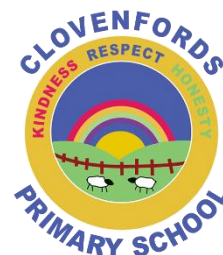


Clovenfords Primary School

Kindness Respect Honesty

Weekly Update – Friday 10th October 2025



Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

There has been much celebration in school this week as our first House Cup winners of the new session have been announced. Congratulations to **Caddon** who will enjoy a House Play together after the October break. We also celebrated our **P5/6 class** today who were delighted to learn that they are the first winners of the *Clovenfords Coins Dress Down Friday*. They have been showing excellent teamwork, support of others, and have been able to recognise how their positive contributions in assemblies, gatherings and around the school are supporting the warm and inclusive culture in our school. It was a close competition, and already this morning at assembly the coins were again handed out and a new running total has begun for the end of next term. Watch this space...

We welcomed ELC parents for a Literacy Stay and Learn session on Monday and the children enjoyed having families in to share in their play and interests. There are other dates planned across this session for families to come in and share in their children's learning. Please keep an eye on the Diary Dates that are sent out weekly to you.

Finally, our P2/3 children have been engaging in health and wellbeing learning using the Massage in Schools Programme which has been supported by our authority's Inclusion and Wellbeing Service. As part of this, Miss Jeffrey has undertaken training and is now qualified to teach and support children to develop skills in massage. We would like to offer parents an opportunity to come and learn more about the benefits of massage for their children through an informal information session on Monday 27th October. Please do come along if you can. We will be rolling this programme out across all classes across this school session.

Wishing you a safe and peaceful weekend, and a happy and relaxed October break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday October 21st.

Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary

Monday 13th October	October holiday begins
Monday 20th October	In Service Day. Staff return only
Tuesday 21st October	Pupils resume
Monday 27th October	Massage in Schools Programme Parent Information Session 6.00pm-6.30pm
Tuesday 28th October	Galashiels Ready to Learn Team Drop-In session 2.30pm
Wednesday 29th October	Family Literacy Stay and Learn Session - ELC-P7 2.15pm
Friday 31st October	Family Learning Overviews published
Wednesday 12th November	P2-P7 Families invited to Citizenship Gathering 9.15-9.45am
Friday 14th November	P4/5 Class Assembly 9.00am – all P4/5 families welcome
Friday 14th November	Cloven Quiz and Bingo Night – 6.30pm
Friday 14th November	Travelling Book Fair arrives
Monday 17th November	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 19th November	Pupil Progress Consultations
Thursday 20th November	Pupil Progress Consultations
Friday 21st November	Travelling Book Fair departs
Monday 1st December	St Andrew's Dy holiday. School closed to all
Tuesday 2nd December	ELC Families Stay and Make session 2.15pm
Tuesday 2nd December	Galashiels Ready to Learn Team drop-In session 2.30pm

Monday 8th December	P6/7 Christmas Class Party 2.00pm
Tuesday 9th December	P5/6 Christmas Class Party 2.00pm
Wednesday 10th December	ELC Christmas Show 2.15pm
Thursday 11th December	P1 and P2 Nativity Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm and Evening Show at 6.00pm
Friday 12th December	P4/5 Christmas Class Assembly 11.15am
Monday 15th December	P3/4 Christmas Class Party 2.00pm
Tuesday 16th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 16th December	P2/3 Christmas Class Party 2.00pm
Wednesday 17th December	P3-P7 Christmas Sing Along Dress Rehearsal 2.00pm & Evening Show 6.30pm
Thursday 18th December	P1/2 Christmas Class Party 2.00pm
Friday 19th December	ELC Christmas Party
Monday 22nd December	Christmas holiday begins
Monday 5th January 2026	Staff and pupils resume

Pupil iPads

Over the summer holidays, pupil iPads remained in school and feedback from parents was positive in supporting families to limit screen time and encourage children to engage in other play, activities and hobbies. Over the October holiday period to ensure that all devices are in school and ready for children on their return iPads will again remain in school. All schools across the Galashiels cluster have agreed that going forwards iPads will remain in school over all holiday periods.

Showbie Engagement

Please take a few minutes to look through your child's Portfolio as examples of learning that has taken place across this term have been posted, alongside teacher comments on your child's progress. We are continuing to moderate as a school community how Showbie is being used to report to parents and how this information and platform is used by all stakeholders. We would like to invite you to complete a short survey to gather your views on this and have provided a link below for you. Many thanks for your support.

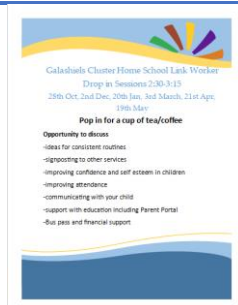
<https://forms.office.com/e/ViCdBPNsXi>



Save the Date! - Cloven Quiz and Bingo Night

Friday 14th November 6.30pm

To support our P7 enterprise project for their Leavers' Hoodies, the children are in the process of arranging a Quiz and Bingo night. Save the date if you can, it is going to be a fun night! More details coming soon.



Ready to Learn Team

If you are interested in being introduced to, and finding out more about what our Galashiels cluster Ready to Learn team do, they are running a series of drop in sessions.

The team can support parental understanding around the importance of routines, screen time, parent portal, booking lunches, free school meals, uniform allowance, and signposting, etc. to other services and supports available. The team will be in school

between 2:30-3:15pm on the following dates:

28th Oct

2nd Dec

20th Jan

3rd March

21st April

19th May

If you have any questions about our Ready to Learn team, please contact the school office in the first instance.

Out of School Care Parent Surveys

Thank you to all the families who have completed the survey regarding the Breakfast Club, Forest School sessions, and Achievaball sports sessions.

There has been a fantastic response and a great deal of interest in all these activities. For those who provided an email address, contact will be made with you after the October holidays with further details. Thank you for your continued support.

Shoe Box Appeal – Can you help?

Thank you so much for your continued support for the Shoe Box Appeal. We are again hoping to send filled boxes to those most in need around the world. If you are able to support this important charity you can collect a shoebox from our school office if you don't have one to use 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 for drop off is October 24th.** You can find more information online at: [Shoe Box Appeal | Blythwood](#)

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 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's examples of children who are ACHIEVING and RESPONSIBLE are:

Samuel achieved his Swim Skills Certificate – great job!

James made dinner for the whole family recently. He peeled and mashed a total of 11 potatoes, grilled sausages and heated baked beans on the hob. He commented: *"dinner tastes so much better when you cook it yourself!"*

Sophie attended the Lantern Festival in Ulverston in the Lake District and made her own lantern utilising tools and willow to create a frame, before covering the lantern with tissue paper.

Fergus has been learning new skills and helping out at home by taking responsibility for cutting his own, and his neighbour's grass over the last couple of months, and has also been getting involved in digging and levelling a site for a new log store.

Ailsa has also been showing her teamwork skills recently, learning and helping to strip wallpaper and then how to paint walls.

Clovenfords Coins

This session, Clovenfords Coins are being awarded to children for showing community spirit and participation. Coins are given out by staff during assemblies and gatherings and 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 P5/6!

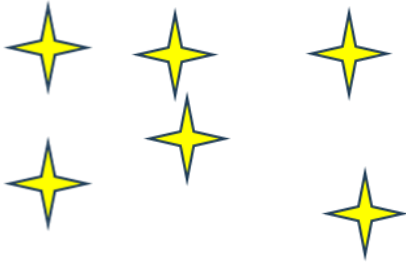
The children in P5/6 are delighted to learn that they are the first winners of the dress down Friday. They have been showing excellent teamwork, support of others, and have been able to recognise how their positive contributions in assemblies, gatherings and around the school are supporting our warm and inclusive culture. The running totals have been close across the whole term, and we would like to congratulate all children who have earned coins for their class across the start of the new school session. The children have shared that they are looking forward to earning coins after the October break to be the next class to win the most coins.

Achievements Assembly

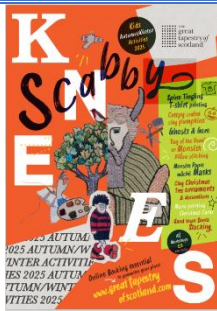
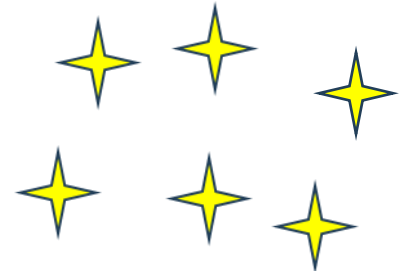
All the achievements that you have shared as families were part of our assembly today. It is a lovely way for the children to see each other's wider achievements, for them to value each other as individuals, and for them to see a range of ways that they can **achieve** and be **responsible** at home and in their local community. Celebrating these skills and attitudes supports our school vision, *I am unique, I am a lifelong learner, my voice matters*, and it is also developing the children's understanding of our school aims and how these support their wellbeing.

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	Fury
P1/2	Niall
P2/3	Samuel
P3/4	Leo
P4/5	Archie
P5/6	Sean
P6/7	Finn



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 \(glowsotland.org.uk\)](https://www.clovenfordsps.scot.nhs.uk/)