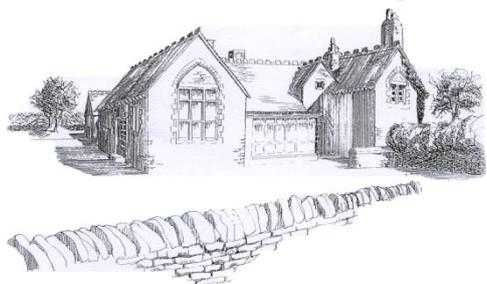


Clanfield CE Primary School



Fortnightly Newsletter Issue 8

Address: Main Street, Clanfield, Oxon, OX18 2SP

Tel: 01367 810257

General Email: Office.3100@clanfield.oxon.sch.uk

Extended Services/ School meal bookings: alexcastle@clanfield.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.clanfieldprimary.co.uk

A Message from the Co-Heads

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring Term at Clanfield School. It was lovely to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday and hear about their holiday adventures. Thank you for your kind words at the end of term; your cards, gifts and lovely messages of hope and happiness were really appreciated by the Clanfield team. This week the children started their new topics of work for the term with many classes kicking them off with Wow experiences.

We have to admit that the three-and-a-half months since September seem to have passed in something of a blur which is why we felt it important to take some time over the festive period to think about the things that went well and the things that could have turned out slightly differently. There are so many things that fall into the first category. The planning, time and creativity that went into the recruitment of new staff was meticulous and unique and it is now serving us well as we listen to the conversations in the staffroom about plans for the next term. Talking of people, the enthusiasm and professionalism of our 'old and new staff' have meant that we have been able to share all our plans and strategies for 2020 and these have been received with delight and excitement. We cannot thank them enough, and only hope that this commitment and happiness continues over the next year and beyond.

Equally deserving of praise, are the children. They have thrown themselves into the new term and what we are doing and have embraced every new opportunity.

As a new school with a new team we are able to do some things the traditional way, and we are doing some things less traditionally. In both cases, however, we are capitalising on the opportunity that starting with a new team presents by adopting the best practices across education.

Not everything has been welcomed by everyone, of course. We couldn't look back on the first term and not mention the uncertainty about the future for our beautiful school.

We will remember for a long time that the entire school took part in a xmas production and the standards were exceptionally high.

In these politically turbulent times, it is so important to come together as a community for events such as this and the wonderful xmas fayre, and to celebrate our shared values rather than be divided by our differences. It is important that we have these special moments in schools, because a great education isn't just about academic progress and personal development, its about those special moments on the journey.

Here's to another term of special moments, starting in January.

Kim Rogers, Kate Smith and the Clanfield Team.

Governance Matters

Welcome back to the start of a new term, we trust you are all well rested and enjoyed a peaceful Christmas holiday.

It's been a busy start to the year with the governing body and committees having already met in the first two weeks of term. There is a lot of positive work taking place in the school and we have an exciting term ahead, as highlighted by the content in this newsletter.

As we start the new year, we are delighted to welcome new members of staff to the school, with Miss Thomas joining as class teacher in Years 1/2, Dr Wallis starting as class teacher in Years 5/6, and Mrs Simpson as Teaching Assistant in Year 1/2. We are sure they will settle in quickly and be made to feel at home by all the children, staff, parents and carers, and look forward to their contributions to the school and community in the coming weeks and months.

Wishing you all a happy and successful 2020.

Book Donations

If you are having a clear out of books over the festive period, please do bring any high-quality texts to Mrs Rogers for our school class library – We are always incredibly grateful of your donations. We also have our fingers very firmly crossed as we await funding for books from the Parish Council.



Value of the month

This month, we are focusing on the important value of "Kindness". Pupils will learn and understand the concept of "Kindness" throughout the month during classes and assemblies, as well as the curriculum.

"In a world where you can be anything, BE KIND".



Goodbye and Good Luck

Goodbye and Good Luck to our wonderful TA Mrs Hitchman.

You will be missed but we know that you will be amazing in your new role.

Thank you for everything and keep in touch.

Jigsaw piece.

One more jigsaw piece has been put into place as we welcome Mrs Justine Heaslip to Topaz Class. Mrs Heaslip will start after Easter and will work on a Thursday and a Friday alongside Dr Wallis. Our jigsaw puzzle has one last space and next week we start the interview process for our Ruby TA. We will keep you updated

PTA

All of the FoCS committee would like to say an absolutely massive thank you to everyone who helped at, and contributed to the Xmas Fayre & Xmas raffle. We raised approx £1290 which is absolutely amazing!!

Unfortunately the fun run planned in for 26th January is being postponed. We will be sending the next FoCS newsletter out soon in which we will have more information about the next FoCS meeting and upcoming events.

School Development Focus- Reading

Only 19% of 8-10 year olds have a book read to them daily by an adult

This term, we have implemented a new strategy to teach reading across the school. Did you know that only 19% of 8-10 year olds have a book read to them daily by an adult and only 32% of British children are read to daily by an adult? We are updating our reading scheme so it works alongside the National Curriculum, implementing a new whole school strategy and improving our reading environment. We also plan to hold reading events held during the year as well as the parent's favourite- Wold Book Day! Over the next few weeks, each teacher will recommend a book.

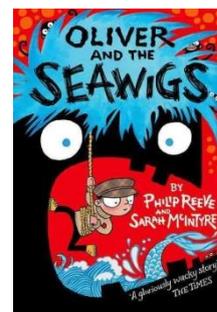
Mrs Rogers recommends....

Back by popular demand this week we have another book recommended by Mrs Rogers.

My 2nd book recommendation is 'Oliver and the Seawigs' written by Philip Reeve and illustrated by Sarah McIntyre.

For as long as he can remember, Oliver has been travelling the world, having exciting adventures with his explorer parents. But he's actually quite pleased when they realise there are no longer any blank spaces left on the map to explore, and decide to head home to Deepwater Bay, where Oliver can have his own bedroom and go to school. But Oliver's peaceful life at Deepwater Bay is soon interrupted when his parents mysteriously disappear. Teaming up with some unusual new friends - a grumpy albatross, a short-sighted mermaid, and a friendly island called Cliff - Oliver sets out to rescue them. But first he must defeat the evil Stacey De Lacey and his pesky army of sea monkeys...

I would say that this book can be read to anyone who is 7 years or older, and read by children who are aged 8 or older. The best bit is to get a grownup to hide the right-hand side of the page, when Oliver sees his house for the very first time, and try drawing what you think Oliver's house might look like, before finding out for sure...



E-Safety meeting

We promote this again because are deeply concerned about the lack of knowledge and understanding our year 5/6 children have on E-Safety. Please see attached email. A creche will be provided if more than 10 people show an interest in attending. This meeting is for all parents. Further email to follow.

E-SAFETY WORKSHOP

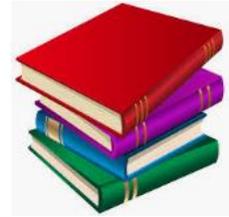
Tuesday 11th February. @ 6pm - Creche provided. Nick Speller, a CEOP Ambassador and 360 Safe Assessor, will be running a Parental Workshop about Online Safety at our school on behalf of 123ICT. The session will be packed with information and advice for parents on how to keep their children safe online. You will also have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation. The session covers:
The risks of using the internet
Tips and suggestions on how to reduce these risks to keep your children safe online
Signposting to further resources and information.
Advice on how to get help if things go wrong.
The chance to ask questions.

Reading Books

Please can children have reading book and reading diaries in School everyday...

We have some amazing volunteers coming into read with children so your child will be missing out on this opportunity if their books are at home.

Topaz and Ruby class are now having shared reading once a week.



Ext Services (Drop in, fees, times, clubs etc)

To clarify a few questions

- All charges are per child, per day
- A drop in constitutes any booking made on the day of requirement irrespective of time/call/email sent. Drop in fees are Breakfast club = £6.50 / After School Club = Session 1 = £11.50, Session 2 £11.50.
- Booked sessions are charged at Breakfast club = £5 / Afterschool Club Session 1 = £7.50, Session 2 = £7.50.
- Club wrap around childcare (eg after a club has finished) 4-4.30 = £2.50 or 4-6pm = £10
- Clubs – we are trying to streamline all clubs so they start and finish at the same time from February half term. At present school clubs Mon – Thurs Should be finishing at 4.10pm. Please pick up promptly to avoid wrap around fees.

Thank you

Happy New Year to you all!

I am sure the new term is well under way and classrooms are buzzing!
Can I please take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the good luck and get well messages at the end of last term.

The garden vouchers that I found in my leaving card will be put to very good use in the spring.
Thank you so much for such a generous and thoughtful gift!

Linda Walsh

Hedgehog Club

We have the possibility of running a Forest School club after school at Friar's Court, each Friday after Easter. Before we can proceed with this enquiry we need to know how many children would definitely be attending. Please email alexcastle@clanfield.oxon.sch.uk to register.

Dates and prices to be confirmed once bookings are known.

Dates of Interest

25-27 Bird Watch week
5th Feb- Act of Kindness Day
10th Feb-E-safety week
11th Feb- E-Safety day and workshop for parents
11th Feb- Greek workshop for Topaz class
12th Feb- International Day of the Woman
4th March- Maths Day
5th March-World Book Day (dress up)
17th March- Parents Evening
18th March- Parents Evening
30th March - TBC Easter Service
3rd April- Diamond Class Assembly (Parents invited)
24th April- Ruby Class Assembly (Parents invited)
15thMay- Sapphire Class Assembly (Parents invited)
12th June-Topaz Class Assembly (Parents invited)

BSpace

We are welcoming BSpace to the school on the 22nd and 23rd January in the school hall. BSpace are an Oxfordshire based organisation who develop pop up interactive prayer and reflection spaces for children within schools. All of the children will be invited to take part in the activities on one of these two days and we would also like to invite you to visit and explore the space with your children after school on Wednesday 22nd January if you wish.

Staff Professional Development

Kate Smith - Diverse Leaders Conference
Kate Smith - Learn Equality - Live Equal' Anti - homophobic, biphobic and transphobic

Government Schemes

Struggling parents can apply for free school uniforms and transport for kids

Millions of parents are unaware that they could get money off uniforms or even free school essentials for their little ones thanks to a series of little known Government schemes. Here's how to claim them

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/money/struggling-parents-can-apply-free-21293450>

Standing Ovation

Last term you may recall that we had a visit from Anthony Daulphin, the director of The Standing Ovation Project. We are very pleased to announce that Anthony will be working with us to improve PE and playtime provision alongside our teachers and to inspire our children through singing and assemblies. We now have an inclusive school choir and throughout the year, ALL children will have the opportunity to attend this, if they wish. The feedback from the staff and children has been amazing and we are very pleased to have Anthony on board to support us in developing the 'Self-Expression' strand of our curriculum and to keep the creative arts at the heart of what we do.



Attendance Teddy

Ruby Class 97.34%

Diamond Class 96.72%

Sapphire Class 97.77%

Topaz Class 97.02%



ASC

ASC have been very busy this term making PomPoms, and origami cubes.



Lock Down

This week we had a Lock Down drill in school. It is really important that we practice this procedure in case of a real life emergency. Our aim is for the children to accept this as normal practice, to be able to articulate why it is important to do a Lock Down Drill and of course, for them to feel safe and supported whilst we practice this procedure. We have a number of practices, as well as fire drills, scheduled over the academic year which is recommended practice for schools. Please do reassure your child at home that this is the school's way of keeping them safe in the event of a emergency.

Ruby Class

Ruby class recommend the book The Twits by Roald Dahl.

We started this term with a new class book... and it is great! We are reading a few chapters a day of Roald Dahl's The Twits and are enjoying it so much we have drawn pictures and written about our favourite parts so far. Please feel free to come and look at our display in the entrance of our classroom.

This term we have had our first P.E. lesson and we managed to get changed and put our clothes safely away after we had changed. We have been very lucky to have Anthony in to teach us Music and Movement. We have really enjoyed our session so far learning how to make shapes with our bodies, move in different ways and this has generated lots of discussion about our heart rate when we exercise.



Miss Williams

Diamond Class

Diamond Class have had an amazing start to the term and have adapted well to the new teachers, routines and expectations. In English we are focusing on the book 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. The children were very excited to discover that the book corner had turned into the South Pole and when we arrived in our classroom last week, we had a lovely surprise, 'Mr Penguin' had arrived in our classroom! The children created a list of questions to ask him, they used adjectives to describe him and created some fabulous, detailed 'Found' posters to see if we can find out where he has come from.

In Maths, the children have been working hard on grouping, sharing and division. We have taken some of our learning outside which has been great fun! Mrs Simpson and myself have really enjoyed getting to know the children and are looking forward to the rest of the school year.

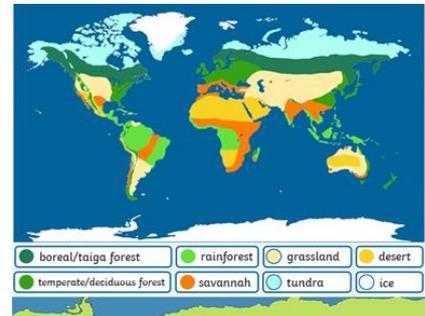
Miss Thomas



Sapphire Class

Welcome back to another term and a new year. I hope you have all had a great Christmas, although it seems so far behind us already. Thank you all so much for the generous cards and gifts.

Sapphire have made a great start to the term and we have some very passionate environmentalists within our class. We have started looking at persuasive writing and its structure, learning the skills we will need to create our own piece in English and have been investigating multiplication and division facts in maths. In geography we have been learning about what climate is and finding out what Biomes and Climate different countries have using an atlas, maps and keys, the children really enjoyed learning and applying the skill of map reading. I am excited to tell you that we have Crocodiles of the World coming in for a visit in Feb and I am also working on a school trip or two to take place before the end of the academic year. I will give you the relevant information once these have been confirmed.



Many thanks, Miss Davies

Topaz (West) Class



Topaz Class have had an excellent start to the year and we are working very well as a new team. We have begun our topic: 'Endless forms most Beautiful' and have started to learn about botanical drawing; Growth Mind-set approaches to learning; and painting pictures with music, using the work of Hans Zimmer as a starting point. Our new approach to reading, by applying Reading Vipers to our class text 'The Explorer', has us all excited and we have been delving deeper into the text by 'Writing as Readers' as we write character descriptions and diary entries in English. In Maths, we have been challenging ourselves to simplify fractions

and mixed numbers; whilst in computing we have been developing our knowledge of how to stay safe online.

What a jam-packed first two weeks! We have started as we mean to go on and are looking forward to the learning journey ahead of us in Term 2. As always, thank you for your support and encouragement, especially to those parents who have taken the time to make me feel welcome. I feel lucky to be able to work in such a positive environment and I look forward to developing partnerships between School and Home in the future.

Dr Wallis