



School Newsletter

Summer Term 3B 18/07/2019



What a good year we have had at Clifton!

As you can see, the children have been able to enjoy some fantastic opportunities to learn both inside and outside the classroom. They have been able to do lots of PE and sport as well as show off their acting skills by performing during assemblies and festivals.

You will remember our visit from Ofsted back in May. They said some very positive things about our school and I am sure you have read the report. If not, this is available on both our website and Ofsted's. The report also helps the school direct its work over the coming years. We will of course be focussing on reading, writing and maths but also on the wider curriculum and PE. We want to make sure a child's journey through Clifton is as exciting and positive as it can be!

We have had our KS2 SATs results back and we are very pleased that in almost every area there is 7-10% improvement; I have included a summary below. These are provisional at the moment and do not include progress scores, which we have not received yet.

Clifton Primary School	Expected Standard in Reading	Greater Depth	Expected Standard in Writing	Greater Depth	Expected Standard in Maths	Greater Depth	Expected Standard in SPAG	Greater Depth	Expected Standard in R/W/M	Greater Depth
2016	41%	0%	66%	0%	63%	0%	62%	17%	37%	0%
2017	56%	6%	68%	7%	66%	18%	67%	29%	50%	2%
2018	58%	13%	71%	4%	70%	14%	68%	23%	53%	3%
2019	67%	18%	81%	5%	77%	31%	83%	45%	63%	3%
Provisional NA 2019	73%	TBC	TBC	TBC	79%	TBC	83%	TBC	65%	TBC

These results give us a real boost for all the hard work to come next year!

Finally, I cannot believe that I have come to the end of my first year at Clifton. It has been great being part of such an enthusiastic, committed and hard-working team – working with such good pupils and supportive families.

I would like to thank all parents and carers personally for the warmth and support that you have shown me – I very much look forward to working with you again in September. Have a lovely summer!

Attendance

Attendance for this academic year is 96.34%. – This is really good. Let's keep it up next year!

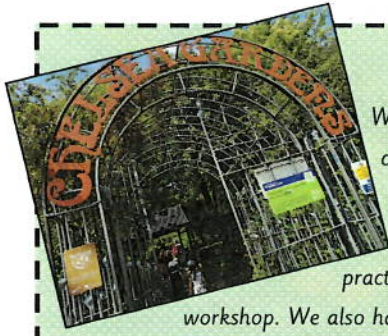
Persistent absence has increased again from 7.39% last half term to 8.33% this half term. This really needs to improve next year! Attendance really is key to your child's attainment and it is important that they are in school in order to learn.

School Uniform

We will be having a big push in September to make sure all pupils are dressed in appropriate Clifton Primary School uniform. If you are not sure what to buy, all the details are on our website under 'Key Information'.

Dinner Money

Please remember that dinner money needs to be paid in advance to prevent debts accumulating. Further details and pricing can be found on the school website under 'Our Provision'.

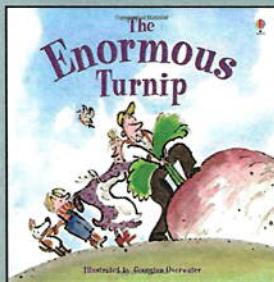


Nursery

WOW! What an eventful year we have had in Nursery! We have shared so much fun and laughter and the children have worked very hard. During the summer term we spent an amazing two days at Telford Town Park; both the pupils and the staff enjoyed this experience. We enjoyed supporting the children with the transition to their new classes with daily visits to play in Reception, as well as joining in the weekly song practice. Mrs Smith was happy to see so many parents attending her reading workshop. We also had a lovely sports day where all of the children joined in and were able to complete the activities.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support you have shown us this year, whether that has been attending Inspires, stay and plays, reading workshops or coming along with us on trips. It has been appreciated.

We wish you a lovely summer break!

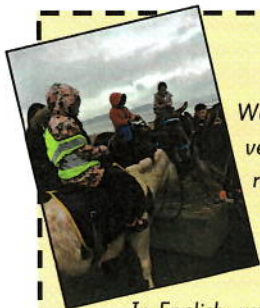


Reception

In Reception, we have had a very busy and enjoyable half term. In English, we have been learning about 'The Enormous Turnip' story. We have used a story map to retell the story and had a go at writing the story by ourselves.

In Maths, we have been learning to count in twos, tens and fives. We have also been learning to use a number line to help us solve addition and subtraction problems.

Earlier this term, we went on a trip to Umberslade Farm. We had a fantastic day out and we saw lots of animals. We fed many of these animals and had a lovely lunch in the barn. Later in the day, we went on a tractor ride too. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their day out! Last week, we had our sports day. We competed with our friends in lots of activities and we ended the day with some lovely refreshments.



Year 1

We have had a fantastic summer term in Year 1. We were so lucky to go on a brilliant trip to Weston-super-Mare. It was a very wet and rainy day, but we had a super time playing in the sand and building sand castles. We even had a donkey ride and an ice cream. How exciting!

In Maths, we have been learning all about capacity and volume. We enjoyed using water to explore and investigate out in the sunshine. We have been using the words: full, empty, half full and quarter full.

In English, we have been learning all about the story 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell. We have loved drawing text maps and acting out the story using lots of creative actions; this has helped us to write our own versions of the story and re-tell our new stories to our friends and teachers. We have learnt lots about owls too. Did you know that the pointy tufts on the top of owls' heads aren't their ears?



Year 2

Well, what a fantastic end to the year it has been! We had a wonderful trip to Conkers in June. The children absolutely loved the obstacle courses and the 4D cinema. It was great to go an adventure together! On the theme of adventure, in English, we read a book called 'The Hedgehog' by Dick King Smith, which is about a hedgehog learning how to cross the road. He manages to do so eventually, but not without a few mishaps. The children loved helping the poor hedgehog and should now be experts on crossing roads safely. Please ask them and they will be able to tell you!

In Maths, we have been learning our 3 times tables and finding out how to use the column method for addition and subtraction.

Last Friday, we had Sports Day and we were amazed to discover so many budding athletes in Year 2! The children took part in a variety of activities including tennis, football, basketball, relay, long jump and the egg and spoon race to name but a few. Why don't you try one of these activities in the summer holidays? We're sure that the children would love to teach you!



Year 3

In Maths, we have been working extremely hard preparing for Year 4. We have practised all the strategies we have learnt over the year in addition, subtraction multiplication and division so that we could do our best in our end of year assessments. It has been great as we now feel confident to start Year 4 in September.



In IPC, we have been following the latest trends as part of our fashion project. We first started off by looking at bin bag fashion and the outfits that models have worn on the runway; we used this as inspiration for our own bin bag fashion that was performed for the

other teachers. It was great fun! We used different coloured bin bags to add details to the outfits we made. You can watch a clip of our fashion show on Twitter.

Following on from the fashion show, we thought it would be a great idea to become designers for the day. We designed our own t-shirts using repeated patterns. We then transferred these designs onto t-shirts using fabric markers and fabric paints. Who would have thought designing could be so much fun?



In Science, we have been learning all about forces. We learnt about how the attraction between magnets work which has been very fascinating. We also carried out some experiments to measure the strength of magnets; we did this by seeing how many paperclips a magnet can hold. We also tested which materials are magnetic and most of our predictions were correct.



Recently, the Year 3 classes had a very exciting Sports Day. All the children in Year 3 took part in many different races and games; we started off with a complicated obstacle course followed by football dribbling, a skipping race and a sprint. The children were so competitive and cheered for their teams. The teachers also participated in a race which we really enjoyed!

Year 4

It has been a very busy end to the academic year in Year 4!

In IPC, we have been studying 'Footprints from the Past' and have learnt all about the creatures that roamed the earth in the Jurassic, Triassic and Cretaceous periods. We visited Wren's Nest to collect some real fossils from these times and were also lucky enough to drift through caves and old mines on a canal boat on the Dudley Canal.

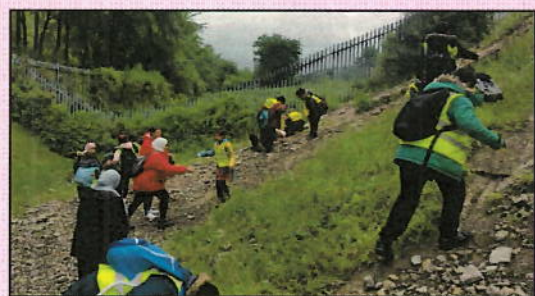


In Science, we have been learning all about electricity. We have made working circuits and our own switches out of tin foil, paperclips and paper fasteners.

In Maths, we have learnt about symmetry and have used mirrors to correctly identify 2D symmetrical shapes. We have learnt about coordinates, translated shapes around a pair of axes, and we have honed our reasoning skills as we looked for patterns and trends in a series of number sequences.

Finally, in English, we have been reading 'How to Train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell. We have read some exciting poetry about dragons, written some fantastic information texts all about the Vikings and concluded the year by writing our own Tales of Fear!

All this around swimming, PE, a fire safety workshop, taking part in the first ever online times tables tests and making a story box in DT! The teachers and teaching staff in Year 4 have been incredibly proud of the work our children have produced this year and their attitudes to learning in general. Well done, Year 4!



Year 5

What a Summer Term! Year 5 have been really busy with an exciting curriculum and some amazing extra-curricular events.

In class we have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes, continuing our Shakespeare project and reading the incredible 'No Oranges in No Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird, competing in Golf and orienteering, building bridges in DT and studying plant and human lifecycles.



In addition to this, our children have competed in handball, football and tennis competitions, with the tennis team coming runners up in the Clifton SGO finals. We also had a fantastic School Games Day. Pupils are now ready for their move to Year 6 in September.



Year 6



Year 6 teachers are delighted with the current Year 6 SATs results. The children have worked really hard and have achieved the highest results ever! WOW! Not only are they clever, but they are also extremely gifted and talented in the creative arts. They did four amazing performances of 'The Pirate Cruncher' that left audiences enthralled and wanting more!

Over the last few days of term, life in Year 6 has still been extremely busy with the Leavers Party, Leavers Assembly, Parents Evening as well as English and maths lessons. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their support in helping the children achieve their maximum potential. Most of all, we'd like to say a big thank you and a tearful goodbye to all the wonderful Year 6 children that we've had the pleasure of teaching this year. To quote the immortal words of Captain Purplebeard – 'Farewell me hearties! Oo-ar!!'

PE and Sport

Clifton have enjoyed some fantastic School Games days in the last couple of weeks, with all year groups having fun in the sun as part of our year round calendar of sporting events. In PE, classes have enjoyed using our new orienteering layout across the site, developing their golf skills and playing cricket, tennis and rounders. In School Games competitions, Clifton qualified for the Birmingham Summer Games Finals in tennis and athletics and took part in handball and SEND tennis and cricket. Several pupils also attended the Birmingham Inclusive Sports Festival and Clifton are delighted to have received a special award for their commitment to SEND PE, presented by Sport Birmingham.



Clifton Primary were delighted to help organise and deliver the Balsall Heath Commonwealth Carnival on Saturday 6th July. Five schools took part in an amazing afternoon of sporting events, with the awards being presented by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham!

Clifton SGO has gone from strength to strength across the partnership with more schools competing in Primary events than ever before. We also have more schools competing in the Winter and Summer games with Thornton School winning the Birmingham Summer Games Cricket final!

Friends of Clifton



Friends of Clifton have had a very exciting 6 months; ladies yoga and netball have been a great success and we hope to continue both when we come back in September.

This week we also held our first Deposit Closet, which is a friendly space to browse second hand and new items. This has been another great success and we hope to build upon it next term.



We can't thank you all enough for your continued support - we heartily thank you for your donations which, along with purchases from Friends of Clifton, have enabled us to provide the children with new outdoor reading areas in September and the Year 6 party where we even gave the leavers some amazing gifts! We hope you all have an amazing summer and, as always, if you would like to volunteer with us please send us an email or leave a message at reception.

Family Support Drop-in Service

Tuesday's 8:30 - 9:30 am

Please come to reception and ask to see Ms Stocker or Mr Dhir if you wish to seek advice, support or guidance for any issues affecting you and your family.

We wish you a well-deserved break

and we look forward to seeing

you all again on

Wednesday 4th September