

Cleves School

Newsletter - 13/12/24



DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 17/12 - Year 5 Christmas Concert
- 18/12 - Year 6 Christmas Concert
- 20/12 - End of Term 1:45
- 20/12 - Mufti for the winning house - Warwick
- 6/1 - INSET day - children not in school
- 7/1 - Children back to school
- 10/1 - 6TS assembly 1:30 and 2:45
- 10/1 - Eco mufti day (wear blue)
- 14/1 and 16/1 - Y3 Egyptian workshops

THIS WEEK

This week, it has been wonderful to get into the festive spirit with our Year 3 and 4 nativities, held at St Mary, Oatlands. They performed poems and songs with enthusiasm, clarity and confidence and brought smiles to the faces of the packed audiences. Thank you to all the staff that enabled the children to feel happy and confident to share their performances with their community and thank you to all the parents and carers that supported their children, giving them an audience to impress and perform to. Thank you also to St Mary Oatlands for hosting us; it was certainly memorable to see Rev. Mark reminding us of the importance of Christmas as he threw a baby (doll!) into the air! As we remember that the true meaning of Christmas is the love and kindness that we share with one

another, we thank Year 3 and 4 for bringing this light to us this week.

Similarly, this week we were shown the kindness of community, collaboration and teamwork on Wednesday with our Christmas lunch and jumper day. Thank you to all those in our community who heard of our electrical problems and offered their help to save Christmas lunch! It was inspiring to see everyone - staff and parents - pulling together to make sure the children had a fabulous lunch. Stacey, Julie and their team prepared an absolutely delicious lunch for over 650 children in rather challenging circumstances, whilst never losing their festive spirit and focussing on creating the best experience for the children. Congratulations and thank you!

Have a restful weekend.

We cannot believe we are coming to the end of **Year 3's** first term at Cleves. This week the children made us all so proud singing and performing their poems on Tuesday evening in the church. Thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to join us for the special evening. Year 3 have also had their second session sewing their stockings. Another big thank you to those parents and carers who volunteered their time to help across the year group - we couldn't have done it without you! We have also continued our literacy work on The Polar Express with the children planning and writing their narrative. In maths we finished our unit on statistics and have moved on to reviewing money starting with including a festive elf investigation. We are also finishing our Science unit on Rocks and Soils. We hope you enjoyed the homework linked to this unit and were able to make some fantastic observations of the soil with your children. The highlight of **Year 4** this week was obviously the nativity. The children rose beautifully to the occasion and performed impressively. Thank you to all the parents who helped them learn their lines and to look the part. We have also been working hard in DT to sew our canvas bags ready

for the end of term. In addition, we have enjoyed a 'Christmas Crafternoon' where children have got into the festive spirit while working on a variety of Christmas projects. Literacy and Maths continues of course and we are now starting a short unit on Area. Our Father Christmas narrative will be finished up next week and we are coming to the end of our Rivers Geography topic looking at the major rivers around the world.

What a fantastic and busy week it's been in **Year 5!** We have worked hard on our brand new Literacy unit on Non-Fiction texts on Emperor Penguins! We looked in depth about their life cycle and characteristics, focussing on how they manage to survive with the harsh climate on Antarctica and the early stages of a chick's life. We have written up our pieces of writing and have tried to include our modal verbs, fronted adverbials and subordinating conjunctions to fully explain the different stages of the cycle. Within Maths, we have moved onto our position and direction unit. Early in the week, we looked at coordinates and how we can translate shapes across the quadrant. Looking carefully at the instructions, we even showed we are able to translate the shapes using coordinates and draw some complex shapes on our grids based on vertices moving up, down, left or right. Our Science lesson this week has seen us look at mammals and the different groups of animals. We have studied various animals and how mammals can also be classified into smaller groups too. With PE, we have continued on with our basketball unit and have focused our attention on shooting. Step by step, we have looked at the technique and movement needed for effective shooting at the basket. Most of our time this week has been spent rehearsing our Christmas songs and poems. With the countdown nearing an end, we have all come together to prepare and add our finishing touches ahead of the performance next Tuesday! Well done **Year 6** on our penultimate week of the Autumn Term. The children have been recapping and improving their understanding of Position and Direction in Maths. In DT, pupils are thoroughly enjoying sewing and seeing their designs come together and we are putting the final touches into their songs and poems for the Christmas Celebration. Our final area to visit in History this term has been 'A Victorian Christmas' enquiry. Pupils have chosen the areas

which they wish to research and will be sharing their newfound knowledge in their own creative way. In Literacy, the year group have finished editing and upleveling their narrative based on the John Lewis advert which were wonderfully written. Roll on your final week and some Christmas festivities!

SPORTS

A busy week of football at Cleves with some great matches against local schools.

Year 5/6 Girls Football

On Monday, the girls football team played in a cup match against Walton Oak. In what was initially a challenging start where the girls had to defend well and dig deep, the deadlock was eventually broken. As the match went on and the light faded, Cleves experience and fitness came into play and the girls eventually came out 5-0 winners. Congratulations to all the girls who participated.

Year 5 & 6 'B' Team Football

Yesterday the Year 5/6 'B' team had their first action of the year as we took two teams across to Echelford School in Ashford for an afternoon of football. The girls from both schools were fantastic and it led to a hugely enjoyable afternoon with some great football on show. The first game was a really close and keenly contested affair which saw Cleves emerge 2 v 0 winners whilst the second game saw a goal fest with Cleves winning 7 v 3. Congratulations to everyone who took part - you represented the school in the best possible way.



Year 6 Boys 'A' Team Football League Fixture vs St Ann's Heath

On Tuesday, the Cleves 'A' team boys went up against a very strong St Ann's team in the league. The game started with real intensity and the ball was fought across all areas of the pitch. St Ann's took the lead from a quick counter and held onto it for a while. The Cleves boys relentlessly attacked and moved the ball well to break them down. After numerous chances, Cleves struck back with an equaliser from an excellent corner and header. Cleves pushed on for a winner but couldn't quite get the ball in the net, with one effort trickling across the goal line. A 1-1 draw and the points shared.

Cleves Boys 'A' Team vs Ashley

On Wednesday, the Cleves boys 'A' team were straight back into another game before the Christmas break and found themselves drawn against Ashley in the next round of the cup. The boys were fired up straight away and attacked down the wings. Soon enough, Cleves found the back of the net with a well worked goal and fantastic volley from a corner. The Cleves boys pushed on and tried to dominate possession. The boys enjoyed the ball and proceeded to score one of the best team goals witnessed at Cleves, leaving all spectators in complete amazement. With the ball being moved quickly and gaps opening in the opposition defence, Cleves found great joy in attack and scored further goals. Cleves went into half time 4 goals up. Into the second half, Cleves continued pressing and held strong at the back. Cleves managed the game exceptionally well and saw out the game. A 4-0 win and into the next round of the league cup. Well done to those boys that played in the fixture and that draws our football to a close until after Christmas!

Running Club - Christmas Special

Next Tuesday (17th December) is the last running club of 2024. To celebrate, your child is welcome to attend wearing a Santa hat or other Christmas accessory. If your child doesn't normally attend but would like to do so next week, please complete the registration form by [clicking here](#).

SCHOOL COUNCIL AND HOUSE REWARDS

We have revised our house point system and the children have been working hard to receive as many house points as possible for their house. The children were told at the beginning of Autumn term that the winning house would receive a mufti day reward for their house only. The results have been shared with the children today and the winning house is Warwick! All children in Warwick are allowed to wear their own clothes (at least one item of clothing to be in their house colour 'green') on the final day of Autumn term - Friday 20th December. This is to allow them to celebrate their achievements as a house team.

- 1st Place, receiving a mufti day next Friday 20thWarwick!
- 2nd place by less than 200 points... Arundel
- 3rd place Windsor
- 4th place York

Please see below for the accumulative total:

Years	Accumulative Total
Windsor	24156
Warwick	24598
York	21689
Arundel	24402

PAMS

Mr Usher would like to thank all of the Pupil Association Members who so brilliantly contributed to our most recent Board of Trustees meeting. Unsurprisingly they were full of fantastic ideas for how we can improve the school in years to come. The Trustees were immensely impressed with the confident way that the children were able to speak and present. Thank you to their parents and carers for dropping off and picking up in the evening.

APPOINTMENTS

All medical and dental appointments should be notified in advance to the Welfare Officer via absence@cleves.co.uk and Class Teacher. Where possible (emergencies being the exception) such appointments should be kept to a minimum as many doctors and dentists offer surgeries outside of school times. However, if appointments have to be made during school hours, it is expected that the pupil will return promptly after the appointment. If for some reason this is not possible, parents should contact the Welfare Officer to discuss before making the decision not to return to school.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please remember to book school dinners on Scopay at least 72 hours in advance and discuss choices with your child so that they are happy with what they are eating. If your child has not got a booked lunch, we will expect that you will provide a packed lunch on that day.

Please [click here](#) to see a separate letter from the headteacher.

SAFEGUARDING

We are aware that a small number of parents /carers are using toilets in the Y5 block during pick up time. These toilets are for the use of Cleves children only and will often be in use by the children at this time of day.

If you find yourselves (or your little ones) caught short please go to reception and ask to use the visitors toilets.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

TRAVEL NEWS

Cleves Travel Shop (online)

We have a number of items available in the Cleves Travel Shop which are now available to purchase.

The items will be delivered to the children in their classrooms following an order.

NB: Both parts below are required to be completed

1. Please complete the order online - using the Google Form - [Cleves Travel Shop link](#)
2. Use the parentpay system to pay for the items ordered.

ECO NEWS

Practice empathy: Try to understand different perspectives and how people might experience the world differently than you. Be open and supportive of this.



Rethink Waste Scheme

A little Christmas homework! We have re-entered to compete again in the rethink waste scheme in January, but in the meantime, you can still log on and complete the activities, watch the videos and answer the quizzes and keep the coins. Then when the new competition begins in January, you should have a stack of coins ready to donate to Cleves straight away!

Sign up - All you need is to put your name and address to prove you live in surrey.

[Click Here!](#)

You get points each time you log in and for completing games and quizzes etc.

Thank you all for your commitment, participation and encouragement with this scheme!

STATIONERY SHOP

Break-time Stationery Shop

This term the Year 5 & 6 school council members will be running an essential's stationery shop.

Break time: Tuesday for Lower School and Thursdays for Upper School by 4L
Prices:

- Glue sticks £1
- Whiteboard pens 30p
- Rulers 20p
- Pencils 20p
- Rubber 10p
- Friction pen £1.50

If your child is short of stationery, please send them into school with change so they can refill their pencil cases at break time. They will only be allowed to purchase one of each item at a time.
Thank you.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM NEWS

One and only Brand New Uniform Sale

Tuesday 17th Dec 15:15-1600, astro turf between Y5 & Y6. All items will be ***half price*** of the original price. Limited stock available. Cash and card accepted. All proceeds go to school.

Provisional next usual second hand uniform sale on 9th Jan, Thursday.

We are not accepting any uniform donation at the moment as we have exceeded our storage space.

Any enquiry uniform@cleves.co.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support to our PTA.

INTERNET SAFETY GUIDE

Last week's guide explored how to support digital resilience. This week we look at considerations you may find useful if purchasing digital gadgets, such as smart toys and wearable technology. To read this week's guide, please click on the image.



WELLBEING

We all know that Christmas can be a difficult time, especially for those with neurodiverse traits. Below are some links to helpful hints and tips to make your Christmas a little easier.

[ADHD family Christmas](#)
[Christmas tips for autistic people and their families](#)

Autism Friendly Christmas Tips
Christmas is different to other times of the year - it can be loud, intense, bright, unpredictable & busy.

- LIGHTS**
Get lights that have controls to adjust the brightness and the flashing function
- TAKE A BREAK**
Christmas day can be intense, ensure there are opportunities for breaks, quiet space & keep headphones handy
- PRESENTS**
Not everyone likes presents, not everyone likes opening presents in front of others, not everyone likes the surprise of a wrapped gift
- VISITS**
Unannounced visits are unpredictable... let the person know that someone is calling
- UNPREDICTABILITY**
Prepare a person for what's happening around the Christmas period, e.g. social stories, timetables, who will be visiting/what time is dinner
- EATING**
A person's idea of Christmas dinner may not be the same as the traditional meal... pizza or pasta is cool to eat too!
- HAVING FUN**
Create games that includes everyone, change the rules if you need to so that everyone can play

Gheel
Autism Services