# **Clovenfords Primary School**

# **Kindness Respect Honesty**

Weekly Update - Friday 12th September 2025



#### **Head Teacher's Update**

Dear all,

This week the children have been further developing their teamwork skills in our weekly Gathering. Recognising teamwork as a skill for life, learning and work and being able to have lots of different ways to practise this supports children's social and emotional development. In Gathering the children worked together in their houses to create a 'scribble masterpiece'. Look out for these on display next time you are in school!

"Please can we do more of these activities in gathering? I really enjoyed this." Pupil

Developing this skill has supported the children as they settle into their new classes and learning environments. They are also being encouraged to think about how teamwork supports them to be responsible and look after their learning spaces around school. This will be the theme of our Gathering next week, where you are invited to join us if you can.

A reminder that individual school photos will take place at the beginning of next week, and if you are able to make it along to the Parent Council AGM, they will be delighted to welcome you.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

#### Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual Pupil Photos
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Council AGM – in school 6.30pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual Pupil Photos
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	P2-7 families invited to Citizenship Gathering - 9.15am – 9.45am
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Family Soft Start Stay and Play <b>P1-7</b> 8:45 - 9:15am <b>ELC -</b> 8:35 - 9:15am
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	P6/7 Class Assembly – 9.00am. All P6/7 parents invited.
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	October holiday begins
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	In Service Day. Staff return only
Tuesday 21st October	Pupils resume

#### **Parent Council AGM**

The annual Parent Council AGM will take place in school at **6.30pm** on **Monday 15**<sup>th</sup> **September**. All families are warmly invited to come along. The Parent Council needs new members to keep it vibrant, particularly parents whose children are at the start of their school experience and have a long association ahead of them. Everyone on the Parent Council brings something different and something useful to make it work, so please don't think you have nothing to offer. If you are interested in becoming a member, please come along to the AGM.

#### **Showbie Class Communication Groups for 2025-2026**

**ELC** – EUUBQ8 **P1/2** – EDTUDB **P2/3** – EYQWA6 **P3/4** – E6QPGH **P4/5** – ER72PZ **P5/6** – EPG22Y **P6/7** – ENG692

Your child's class teachers are in the process of setting up Showbie for their class learning. P4 iPads are in the process of being built. They will be handed out once this is completed and school have received all signed agreements from their parent on the use and care of their 1:1 device.

#### **Wider Achievements**

We continue to welcome achievements from outside school that support your child's development as a lifelong learner and active and productive member of their school community and beyond. Children have a wide range of hobbies and interests; sporting, creative, and community based etc., and we love hearing about all these achievements. Please keep sharing these with us.

To support an even wider range of achievements, and to help your child to continue to develop key skills and qualities, we would like to invite you to email our school office with examples – photos would be great! - based on your child's developing understanding and demonstration of how they are being **responsible** and/or **achieving**.

Some examples that may help:

- Making their own bed each day
- Getting themselves ready each morning; getting dressed, packing their own schoolbag, remembering to fill their water bottle.
- Helping to clear the table after dinner
- Tidying up their games and toys after they have finished with them, without being asked.
- Continuing to practise a task or activity and mastering it such as tying shoelaces, learning to ride a bike or a new skill such as knitting, sewing etc.

We will use all that you share as part of our termly contribution and achievement assemblies where the children will be celebrated. Thank you in advance.

**Euan** was pleased with his recent achievement in swimming.

Nathan achieved his second swim award this week and shared that he really enjoys swimming.

**Frankie** showed his understanding of being responsible by looking after a bee.

**Hamish** was really peased to share that he got a medal for climbing all the way up to the top of the Blackpool Tower recently.

**Harry** enjoyed some recent rugby succes with his team.

**Oliver** was also part of the action for his rugby team and played well to help them achieve success.

#### **Clovenfords Coins**

This session, Clovenfords Coins will be awarded to children for showing community spirit and participation. Coins will be given out by staff during assemblies and gatherings to children who are actively and respectfully engaging in and listening during whole school together times; who are celebrating all the weekly Star Achievers in their chosen celebration claps; who are actively joining in with singing and contributing with responses or questions when invited etc.



Coins can also be earned by pupils for wearing their uniform with pride consistently, including on PE days where they are still expected to come in wearing their school jumper.

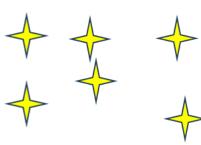
Each week the class with the most coins will be celebrated in assembly and have sole use of the MUGA area in the playground on a Friday to enjoy games and activities of their choice. Classes will accumulate coin totals across the term and the class with the most coins can enjoy a non-uniform day on the last Friday of each term. The children are very positive and enthusiastic about earning coins for their class.

# Congratulations to this week's coin winners - P3/4!

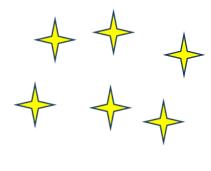
#### **Assembly**

We are delighted to continue to celebrate our weekly Star Achievers. All children's learning paths are different, from their progress and understanding, to their social and emotional regulation, as well as their skills development. We recognise that everyone's learning journey is unique to them.

Our Star Achievers enjoyed their hot chocolate today and we would like to say congratulations to:



ELC	Wren
P1/2	Ella
P2/3	Penelope
P3/4	Katie
P4/5	Anna
P5/6	Rory
P6/7	Caolan



# **Community Policing**

To continue to develop partnerships in our community, PC Gary Beaumont has asked us to share a QR Code with you in order to capture your views and encourage feedback regarding any issues or concerns you may have. The short survey is anonymous and our community policing team hope you will take a few minutes to complete this. Many thanks on their behalf.

# **Free Family Bike Checks**

#### Saturday 20th September 10am-12.30pm

FREE safety checks and basic repairs from Hike & Bike Hub

Bring your bikes along to The Shed, Marigold Drive, Galashiels

Refreshments available on the day.

#### **Borders Additional Needs Group (BANG)**

BANG have upcoming Branching Together Parent Carer Group events taking place in Peebles this September. These sessions are open to all parent carers of children and young people with additional support needs or neurodivergence, regardless of diagnosis or stage in their journey. The group meets weekly on Wednesdays during term-time, 9:15am – 11:15am, at the Cross Keys Hotel, Peebles (Upstairs Function Room). In September, they are delighted to host a series of special events:

- Wednesday 10th September Guest Speaker: Gill Westwood from Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Wednesday 17th September Conversation around siblings and their self-care
- Wednesday 24th September Guest: Kristina Hanson Relaxation session (mats provided)

These sessions offer a safe, inclusive and friendly space for parent carers to access information, share experiences, and build confidence while connecting with others in the community.

#### For further details, please contact: ann.mckerracher@bordersadditionalneeds.org



### 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. We also welcome donations.

#### Please pop in for a browse for any additional uniform items that you require for your child.

#### Communication

If you 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.

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