



Headteacher's Update - May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Finally we have enjoyed a normal half term not dominated by Covid. I am delighted to report we have had very few issues over recent weeks, which has allowed us to return to complete normality. For the first time in a very long time Cleves has felt like it did pre-pandemic.

We have seen all the summer term events we once enjoyed and have waited so long to return to. It has been a fantastic half term. Sadly, it has been several years since we have been able to offer the full Cleves experience but this half term has been packed.

Year 4 and 5 have both enjoyed their residential school journeys. Being away from home can be a challenge for some pupils but they all rose to the occasion and should be very proud of themselves. The children looked after each other, supported and encouraged their friends and pushed themselves to try new things. I would like to congratulate them all on their resilience.

Perhaps less exciting than school residentials, year 6 faced the return of SATs but once again impressed us all. Our year 6 pupils handled the pressures of SATs week brilliantly. They were calm, focused and did their absolute best. We could not have asked any more of them.

In addition to these events, one of the highlights of the term and year so far was the Summer Fair. After several years of not being able to host this event it was lovely see families enjoying themselves

and mixing with friends. I would like to offer a huge thanks to Susie Price, the chair of our PTA, and all her committee for their time, effort and energy. The event takes weeks of planning and is a huge undertaking. Many parents commented on how lovely it was to get together again.

Even in the last week of half term we have been packing school events in with not one but two musical events. On Monday our Upper School choir had a very long day out at the O2 arena, performing at the Young Voices concert. Our pupils were part of a mass school choir of over 8,000 children. Then on Thursday Mr Kilhams hosted a summer concert where almost 150 pupils performed to their parents. They created a wonderful night to remember.

There were many more exciting events from sports competitions and football finals to immersion days where year 6 dressed up as evacuees to a study and celebration of the Queen's jubilee. It has been a packed 6 weeks.

I would like to thank all our staff for their work and efforts which are over and above their demanding roles in class. The trips, concerts, sports events, competitions and socials are all important but all take extra time and energy.

On the subject of our staff team I am sorry to report that our welfare officer, Ms Clarke, is moving on to a new role. Over recent years she has looked after and supported both pupils and staff and is responsible for not just the physical care and health of our children but also their mental health and wellbeing. I am pleased to say she will still be working in school on a part time basis supporting children and her email is still open if you wish to contact her for support.

I would like to conclude by thanking you all, the Cleves parents. This busy half term and the many events we have enjoyed are also a reminder of the importance of our home school partnership. The special events and experiences we offer are not just thanks to our staff, none of them would be possible without the many parents who help us. Our concerts, days out, residential trips, social events, sport and extracurricular clubs would not be possible without your support.

Thank you for all that you have done. I hope you have a great half term and I look forward to seeing you for our final half term .

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C Hodges".

Mr C. Hodges
Headteacher