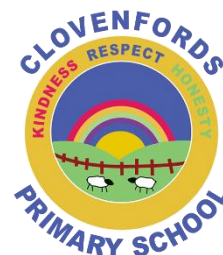


Clovenfords Primary School

Kindness Respect Honesty

Weekly Update – Friday 19th September 2025



Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

If you have ever wondered what a group of determined children, with a clear goal and a healthy competitive spirit can achieve in a short period of time, then have a look below at the photos from our Family Citizenship Gathering this week!

Continuing with our theme of teamwork, the children were tasked with creating, in their houses, the longest paper chain possible in 15 minutes and they had to really think about working together to achieve this goal!

It was lovely for families to share in this task and find out more about all the ways that school plan for your child's learning environment to be as productive as possible and why teamwork is such an important part of a successful learning environment. We have shared the information from this Gathering on your child's Class Communication Group. Please do take a look at this!

This week we also shared with the children the roles our P7 Leaders will undertake this session. They are excited to get started with these leadership roles and we will update you with these as the year progresses.

Next week it is Maths Week Scotland, and we warmly invite all families to our Soft Start Stay and Play session which is taking place on the 24th September. See below.

Finally, along with this Weekly Update, you will receive our School Improvement Report for last session. This was shared at our Parent Council meeting on Monday. This report details our improvements from last session and what we have identified to focus on this year as a school.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 24th September	Family Soft Start Stay and Play P1-7 8:45 - 9:15am ELC - 8:35 - 9:15am
Friday 3rd October	P6/7 Class Assembly – 9.00am. All P6/7 parents invited.
Monday 13th October	October holiday begins
Monday 20th October	In Service Day. Staff return only
Tuesday 21st October	Pupils resume

Parent Council

The Parent Council were grateful to everyone who came along to their AGM and first meeting of the session. The elected members for this session are:

Chair: Lena Hadwiger

Secretary: Katie Finlay

Treasurer: Gemma Forrester.

The Parent Council are looking to agree a full set of Class Reps. Please can you get in touch if this is something you would be interested in. Many thanks.

Shoe Box Appeal – Can you help?

Despite the difficulties that they face everyday – through poverty, illness, disability or other disadvantages – receiving a shoebox brings such joy to children and adults in Eastern Europe, that their faces light up with huge smiles.

Thank you so much for your continued support for our Shoe Box Appeal. Last year your unwavering support enabled the charity, Blythswood, to send over 85,000 shoeboxes to eight different countries – Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. From those we deliver these gifts to, thank you so very much.

Filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities. Many have gone to people affected by the war in Ukraine.

There are shoeboxes available at the school office if you don't have one at home. Please read the leaflet brought home by your child for further information on what to fill your shoebox with, and drop them off at the school office. The final date will be confirmed soon, but please note it is normally mid October. There is more information online at: [Shoe Box Appeal](#) | [Blythswood](#)

JRSO Update

Harold and Ellis are our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) this session. They would like to share an important message with you:

“For safety can we please not have anyone riding bikes, scooters or anything with wheels in our playground from anytime that is drop off to half three in the afternoon, from Monday to Friday.

Please do not park at the junction on double yellow lines or in disabled parking with the purpose of them being for blue badge holders only. Thank you for reading this.”

Harold and Ellis

Bikes in School – Being Respectful

Last week we took part in the national Hands Up Scotland Survey which encourages and promotes children walking, scootering or cycling to school daily. As well as taking part in this survey we encourage children to use these modes of transport on a daily basis and many children do so.

We have a bike/scooter park at the back of the playground and rely on all children to be respectful of others' property. This week we have had reports of damaged bikes with one in particular needing a full replacement of some parts due to their bike being tampered with during the school day.

We have spoken with all the children about this and ask that you support this message at home about respecting others' property and belongings. Thank you.

Wider Achievements

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.

This week we were delighted to hear that **Ayla** (left) and **Katelyn** have achieved their final Swim 4 Certificate! Well done both!

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.

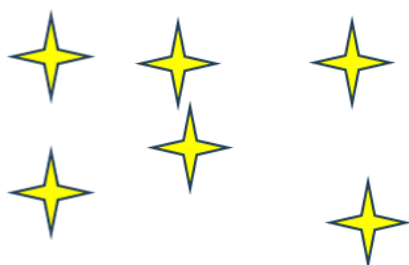
Each week the class with the most coins will be celebrated in assembly and have sole use of the MUGA area in the playground on a Friday to enjoy games and activities of their choice. Classes will accumulate coin totals across the term and the class with the most coins can enjoy a non-uniform day on the 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 – P4/5!

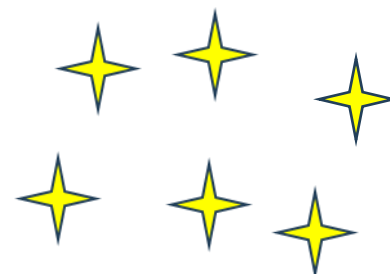
Assembly

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	Ben
P1/2	Nico
P2/3	Ronnie
P3/4	Delta
P4/5	Anya
P5/6	Rosie
P6/7	Lori



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 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.

Office phone number: 01896 662755

Office email: clovenfordsps@scotborders.gov.uk

Twitter (X) : @Clovenfords_ps

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