

Clovenfords Primary School

Kindness Respect Honesty

Weekly Update – Friday 17th May 2024



Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

We are delighted to share with all our families that our school has received a Digital Schools Scotland Award. In order to achieve this award, there were a number of criteria that we had to meet. We were able to do this by gathering and sharing evidence from across the last three years. Last week, Dr Katharine Jewitt, a Digital Schools Validator facilitated an online assessor visit and spoke with pupils and staff, and then confirmed we were to receive this award. She has sent us her report confirming our award and I have included a few highlights from her report here:



The use of digital technology is a fundamental part of the school's vision and enables pupils to have choice, flexibility, control and independence in their learning. The school's use of technology takes a considered approach. Digital learning is embedded throughout the school and at all levels, across all staff and pupils. There was strong evidence of pupil voice. Teachers facilitate and become guides on the side rather than sages on the stage. The use of digital technologies to support pupils with additional needs was strongly evident. Excellent examples were provided of how technology is used to support children with additional support needs, helping pupils to learn in a variety of ways to suit their needs, building confidence and developing skills... to support learners with dyslexia and support improvement in numeracy and literacy. There is a culture of using technology to support stealth learning. Pupils are enjoying using technology and are clearly learning more than they realise. In relation to school culture, all classrooms are mature digital learning and teaching environments, where digital technologies are deployed in ways that help learners improve their resilience, motivation and self-esteem. There is no top-down dictatorship on how technology should be utilised, but a collaborative and inclusive approach with both staff and pupils. There are effective structures in place for school to communicate with parents/carers through Showbie and with other cluster schools. Both staff and pupils emphasised and demonstrated the real potential of technology to be engaging and empowering learners to learn.

We have asked the children how they would like to celebrate this award and they have come up with some great ideas! One or two themes are emerging, and we will keep you up to date with how the children celebrate their award.

There has been a lovely buzz around the school this morning as the children prepared to set up their stalls for our charity bake sale in aid of Mary's Meals. We are looking forward to sharing with the children how much money they have raised to support this worthy cause of feeding children in education around the world. Thank you to everyone who supported the children with baking or sending money into school.

Yesterday our P2/3 class set off to Bowhill to engage in pond dipping, go on a nature walk and have fun at the outdoor play park. Next week it will be the turn of our P3/4 class to go to Bowhill and for our P5 pupils to attend the annual Borders Schools Countryside Day.

This week children have been engaging in supported formative assessments linked to their class learning in order for us to have meaningful learning conversations which help each child to understand their own next steps and celebrate the progress they have been making throughout this academic year. We are proud of their successes.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 21 st May	P5 Countryside Day
Thursday 23 rd May	P3/4 Class Trip to Bowhill
Thursday 23 rd May	P1/2 Class Assembly – 1.30pm. All P1/2 parents' welcome.
Friday 24 th May	Building Resilience Family Learning due
Saturday 25 th May	Spring Family Fun Day 12.00pm-2.30pm
Monday 27 th May	P1/2 Class Trip to Bowhill
Monday 3 rd June	Local holiday – school closed to all
Tuesday 4 th June	All resume
Wednesday 5 th June	P6 Inspire Learning Festival
Tuesday 11 th June	P1-P7 Sports Day
Wednesday 12 th June	ELC Sports Afternoon
Thursday 13 th June	P7 visit to Galashiels Academy
Friday 14 th 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

St Margaret's ELC Summer Hub Galashiels

- We are open over the summer holidays Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm (depending on requirements)
- We are open to all current ELC children who already attend a setting.
- You can use your government funding.
- You can pay for additional childcare at a cost of £6.05 hourly rate/Daily rate £48.40 (between 8 and 10 hours per day)
- School Lunch £2.64 per day, but you can provide your child with a healthy packed lunch instead. (ready to eat)
- Snack - If your child stays for 2 hours or more, they are entitled to free snack. If your child stays for a full day, there will be a charge of 10p for a 2nd snack. Alternatively, you can provide a snack from home.
- Enrolment online at SBC website. All enrolments must be completed by 31st May 2024.
- Any additional information required please contact Jackie Thorburn StMargaretsELCHub@scotborders.gov.uk / 01896 662734

Wider Achievement



Congratulations to **Maisie Mae** for mastering the art of riding her bicycle – a great achievement. Also, well done to **Isla** who celebrated her recent athletics successes at Grangemouth last weekend in the High Jump and Hurdles events.

Handling Anger in the Family Programme

www.parentspace.org.uk have asked us to share the information below for their upcoming four week Handling Anger in the Family programme, starting on the 3rd of June at Abbey Raw Community Centre, Kelso.

The first two sessions will help understand anger as a natural emotion and how we can handle this safely using practical strategies and the idea of an anger river. The final two sessions look at equipping us to help your child understand how anger affects them, how to recognise when they enter the anger river and practical and tested ways of handling anger safely and healthily.

PARENT
SPACE

Time out for Parents Handling Anger in the Family

Four weekly sessions for parents/carers of children of 5 to 16 years old,
who know anger is normal and can be difficult to manage.

Venue: Abbey Row Community Centre, The Knowes, Kelso. TD5 7BJ

Week 1
03.06.24
Managing our anger
Part 1

Week 2
10.06.24
Managing our anger
Part 2

Starting
Monday 3rd June
11am-1pm

Week 3
17.06.24
Helping Children
manage their anger
Part 1

Week 4
24.06.24
Helping Children
manage their anger
Part 2

Book your free place:

www.tickettailor.com/events/parentspace

www.parentspace.org.uk

Open to residents of the Scottish Borders

Funded by:

Scottish Government Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing fund



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.

They are looking for raffle prizes and home baking– these can be handed in to the school office.

They need volunteers – please consider signing up to help.

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

<https://volunteersignup.org/FLETM>



Building Resilience Expect the Unexpected Reflection Assembly

During our assembly this week, we reflected on some of the tools that we can practise using to support our emotional and social wellbeing when the unexpected happens. The children have also been exploring this in class. We celebrated this week's Star Achievers. Congratulations to the following children 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	Niall
P1/2	Erin
P2/3	Daisy
P3/4	Eli
P5/6	Sophie
P6/7	Lottie



Daisy was on her school trip, however will join next week's Star Achievers for her hot chocolate and biscuit. These children are really looking forward to doing the baking next week and decorating their biscuits!



School's Out Clovenfords

A reminder you can contact School's Out at: admin@schoolsoutclovenfords
They offer care for children both before and after school. Please continue to use this great service where you can as it supports our community and is a wonderful asset to have in Clovenfords.



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.

As we move into our summer term we would be very grateful for any donations of sun hats. Many thanks.

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))