



Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 26th January 2024

Message from the Headteacher

As I write the newsletter today, the sun is shining and there is definitely more warmth in the air; dare I say it almost feels spring-like. I always feel it is a relief at this time of year as the days start to lengthen again and the temperature rises; I am sure many of you may feel the same too.

The children in all classes have been working hard this week; it is always a joy to be able to drop into classrooms to see and hear in action the wonderful learning opportunities which our teachers and support staff provide for the children. The children are rightly proud of their achievements and keen to share their work.

Children in Class 6 have been undertaking a series of swimming lessons recently. During these lessons the children are striving to achieve the following: to swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25m, use a range of strokes effectively and to perform safe self-rescue in different water based situations. They have been fortunate enough to be taught by local swimming instructors Tobie and Ashleigh, who have been able to assess what the children can already do and build upon their skills. We have seen some wonderful breaststroke, front crawl and back stroke so far this term.

Meanwhile children in Class 1 have been making good use of our on-site forest school. The children have really enjoyed a muddy week at Forest School. They have been looking out for signs of winter and noticing the changes in the seasons. The children used their observations to create a winter tree using twigs. In addition, they learned a simple knot and used this to help make a 'stick wand'. Also, they enjoyed some time climbing the tree and making dens with their friends. What a fun time!

Year 3 and 4 Primary Athletics Event

On Monday, Miss Brett, Miss Harkins and Mr Morris (Sports Coach) took a group of children to Sandwich Leisure Centre for an inter-school athletics afternoon. Miss Brett reports 'the children were tasked with a range of track and field events including relay, obstacle and over and under races as well as javelin, long jump and chest presses to name but a few! Our children demonstrated superb conduct throughout the afternoon and showed excellent sportsmanship; as always we were very proud of them. Well done to Lexi, Tommy, Mason, Lenny, Isabelle S, Millie, Ruby, Holly B, Tristan, Teddy, Theo, Ines, William, Logan, Reggie, Leah and Lilia'.

NSPCC Number Day Friday 2nd February



Hopefully you will have seen the letter which has already come out about next Friday. To re-cap, the staff and children from Cliffe House are leading this fundraiser. They invite pupils and teachers to take part in fundraising for this good cause.

They suggest a donation of £1 from each child to wear an item or items of clothing with a number on e.g. football shirt, cap, netball shirt, etc. The children in Cliffe House would also like to run a competition 'Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar'. If your child would like to try to win the sweets, we would ask for a donation of £1 to enter the competition. During the day the children will also be taking part in some sporting activities, using numbers to count and score points for their house teams.

I thank you in advance for your support with these events.

Parent-Carer Survey

Huge thanks to all of you who completed our survey recently, we were delighted with the number of people who responded. I will be sharing the results with you all shortly. We are always striving to improve and your thoughts and ideas are invaluable in this process.

Reception Class 2024

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020? If so they will be eligible to start school in September 2024. We invite families to book an appointment to come and have a look around our school at a time to suit. Please spread the word to anyone you know with a child of the right age.

Happy weekend everyone.

Helen Comfort – Executive Headteacher





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Message from Class 3

Class 3 have been hard at work again this week!

We have been writing and publishing our own versions of 'The Stone Trolls' in English, using some very inventive ideas! In maths, we have continued our learning on multiplication and division, focusing on multiplying a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number using partitioning.

We have loved exploring ballads in music and are beginning to learn and perform 'Space Oddity' by David Bowie. Our PE has seen us learn to throw a javelin in athletics and perform balances in gymnastics. In science, we have been investigating how water is transported through a plant by observing this in celery.

Well done to all of Class 3 for another fantastic week!

Mr Ayres

Year 6 Enterprise Week

Next week, the children in year 6 will be busy becoming entrepreneurs! The children will be working to design and create gifts, cards and sweet treats with a Valentine's theme. They will be selling their gifts to children across the school during break times on **Friday 2nd February**. Gifts, cards and sweet treats will range in price from between 50p to £2.

The purpose of Enterprise Week is to teach the children about creating a business as well as how to manage their budget and profit. Of the monies raised, half will be donated to a charity of the children's choice while the other half will be spent on a treat for the class.

If your child wishes to bring in some money to spend on Friday, please ensure it is in a named purse or wallet. The children will be making enough items so that there is enough for each child to purchase something at the cards & gifts stall as well as something at the sweet treats stall, should they wish.

Thank you
Miss Brett



Free School Meals

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

Applications for Free School Meals can be made through the Kent County Website online at

[Free school meals - Kent County Council](#)

Star Awards



w/e 26th January 2024

Class R – Charlie
Class 1 – Addison
Class 2 – Grayson
Class 3 – Isabelle S

Class 4 – Lilia
Class 5 – Imogen
Class 6 – Sophia

Whole School Attendance

22/01/24 - 26/01/24

90.8%

05/09/23 – date

95.4%





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The Week Ahead!

Week commencing 29th January 2024

Monday, 29th January

- Class R Forest School sessions all week
- Year 6 Enterprise Week
- Deadline to respond to Class 3 trip

Tuesday, 30th January

- Class 6 Swimming - please remember swimming kit/towel, etc.

Wednesday, 31st January

- Class 4 trip – see separate letter for details
- Deadline for deposit monies for Class 6 residential trip
- Class 6 Response deadline for Passport and GHIC form to be returned to school

Thursday, 1st February

- Class 3 trip – see separate letter for details
- Class 4 Parents' information meeting at 2pm re Class 5 residential trip

Friday, 2nd February

- NSPCC Number Day - – suggested £1 donation to wear an item/s of clothing with numbers on and £1 donation to enter the 'Guess how many sweets in the jar' competition.

A Thank You From The PTFA

We would like to say a very big Thank You! to all our volunteers and everyone who has supported our recent events. We are very pleased to say that Ice Pop Thursday, Autumn Disco, Christmas Jumper Sale, and Christmas Cards sales have raised over **£500** for the PTFA.

We have more events planned in the upcoming months, and look forward to seeing you all there!

Thank you!



Lunch Menu: Week 2

w/c Monday, 29th January 2024

£2.45 per day

[October-23.pdf](#)
(wholeschoolmeals.co.uk)

To pay for your meals online, please go to:

<https://www.parentpayshop.co.uk/schools/wsm>

