

Clovenfords Primary School

Kindness Respect Honesty

Weekly Update – Friday 19th April 2024



Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week for our final term of the session. Everyone here hopes that you had a restful break and enjoyed time together with family and friends. There is much to look forward to, as you will see below from our very packed calendar. Please make a note of the important dates in your diary.

First of all, there are our class photos which are taking place on Monday morning which YID are facilitating again. This is the same company that took the children's individual photographs in August last year and the feedback at the time was positive from families about the style and quality.

There are class assemblies, trips and residentials, sports days and graduations to pack in – never mind all the learning that has been planned by your child's class teacher(s).

Next week sees the start of our UNCRC Focus Fortnight to support our school vision and children's understanding of themselves and their world around them, and how their voice is important at all stages of their lives. We will also be posting some information for families on your child's Class Communication group which we hope will further support your understanding and provide a stimulus to discuss children's rights at home. We began this learning with the children at our assembly yesterday where we also celebrated our latest Star Achievers. All in all it has been a positive start to the new term and we are very much looking forward to working with your children once more.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary

Monday 22nd April	YID Class Photos
Thursday 25th April	P5/6 Class Assembly – 1.30pm. All P5/6 parents' welcome.
Friday 26th April	Curriculum Overviews published on Showbie Class Communication Groups
Friday 3rd May	Building Resilience Family Learning issued
Monday 6th May	Holiday – school closed to all.
Tuesday 7th May	In Service Day – school closed for all pupils
Wednesday 8th May	Pupils resume
Wednesday 8th May	P7 Residential
Thursday 9th May	P3/4 Class Assembly – 1.30pm. All P3/4 parents' welcome.
Friday 10th May	P7 pupils return from Residential
Thursday 23rd May	P1/2 Class Assembly – 1.30pm. All P1/2 parents' welcome.
Friday 24th May	Building Resilience Family Learning due
Saturday 25th May	Spring Family Fun Day – 12.00pm-2.30pm
Monday 3rd June	Local holiday – school closed to all
Tuesday 4th June	All resume
Tuesday 11th June	P1-P7 Sports Day
Wednesday 12th June	ELC Sports Afternoon
Thursday 13th June	P7 visit to Galashiels Academy
Friday 14th June	P7 visit to Galashiels Academy

Friday 21 st June	Pupil as a Learner reports issued
Tuesday 25 th June	ELC Graduation 2.00pm
Friday 28 th June	P7 Leavers Assembly – 11.00am – all P7 parents welcome.
Friday 28 th June	Last day of term

Eligibility for Free School Meals

The eligibility for free school meals has been updated.

All pupils in primaries 1 to 5 and special schools will continue to be offered free school lunches during term time. Pupils above primary 5 will be eligible for free school meals, from April 2024, if their parents or guardians are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, with an income of less than £19,995
- Both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit with an income of up to £9,552
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit with a monthly earned income of not more than £796

The rise in the maximum income levels will ensure that existing recipients of free school meals under these eligibility criteria will continue to be eligible throughout the 2024-25 financial year. Any pupils who receive any of these benefits in their own right will also be eligible to receive free school meals.

Parent Council Update Spring Family Fun Day

Our Parent Council are working hard behind the scenes to plan a Spring Family Fun Day on 25th May. Please get in touch with them if you are able to help, either beforehand, or on the day.

Below is the link to sign up to help. Thank you for your support!

<https://volunteersignup.org/FLETM>



Wider Achievement



Congratulations to **Oliver** who was Player of the Week at his Football Club and to **Isla** who was the Best Verse Speaker at the recent Young Border Burnsian Competition.

Please keep emailing info and/or pictures of your child's wider achievements. These can be anything that are skills based and linked to their interests.



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 our Curriculum:

Assessing and Reporting Pupil Progress

Assessment is an integral part of teaching and learning. It helps to provide a picture of a child's progress and to identify next steps in learning. Assessment is a continuous process using a variety of approaches to support and inform next steps in teaching and pupil learning. Through ongoing 'formative assessment', lessons have clear learning intentions and success criteria, pupils are able to set targets for their learning, and teachers provide regular feedback to identify next steps in learning. Evidence of progress, attainment and achievements will come from what the children create, write, say, make and do.

Across the school year, children will undertake writing, maths, reading and spelling assessments, and these inform teachers' planning and identify learning needs. These assessments also support termly pupil attainment meetings between class teachers and the school leadership team to inform ongoing attainment and progress. The Scottish Government introduced Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA) in August 2017, which are currently completed by pupils in Primary 1, 4 and 7 at an appropriate point during the year, usually towards the end of the summer term.

Different methods of reporting progress and achievements to parents will enable you to be actively involved in, and support, your child's learning. Over the year, you will be able to see your child's progress and achievements in various ways, such as:

Meet the Teacher

Showbie

Open Afternoons/Mornings

Class Assemblies - all classes have two assemblies

Pupil Progress Consultations in November and March

Harvest Festival

Christmas Fair

Christmas Shows and Nativity

P7 Burns Show

Sports Day

Pupil As A Learner Report

P7 Leavers' Assembly

ELC Graduation

At the beginning of each academic year, we publish a parent calendar, which details dates of these events. A copy of this calendar is posted on our school website as well as being emailed to you at the start of each session.

Meet the Teacher

At the start of the new school session you will be invited in to school to meet your child's class teacher. This is an informal meeting, specific to the class and the year ahead and is not an individual consultation. Teachers will share a range of information to support you and your child across the academic year.

Showbie

Showbie provides daily feedback on pupil progress. Showbie is an online app used by staff at Clovenfords to assign, collect and review pupil learning. Each child has their own individual online learning portfolio and each class has a parent communication group. Teachers use Showbie to post assignments, home learning activities, deliver feedback and communicate next steps. As a parent, you will be able to join your child's class communication group and will have unique access via an individual code on joining to access your child's portfolio.

This platform allows regular access for you to be able to see the learning that is taking place in class, feedback offered and next steps that have been identified for your child.

Open Mornings/Afternoons

These are detailed in the annual calendar and offer you times across the year to come into school during the day and share your child's learning with them in a range of different ways.

Class Assemblies

All classes prepare, present and lead two assemblies each across the school year. Parents will be invited into school to enjoy their child's class assembly. Details of this are on the annual calendar. Currently our weekly assemblies take place each Thursday at 1.30pm. The children very much enjoy seeing their families in the audience when it is their turn to lead an assembly.

Some of the assemblies such as the Harvest Festival, Remembrance Assembly, P7 Burns Show, Christmas Shows and Nativities etc. are also specific to classes or year groups and, where appropriate, parents will be invited to share in these events also. The same also applies to graduations and Leavers' Assemblies.

Pupil Progress Consultations

All parents/carers are invited to two consultation evenings, one in November and the other in March. On these evenings an individual 10 minute meeting is arranged to discuss your child's progress. These are booked online using our Parent Evening Booking System. Details of how to book are sent out just before each consultation evening.

Pupil As A Learner Report

At the end of the summer term you will receive a written report which includes a summary of progress, detailing your child's achievements and successes, significant progress and next steps in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. The report will also include the Curriculum for Excellence Level your child is working within or has achieved.

We hope that when you receive the Pupil As A Learner Report that you share this with your child and celebrate their successes and progress to date with them.

Celebrating Achievements

Children's achievements are celebrated in a number of different ways:

At the end of a lesson or series of lessons

Through regular and informal recognition by teachers and other adults in the school

By awarding house points for demonstrating our school vision, values and aims in action and being a positive role model within our school community

By working together to earn 'Clovenfords Coins' for transitioning smoothly into class after break times

Weekly Star Achievers where pupils' skills and achievements are celebrated during whole school assemblies

On Showbie where each child will have a folder which will track their achievements in and out of school during their time at Clovenfords Primary School and ELC.

On our Twitter (X) feed: [@Clovenfords_ps](#)

Via our Weekly Updates

Home Learning

This is set individually by teachers depending on age and stage, and as appropriate. You will be able to access learning that is being taught in class on your child's class communication group on Showbie. In addition, we have family learning opportunities across the year linked to health and wellbeing and other areas of the curriculum.

Health Education

Clovenfords Primary School aims to develop a supportive and positive learning environment conducive to the promotion of healthy choices and healthy living. Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) is a national programme for children and young people and is structured in line with Curriculum for Excellence Levels. Children and young people do not just learn in formal settings, they also learn at home and so the RSHP resource recognises the role of parents and carers as the child's first and lifelong educator. Many of the learning activities provided in the resource have information that can be shared with home.

The programme has seven themes that support the curriculum and map progression and is developmentally appropriate to support children's age and stage of learning:

- [Bodily autonomy, consent and protection from harm](#)
- [Emotional wellbeing and help-seeking behaviour](#)
- [Equalities and inclusion](#)
- [Gender equality, discrimination and gender-based violence](#)
- [Parenthood and families](#)
- [Relationships and friendships](#)
- [Sexual health and reproduction](#)

You can find more information and frequently asked question online at [FAQs - RSHP](#)

In line with the recommendations of the Curriculum for Excellence, all classes receive the recommended provision of two hours of PE each week. A visiting curriculum support teacher teaches one hour of PE, and the other hour of PE entitlement that your child receives is with their class teacher. The school supports after school clubs, such as netball, basketball and tennis. In addition, our P6 and P7 pupils engage in Sports Leadership roles in partnership with Live Borders and our Active Schools Co-ordinator. Our Sports Leaders offer lunchtime activity clubs for all classes each week.

There is an ongoing focus on healthy eating which starts in ELC.

The school promotes health and wellbeing across all stages throughout the year through various whole school initiatives such as:

Engaging in whole school learning using the Building Resilience Programme

A whole school approach to nurture and inclusion, building positive relationships and promoting restorative practices

Zones of Regulation

Circle of Friends

Daily soft starts

Weekly Nurture sessions

Weekly assemblies linked to our school vision, values and aims

Children accessing our Feel Better Room to support their emotional and social wellbeing

Wellbeing Wednesdays - a lunchtime session offering children alternative ways to engage with each other indoors through play and activities

Promotion of pupil voice - our weekly Citizenship Gatherings are used to gather pupils' opinions, ideas, evidence and feedback on developing our school community. The children are consulted on many aspects of our school and community.

Pupil Voice Class Reps

P7 Leaders

Assemblies, Gatherings and Celebrations

There is a statutory requirement for all schools to provide religious observance and we often incorporate these into our weekly assemblies. Our weekly assemblies and gatherings provide an opportunity for the teaching and reinforcement of social, moral, cultural and spiritual values. We also promote diversity and inclusion.

Weekly assemblies and gatherings are led by the Headteacher and Principal Teacher. They are celebratory in nature, e.g. recognising both school and other community or sporting successes and achievements as well as special occasions such as our Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas assemblies. Alongside our gatherings which promote pupil voice, our assemblies support the culture and ethos of the school and are an important way for children to experience and learn about a range of different topics and issues such as climate change, sustainability, children's rights, global goals etc.

Respectful Relationships and Behaviour

Learning how to behave safely and responsibly is part of a child's education. Promoting positive behaviour involves parents and teachers working together towards a common goal. We expect high standards of behaviour and, if any major problems arise, school staff will contact parents immediately. There is an expectation that children will follow an adult instruction at the first time of asking. Children will always have an opportunity to have their voice heard, and for adults to facilitate restorative conversations and listen to children's views and understanding of individual situations. Parents are encouraged to come into school to discuss any concerns with their child's class teacher or the principal/head teacher.

We use our house points system to award points for effortful learning and demonstrating our school values in action.

Pupils also receive Star Achiever Awards at school assemblies that are given in recognition of a positive attitude, purposeful learning, effort and for enacting our school vision, values and aims. These awards are added to your child's Showbie online learning profile. They are also displayed outside your child's classroom door. Each week our Star Achievers enjoy a hot chocolate or juice and a biscuit with the Headteacher and Principal Teacher.

School Policies

Our school follows policies in line with SBC. We are planning to consult with parents, pupils and staff on a review of policies.

Clovenfords Parent Handbook pages 18-21

Assembly

Our focus this week was on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) where we began exploring children's rights, what these are and what they mean for every child, not just in Scotland, but across the world. We are looking forward to further learning opportunities around this important theme over the next few weeks.

Congratulations to the following Star Achievers for showing our school vision, values and aims in action, as well as using their learning powers to continue to progress in their learning:



ELC	Samuel
P1/2	Hadley
P2/3	Harris
P3/4	Ruaidri
P5/6	Abigail
P6/7	Tomas



The children are very proud of themselves. Our Star Achiever awards really help the children to focus on the positives and progress of their learning in and around school and it is always lovely to recognise this with them.



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.

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))