



## Year 6

We are incredibly proud of 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. We'd like to thank you for your support.

In English, the children have been reading a range of contemporary poetry by various poets, including Michael Rosen. We have enjoyed reading and analysing the texts together, and the children have developed a range of comprehension skills linked to these texts. They have also produced excellent pieces of writing, for example a non-chronological report based on the digestive system after creating an animated presentation, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

The children have re-visited these areas in Maths:

- Place value, ordering, comparing and rounding numbers
- Formal written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Mental maths strategies
- Decimals, Fractions and percentages
- Time and reading timetables
- Daily reasoning/SATs questions

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

The key learning focus in science has been 'Inheritance and Evolution' (the difference between inherited characteristics and ones that are environmental).

The children have identified how animals have adapted to suit the environment they live in and why some animals have become extinct.

This half-term in Art, we have been exploring the work of Bauhaus, Alan Kitching and L'Atlas and their use of shape in typography. We have developed a range of typography skills and used these skills to create posters advertising our end of year production.

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



## Health & Wellbeing

July saw the whole school take part in their annual School Games Sports Day with running, jumping, throwing and targets sports all watched and enjoyed by you, our fantastic supporters!

Congratulations to our football team who finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Greet League and our brilliant basketball and netball teams who won many matches this term, even against Secondary pupils!

As a school, we have just completed the annual Active Lives Survey, which will tell us how active and happy our children are. You will be sent a link for the parents' and carers' survey — please complete it!

We have just taken part in a promo video for 'Golfway', a new golf programme, and our pupils have been included in the brand-new Daily Mile booklet.

As the new Clifton School Games co-ordinator, Mr Lamprey is busy organising a new calendar of events for next year where over 30 Primary Schools and 10 Secondary Schools will be invited to take part in a range of sports. We can't wait to get going!



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

**Wednesday 6th September 2023**



# School Newsletter

**Summer Term 3B 25/07/2023**

## Message from the Headteacher

All our pupils have finished the year as they started – with a great attitude, excellent behaviour and hard work.

We are all very proud of them.

Well done to our Yr6 pupils who have done really well in their end of KS2 SATs tests. Provisional results are 65% for Reading, a real achievement given the difficulty of the paper and close to what we achieved last year. Writing is up to 60%, again we are pleased with this as it is much higher than last year. Again, our Maths results are excellent at 82%, much higher than the national average. Well done Yr6!

This is my last newsletter as headteacher of Clifton and I would like to thank you again for your kind words at the gates. I have very much enjoyed working with you over the last five years!

As you know Mrs Hemming and Dr Allen will be taking over as acting co-heads. I know you will join me in wishing them the best of luck in September.

School starts again for pupils on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Enjoy the summer break!

**Mr N. Lambert**

## Punctuality

Our records show there has been an increase in the number of children arriving late to school.

Breakfast club is available from 8am (all places must be pre-booked)

Gates open 8:30am and children should be in school before 8:50am. Please note Gate 6 will no longer be used in September.

Reception, Yrs 1 and 2 should be collected at 3:15pm

Yrs 3, 4, 5 and 6 should be collected at 3:20pm

On Fridays all classes finish at 12:15pm (unless proof of parental employment has been provided)

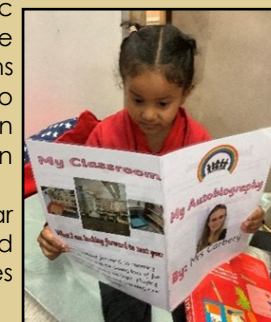
If your child is late, you must take them to the main school office to sign them in.

## Nursery



Nursery are ending their summer term by learning about transition and moving on. We have read lots of stories to support children in the concepts of moving to a new year group such as "Topsy and Tim start School" by Jean and Gareth Adamson, and "Starting School" by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. In preparation for going to Reception, we have visited the Reception classrooms and read books about the new teachers. During Oracy, we have looked at photos of what the children will do in their new year group and talked about what we think we will enjoy the most. They are particularly enthusiastic about having school dinners since finding out we have pizza and chips on Thursdays! As this can be a very emotional time for children, we have also revisited the topic of feelings and learned about a new feeling called "worried." We read stories about people who feel worried and what they could do to help. We made worry dolls out of sticks, ribbons and wool, and we are going to take them home and tell them our worries before we go to sleep. For our sports day we practised the egg and spoon race and balancing bean bags on our heads. Mr Rose has been working hard to teach the rules of each race, and the children have been trying really hard to do their best.

The Nursery staff would like to take this opportunity to say that we have had a wonderful year working with the children. It has been a privilege to see them grow in confidence and happiness, and we hope that they leave us with a love of learning that only increases throughout their time at Clifton. We are going to miss them very much.







### Reception

At the beginning of the term, we came into class and noticed our biscuits had been eaten! Quickly, with the help of Officer Dhir and clues left in the classroom, we discovered it was the Gruffalo. We wrote 'Wanted' posters using descriptive language to describe the Gruffalo and stuck them up around the school. After a week, the Gruffalo had returned to our classrooms, but this time he had left a letter saying sorry and some ingredients to make Knobbly Knee Cakes. The Gruffalo didn't know how to make them, so we made them for him by following instructions. The cakes were delicious! After making the cakes, we wrote instructions about how to make the cakes for the Gruffalo to follow.

This term we had the 'Dinosaur Experience' visit us with their dinosaurs. The children were fascinated and asked some very important questions. The children used their new information to write a fact file about a T-rex. Did you know a female T-Rex was bigger than a male T-Rex?

This term we have also been focusing on transition. The children made video autobiographies for their new teacher. They introduced themselves by saying their name and age. They then talked about their family, their interests and what they are looking forward to next year. The children also wrote an autobiography to give to their new teacher.

In Maths, we have been doubling, sharing and halving numbers, identifying odd and even numbers, solving problems with numbers and making our own maps.

To celebrate a wonderful year in Reception, we all went on a summer holiday together. The children especially enjoyed paddling in the pools and making water falls.

We wish the children all the best, and I am 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 flowers. The children have learned about what plants need in order to grow healthily. They have planted beans and sunflower seeds and observed how these grew. Recently, the children were very excited to go to Birmingham Botanical Gardens. They had a fabulous time on their trip and learned so much about plants and flowers. The children thoroughly enjoyed their garden tour and taking part in

an outdoor art session.

In English, the children have used their knowledge to explain the life cycle of a chicken. The children wrote sentences explaining how a chick hatches and grows. Later in the term, the children used their knowledge of plants and flowers to write an explanation text about the life cycle of a sunflower. The children have written informative sentences explaining each stage of the sunflower's life cycle.

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 money. They enjoyed learning the names of a variety of coins and notes and did a super job to count the total that different coins made.

In PE, the children have practised a variety of athletics activities and had a great time performing these skilfully at their Sports Day. Everyone was very proud of the skills and team work the children demonstrated.



### Year 2

In English, the children have been fascinated by their lessons about Barn Owls. We explored the chapter book 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson. The children have learnt lots of exciting new vocabulary which they used in their report writing and descriptions about Barn Owls.

In Maths, the children have learnt how to tell the time to quarter past, quarter to and to the nearest 5 minutes on an analogue clock. This helped them to consolidate their 5 times table facts. The children have also had the opportunity to practise their times tables on TTRS. In Statistics, the children were fantastic at gathering data and putting this into pictograms and tally charts. They really enjoyed creating a key for this using their knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

In Wider Curriculum, the children have enjoyed making a healthy dip. They were all very sensible and careful whilst cutting and peeling lots of different vegetables. They were also able to follow the important hygiene rules when preparing their dip. In PE, the children worked collaboratively to practise for their Sports Day, and they were all amazing on the day! In History, the children have been astonished when learning about important people from the past, and they are now able to discuss why each person was significant. The children particularly enjoyed learning about the first aeroplane flight and the first moon landing.

It has been an absolute pleasure teaching everyone in Year 2 this year; they have all come so far and achieved so much. We wish them lots of luck and happiness in the future.



### Year 3

What a busy half term it has been in Year 3! The children have been writing brilliant stories in English linked to 'Fantastic Mr Fox' by Roald Dahl as well as learning about shape and statistics in maths. In Design & Technology, the children have been making moving treasure boxes. Our P.E focus this half term has been on tennis. Our pupils showed great racket skills and all of the children have had teaching from our outside sports coaches.



We have recently had a very successful Sports Morning, and we are super proud of our pupils for showing team work, enthusiasm and determination. Thank you to all of the family members who came to support; it means a lot to the children who took part.

The children met their new teachers last week, and lots of them are really excited to start their Year 4 learning journey. The children's special holiday homework should have come home by now. If you haven't received it yet, please come and speak to Mrs Allen.

As always, we have been so proud of how hard our pupils have worked, not just this half term but throughout the whole academic year. We are very lucky to have such wonderful and brilliant pupils in each class. As teachers, we have loved spending this last half term together, and we are blown away by the amount of progress the children have made since September. We have



some excellent writers, mathematicians, artists, historians and computing wizards to name just a few. Year 3, remember that you can achieve anything when you put your mind to it!

### Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant end to the year. Firstly, they did fantastically well in their Multiplication Tables Checks. Mr Bhachu was really impressed, and the Year 4 teachers are very proud of them!



This half term, the children have studied volcanoes and have enjoyed making models out of them, both in the style of wire sculpture sand out of clay. The children really enjoyed locating different volcanoes around the world and finding out information about them on the iPads. We also created collages to depict the effects of earthquakes.

More recently, we have had our instrumental concerts. 4R performed on the ukulele, 4S and 4J on the tabla and 4MB on the keyboard. Thank you to all of the parents who came to support the concerts; the children loved seeing you in the audience.

Last week, the children had Transition Day. The Year 5 teachers for next year really enjoyed meeting their new classes, and the children really impressed them with their work. They are really looking forward to teaching them next year!

At the end of last week, we had the Year 4 Sports Day. Again, thank you to everyone who attended. There were lots of parents there to support and all of the children did amazingly well. A special well done to 4R who won!

Thank you for all of your help and support this year. We hope you have a lovely summer and will be ready and refreshed to start Year 5 in September!

The Y4 team.



### Year 5



All of the Year 5 children have worked incredibly hard in this final term. As part of their English lessons, the children really enjoyed reading 'Oranges in No Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird. Following this, the children took part in an exciting debate where they challenged the choices made by certain characters in the story. Linked to this, the children wrote a balanced argument which discussed the views of those who agree and disagree with the motion.

The children have been busy learning about negative numbers in Maths; focussing on counting and ordering negative numbers, as well as finding the difference between given negative numbers. In addition to this, the children have worked on converting between units of measurements (such as units of length), time and learning about the differences between

imperial and metric units.

In PE, the children have completed some teambuilding games and problem-solving activities. We then practised some Commonwealth Games sports for a brilliant Sports Day which took place on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all the family and friends who came to watch; the children loved seeing you there.

In Science and PSHE, the children have explored the life cycle of mammals, insects, reptiles and birds, as well as studying the work of naturalists such as Jane Goodall and Sir David Attenborough.

In geography we have been learning all about rivers! Children have been able to identify some of the world's largest rivers and identified the uses of different parts of a river. Year 5 particularly enjoyed the trip to Sarehole Mill to explore our local River Cole.

