

## Year 6



We are really pleased with the excellent progress the Year 6 pupils have made this year. They have shown a positive work ethic and risen to the challenging Year 6 curriculum during difficult times. We'd like to thank you for your support. In English, we have been reading a range of texts this term including 'Rooftoppers' by Katherine Rundell and 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpogo. We have enjoyed reading and analysing the texts together. The children have developed a range of comprehension skills linked to these texts. They have also produced two excellent pieces of writing; a setting description and a prequel.

In Maths, the children have re-visited these areas:

- \* Place value, including reading, writing, ordering, comparing and rounding numbers
- \* Formal written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- \* Mental maths strategies for addition and subtraction
- \* Decimals, fractions and percentages.
- \* Daily reasoning/SATs questions.

In IPC this term, we have been studying The Holiday Show. We have compared two UK contrasting holiday destinations and identified the physical and environmental features that make them interesting. We have used a variety of maps, including ordinance survey. We used the keys and planned routes.

In Science, we have been focusing on 'Inheritance and Evolution'. The key learning focus in science has been the difference between inherited characteristics and ones that are environmental. We have identified how animals have adapted to suit the environment they live in and why some animals have become extinct.

All Year 6 staff would like to wish the Year 6 pupils the best of luck for the future.

## Sky Room



The Sky children have had a very enjoyable and exciting term. In Maths, we have been working on fractions and 'greater than' and 'less than'. In English, we have been reading a range of texts and poetry. We have particularly enjoyed reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk', and we have been busy planting our own seeds. We have cared for them by giving them water and warmth and by keeping them in a bright space. We are amazed at how our tiny seeds have grown and are ready for planting out. We have grown tomatoes, peppers, beans, chillies and many more.

We have had various visitors to school this term. The Animal Lady and Falconry UK came and showed us their different animals and birds. We had the opportunity to touch them if we wanted to. We have also been

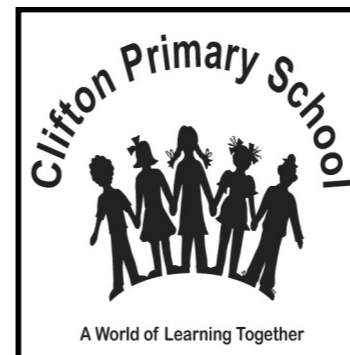
involved in another SuperheroTri project, more dance sessions and have used bosu balls to keep healthy and active.

Over the last few weeks, we have been transitioning back into our classes. We felt nervous about this at first but, with the support of all the grown-ups and our peers, we are really looking forward to spending more time with our new classes.



**We wish you a well-deserved break and we look forward to seeing you all again on**

**Monday 6th September**



# School Newsletter

**Summer Term 3B 21/07/2021**



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

**This week brings the end of an academic year like no other!**

**We have continued to navigate our way through the various lockdowns, closures and openings that have come about as a result of the pandemic. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and understanding throughout the year.**

**As with all schools across the country the curriculum and assessment process has been significantly affected. On return to school in September 2020, we began the recovery process only for it to be further disrupted by lockdowns and closures to most pupils.**

**Following our successful provision of remote learning pupils returned to school in March. The staff at Clifton have worked very hard to assess and address the gaps in pupils' knowledge as well as supporting the emotional well-being of all pupils. Our work in the summer term has focused on essential skills that our children need for the new academic year.**

**Whilst for Yr1-6 we have included a teacher assessment in your child's report it is important to note that we are still in the 'catch up' phase and our work to recover will continue in the Autumn term.**

**All pupils have shown great resilience throughout the year and we are incredibly proud of them!**

**We all look forward to welcoming you back in September and I look forward to working with you again in the new academic year.**

**Mr Lambert**

## Nursery



We have had a wonderful end to our year in Nursery. The children have had an exciting week making ice cream by putting the ingredients in a bag and shaking it in a bag of ice until it churned the cream and sugar into ice cream! The children were astonished when it came out looking so different, and they all loved having a taste. They have also been exploring musical instruments and learning their names. Nursery are now experts at recognising the sounds of the different instruments, and they are spending lots of time playing music together. We may have a Clifton orchestra in the future! The children are now preparing to say goodbye to Nursery by writing cards for their new Reception teachers and talking about their new classrooms. Our Rising Three children will stay at Nursery for

another year. They are excited to return in September and are keen to meet their new friends.





## Reception

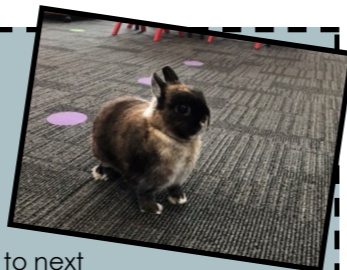
This term, we have really enjoyed meeting lots of the Clifton staff's pets. We have met: Miss Ward's tortoise, Monty; Miss Beavan's rabbit, Mr Buttons; Ms Holliday's rabbits and her hamster, Nick Furry; Mr Moody's hamster; Mrs Allen's dog, Bella and Ms Hizam's snake, Rex. In English, the children have been writing autobiographies. They wrote about their interests, family and what they're looking forward to next

year. They also wrote some senses poems and descriptive sentences lined to 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. In Phonics, we have finished learning the Phase 3 sounds and tricky words. Please continue to practise these over the holidays.

In Maths, we have been doubling, sharing and halving numbers and shapes. We have also been naming 3D shapes and talking about their properties and using money to pay for items in our role play shop.



We have had a wonderful time this year and have had the pleasure of getting to know your children and teaching them. Although we haven't had a full academic year due to lockdown, the children have adapted amazingly to the changes we have had to face and they have worked so hard. We are very proud of them all and we're sure you are too. We wish them all the best, and I'm sure you will join us in wishing them a happy and successful year in Year 1.



## Year 1

Year One have had a very busy and exciting half term. In IPC, the children have been learning about plants and animals. The children have learned about what plants need in order to grow healthily. They planted beans and made predictions about which ones would grow the healthiest. Year one were delighted when the Living Eggs arrived this term. The children watched and waited patiently for the eggs to hatch. Most of the children and the teachers couldn't contain their excitement when the first egg began to hatch, and a chick appeared! Year One couldn't wait to come to school every day to see how the chicks were growing and changing. They have taken special care of the chicks. The children also had a visit from The Animal Man. They were very excited to meet and hold the animals.

In English, the children have been learning about 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. They have used a text map to retell the story and have 'hot seated' the characters. The children were keen to think of questions to ask each other when they were 'hot seating'. This term, the children have used their knowledge of fairy tales to help them write their own story based on 'Jack and the Beanstalk.'

In Maths, the children have been learning to count reliably to 100. They have practised counting forwards and backwards and have used their knowledge of tens and ones to count efficiently. The children have also compared numbers using inequality signs. Year One have especially enjoyed learning about fractions. They enjoyed finding half and a quarter of various shapes and used a part, part whole model to help them find a half and a quarter of a quantity.



## Year 2

We have had a wonderful last half term with the children. They have continued to work hard and show dedication towards their work.

In English, the children studied the story 'Hansel and Gretel'. The children were able to use expanded noun phrases to write both character and setting descriptions. They have also started to use conjunctions to join two sentences. The children were able to use these features when they wrote their own version of 'Hansel and Gretel'.

In Maths, we have focused on multiplication and division, children understand that multiply means 'groups of' and that division means 'sharing into equal groups'. The children have used concrete materials to support their understanding and have developed skills and techniques to complete problem-solving questions. They are now much more confident when recalling the 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s times tables. The children can now transfer their skills and understanding to identify halves and quarters.

During our Science topic, the children have identified different habitats and the animals that may be found in them. They have then found similarities between animals found in the same habitats and identified how they have adapted to survive in that environment. The children have also discussed how animals depend on each other to survive.

In DT, the children have enjoyed designing their own toy car which they made from recycled materials. In Art, the children have created some wonderful paper weaving art.

It has been a pleasure teaching the Year 2 children this year, we will miss them very much.



## Year 3

Wow, what a final term it has been in Year 3!

We've had a jam-packed curriculum to ensure that no gaps in learning

have been missed due to the earlier lockdowns. We have also had many opportunities to celebrate the successes of our talented pupils. We have been learning all about the Anglo Saxons and Vikings in our IPC topic, and we have lots of children who now want to be a king or a thane. In DT, we designed and made our own Viking style bread. This was a really fun topic, and we know lots of our pupils have really enjoyed learning about life in the past. We have also taken part in our own individual class sports sessions, and it was clear that we have some aspiring Usain Bolts! Music this half term has had our pupils learning how to play the glockenspiels. These creative lessons have been a welcomed balance to our core subjects of English and Maths. In English, we have been creating our own zoo leaflets and then researching different endangered animals. In Maths, we have been learning to tell the time, describe different 3D shapes, read and measure angles and turns, and also measure capacity and mass.

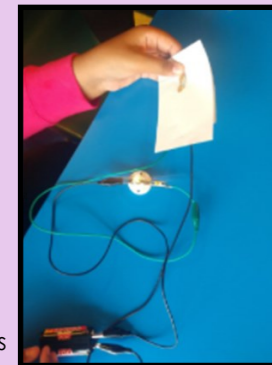
As teachers, we wish Year 3 all the very best as they prepare to move into Year 4 at Clifton. We are very proud of all that they have achieved this year.

## Year 4

It has been an absolute pleasure to teach Year 4 this year, and the class teachers are incredibly proud of all the progress the children have made! In English, Year 4 have been exploring the exciting world of Shakespeare. We have studied and explored the many complex characters and dialogue within the play 'Macbeth'. During this half-term, we have written formal and informal letters and used a range of adventurous vocabulary to write our very own prophecy and setting descriptions. We have also used figurative language, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials. We have also taken part in drama activities to develop our oracy skills. Year 4 have been working extremely hard in Maths this half term. We have been focusing on Time and Statistics. We have learnt about seconds, minutes and hours, days, weeks and months, and learnt how to read and interpret different types of charts – pictograms, bar charts and line graphs. We are now studying Geometry and are continually challenging ourselves with reasoning and problem-solving questions.

Our IPC topic 'Footprints from the Past' has taken us into the past and around the world. Year 4 have learnt all about dinosaurs and fossils, and have used maps to locate dinosaur fossils around the world. We have also thoroughly enjoyed Computing, where we have developed the skill to design, write and debug programs. Year 4 have created simple algorithms on Scratch and a dinosaur database using J2E. In Science, we have been learning about electricity. We have made simple circuits, a range of switches using paperclips and paper fasteners and designed and created a torch.

With the support of Bishop Challoner, we have learnt how to develop our skills in athletics. We have improved our co-ordination, speed and throwing techniques. It has been great fun! The teachers will definitely miss the Year 4 children and we wish them the very best for the future!



## Year 5

Year 5 have had a great term to end the year on a positive note. All the teachers have been really proud of the way the children worked in the final few weeks and have shown that they are ready for Year 6. Good luck, everyone!

In English and Whole Class Reading, we have really enjoyed reading a Shakespeare playscript called 'Twelfth Night'. Year 5 children have planned and performed some fantastic play scripts to engage their audience. We also wrote our own love themed sonnet.

In Maths, we have continued to expand our understanding of addition, subtraction, fractions and decimal numbers. We have also been introduced to different measurements, interpreting timetables and finding the volume of various shapes.

In IPC, we have been learning all about rivers in our topic called 'Go with the Flow'. We have identified some of the world's largest rivers, identified the uses of different parts of a river and even designed our own river model. We also had a look at ports and the locations of some of the largest ports around the world.

In Science, we have been learning all about plant reproduction and about the lifecycle of insects and amphibians. Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed planting their own sunflower seeds and watching them grow!

Our PE focus this half term has been cricket. Year 5 have really enjoyed learning the rules and techniques of cricket such as bowling, fielding and batting according to the rules. We have really enjoyed all the sessions this year and learnt lots of valuable skills. Well done, everyone!

