop along when you can to use this great facility.

WANTED!

We are still keen to receive children's wellies that no longer fit and are in good condition. Thank you for the donations so far – keep them coming!

Communication

If your child will not be in school, it is important that you inform the school office by 9.00am. You can report absence by phone or email.

School office phone number: 01896 662755

School office email: clovenfordsps@scotborders.gov.uk

School Twitter (X) : @Clovenfords_ps

School website: [Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](http://Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty (glowscotland.org.uk))