

# Clovenfords Primary School

**Kindness Respect Honesty**

Weekly Update – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024



## Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

We have had a positive week as we start back after the February half term. Staff came together on our In Service day on Monday where there was a key focus on our writing curriculum, as well as time to engage with our Respectful Relationships Policy.

The children returned on Tuesday and we were happy to welcome them back. We had an energetic Citizenship Gathering on Wednesday where the children voted with their feet as they continued to learn about diversity and our school vision statement – particularly the first part '*I am unique*'.

World Thinking Day on Thursday saw pupils arrive in school with their Brownie, Scout, Guide etc; uniforms on and we looked at this year's theme of Our World, Our Thriving Future. Sustainability, and the children's growing understanding of how they can be effective contributors and responsible citizens were key themes of this learning.

There is lots for you to read below and keep up to date with, including our plans for World Book Day, the latest in our Parent Handbook Bitesize section as well as feedback from your engagement with our recent Health and Wellbeing survey that so many of you took the time to fill in. Thank you for doing this and supporting the work of our school which helps to inform curriculum improvements that benefit all the children.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

*Mrs Saxon*

## Dates for the Diary

<b>Monday – 4<sup>th</sup> March - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Big Booky Bed Event – take your child's photo and email it to us – see below
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day Big Booky Breakfast – see times below
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Building Resilience Family Learning Task due – Have A Goal
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Open Afternoon Café Conversations – 1.30pm
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Pupil Progress Consultations - 5.00pm-7.00pm
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	P6/7 Class Assembly – 1.30pm – all P6/7 parents welcome
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Pupil Progress Consultations - 4.00pm-6.00pm
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Easter Holidays begin
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	All resume
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	P7 Parents Residential Information Evening - 6.00pm
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	YID Class Photos

## World Book Day – Big Booky Bed and Breakfast

This year to celebrate World Book Day, and all that is wonderful about reading for pleasure, we are hosting a **Big Booky Bed and Breakfast**. Here's what we are planning – we hope you will join in...

Between **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March** (or prior to this if you wish) we are asking all children to have a photo taken of them reading, either before bedtime or when they are snuggled up in bed and email it into us – or bring it in on their iPad - so we can create a **Big Booky Bedtime** reading display. Please, please take a minute to send us a photo of your child reading at home.

On **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** we are hosting a **Big Booky Breakfast** session where school will open between **8.00 am – 8.40 am** for all children to bring an adult in – with a book! – to enjoy breakfast together and time to read before school. We appreciate that you may have other commitments but would ask that you complete the short form

below to indicate your attendance, together with your preference of breakfast items so that we can cater accordingly. Thank you in advance. This form can also be found on your child's Class Communication Group.

<https://forms.office.com/e/JMfFDtRnH9>



**Please note, as this is an optional family learning event, if you are unable to attend, please do not send your child to school early.** There are other World Book Day events planned that all children will be taking part in. As in previous years, the children are required to come into school on this day in their school uniform as normal as we are mindful of the cost of world book day costumes and the extra pressures that acquiring or making a costume can present for families.

### Health and Wellbeing Parental Engagement

As was shared with you last week, following the Health and Wellbeing survey, almost all of you knew about the following programmes/resources for learning that the school use to promote H&WB:

- Daily soft starts
- Nurture groups
- Children's entitlement to two hours of physical education

Wellbeing Wednesdays is one of our other offers for the children that you knew less about so here is some more information on this:

**Wellbeing Wednesday** occurs each week during the lunchtime break, from 12.15pm-1.00pm, whereby we open up the Play Hub (the blue classroom) for any child who wishes, to come and play. They do not need to have a reason to come, it is simply to offer them a change of space and environment to play, to engage with different peers and to have other ways to develop their social and emotional skills and language such as turn taking, sharing, exploring, problem solving, getting creative etc.

This time is always supervised by an adult. Currently Miss Jeffrey, Mrs Crawshaw and Mrs Saxon support this weekly play opportunity on a rotational basis.

### Wider Achievements



Some fantastic wider achievements to celebrate this week:

Well done **Max** who received a trophy for attending the most pony club events on his pony, Ruby.

Good effort and perseverance from **Cooper** who has climbed the Eildons.

**Penelope** is so proud of herself for learning to ride her bike. Super job Penelope!

Fergus has been hands on with his first ewe hogg – 'Georgia' who he successfully lambed a few days ago.

### **Parent Handbook Bitesize**

Here is the next instalment of our Parent Handbook in chronological order as it appears in the handbook, this week continuing with Practical Information and Health, Safety and Security:

#### *Practical information*

##### **Outdoor Play**

We have large playground areas outside for the children to enjoy during their break times and school staff are on duty to supervise. We expect the children to follow our school values at all times during the school day and this includes at break times.

Please do not send your child to school with toys or other personal items from home as these can get lost or broken. Staff will not be responsible for any personal items that get broken or lost during the school day.

##### **Mobile Phones**

Personal mobile phones can compromise the safeguarding and security of other children and/or adults and are therefore a security risk. If your child comes to school with a mobile phone or smartwatch, they will be required to hand it to their teacher at the start of the school day. Their phone/watch will be returned to them at the end of the day. The school may contact you to discuss this further if necessary.

##### **Wet Weather Arrangements**

During extreme weather, children will have their break inside school, normally in their own classrooms. They will have access to suitable games, TV programmes or educational videos. If at any time during breaks the weather improves the children will get the opportunity to go outside for fresh air.

##### **School Transport**

Scottish Borders Council (SBC) organises school buses/transport for children who require this. Please contact Scottish Borders Council Transport Department for further information.

#### *Health, Safety and Security*

##### **School Security**

The safety and security of pupils and staff when attending or working in the school is extremely important to us. We have a CCTV system in place to monitor security around the school building outwith school hours.

For the security and safety of all pupils, all doors around the school are locked during the school day. Parents and visitors wishing to speak with individual members of staff should go to the school office at the main school entrance to make an appointment.

We would ask that all parents assist us in ensuring the security of the building and those inside by not entering the building at any time through the pupil entrances, but rather from the main school entrance. This may feel a little inconvenient at times and in contrast to our 'open door' policy however it is a small price to pay for the knowledge that we are doing all we can to ensure children's safety.

If you come to school, we have a buzzer entry system to alert staff to your presence at the door. You will be buzzed in, and, if accessing the main school areas you may be required to sign in. Parents and visitors wishing to speak with individual members of staff should go to the school office at the main school entrance and make an appointment.

All visitors to school will be asked to sign in and wear an identification badge whilst in the school. To ensure pupil safety, Additional Needs Assistants and other staff may approach and question an unknown adult in the playground.

Please note that there may be times when you arrive at the school main entrance and find that the office is not staffed. This may be due to lunch breaks or staff being elsewhere in the building for a short period of time. Please do not attract the attention of passing pupils and signal to them to open the door for you. The children know that they must not do this - even if they know who you are. Please be patient as a member of staff will attend to your arrival at their earliest convenience.

To support you with this our office hours are:

Monday to Thursday - 8.30am - 12.30pm, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Friday - 8.30am - 12.30pm

### **Medical Care**

If your child uses an inhaler or needs to take medication regularly in school, please discuss this with the school office staff, who will issue you with a medication form to enable staff to administer medication, which must have a name dispensing label for the child. The form will detail the procedure for use of such medication within school time. It must be completed by parents and discussed with first aiders. Any short-term medication requirements should also be discussed with the first aiders in school.

Any minor injuries in school will be dealt with by our first aiders.

If your child receives a bump or injury to the head then, regardless of the severity, we will endeavour to contact parents who can then make the decision as to whether they come and collect the child or wait until the end of the school day.

If your child falls ill, or is more seriously injured during school time, we will contact you to make you aware of the situation and, if necessary, we will ask you to collect your child from the school.

If you cannot be contacted and the Headteacher/first aiders consider the case to be serious, your child will be taken straight to hospital with a member of staff.

**Parents must always keep the school informed of their most up-to-date emergency contact numbers so we can get in touch quickly in an emergency.**

### **Pupil Records**

Records of home addresses, places of work, emergency contacts, telephone numbers etc. must be kept up-to-date and the office staff should be notified immediately of any changes. This information is vital in case of illness or accident in school.

If an emergency does occur, or if a child feels very poorly, it is crucial that time is not wasted in trying to contact parents or carers who may be urgently needed. Any delay can be extremely distressing for the child concerned.

Clovenfords Parent Handbook pages 8-10

### **World Thinking Day Assembly**

It was lovely to see pupils arrive in school with their Brownie, Scout, Guide etc; uniforms on to celebrate World Thinking Day. The children were able to show their understanding of how small changes can make a big difference.

Congratulations to the following Star Achievers for showing our school values in action, for using their learning powers effectively to support their progress, and for showing their ongoing understanding of our school aims:



ELC	Owen
P1/2	Elena
P2/3	Rosie
P3/4	Charlotte
P5/6	Lucy
P6/7	Calder





As always, the biscuits got a big thumbs up from the children and it was great to observe them socialising and celebrating together.



### School's Out Clovenfords

A reminder you can contact School's Out at: [admin@schoolsoutclovenfords](mailto: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](mailto:clovenfordsps@scotborders.gov.uk)

**School Twitter (X) :** @Clovenfords\_ps

**School website:** [Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://www.clovenfordsps.scot.nhs.uk/)