



Clockhouse Primary School Newsletter - September 2023

#ourclockhousefamily

Working and Learning together to be the best that we can be

Dear Parents / Carers,

Although very belated and another year at Clockhouse Primary School is well underway, may I take this opportunity to formally welcome you all back to school as well as welcoming the many new children and families that have joined us this year. Although a long and distant memory now, I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday. Thank you to all those who took part in our book end challenge, we have certainly been impressed by the entries! Thank you also, for the positive way in which you have all returned to school, the children have been excited to learn and the way they have settled into the new year is impressive.

At this point, it is always important to welcome the new staff to Clockhouse. I am sure many of you have already met those that have joined us but in case you have not, we are very pleased to welcome a number of new adults. On the teaching team, although not new as such to Clockhouse, we are delighted to formally welcome Miss Shedden (Year 2 - Mexico) and Miss Hanson (Year 3 - Brazil). We are also most pleased to welcome Mrs Chard (Year 1 - Italy) and Mr Freestone (Year 4 - Uganda) to the teaching team. In terms of class based support staff, it has been lovely to welcome Mrs Ahmed (Year 1), Miss Light and Mrs Hull (Reception) and Miss Maskell, Miss Hill and Mrs O'Connor. I am sure you join me in welcoming them and wishing them all the very best for their future at Clockhouse.

As you may already know, during the summer holidays, building works took place to improve the school. As well as a deep clean of the whole school and repairs that needed doing, aspects of the school were also painted and refurbished. Our Year 1 classes as well as Canada and Malaysia do look rather fabulous, even if we do say so ourselves!

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the children continue to come to school in the correct uniform and in PE Kits on PE Days; this is certainly making everyone's lives easier. As always, thank you for the continued support you give to us every day and I look forward to working with you all during the next academic year, for the good of all the Clockhouse children, families and the Collier Row Community.

Mrs Savidge



Reading, Reading and more Reading!

As many of you already know, we love celebrating all things reading and also rewarding children for their reading. The children love the weekly Reading Raffle on a Monday and get very excited when they know their name is in the pot. We are continuing with the same approach this year. But again, it does rely on your help. As I am sure you have seen, Reading Record Books have been handed out and therefore we ask that you fill these in every time your child reads at home. Each entry will earn them a raffle ticket and will mean that they will be entered into our weekly draw on a Monday. The more times they read, the more times they enter and the more chance they have of winning! The children can choose to read their school book or another book they have at home.

Our Clockhouse Association

Thank you to the OCA for their efforts last year. Their hard work continued during and their commitment was admirable. Look out for information about what is happening this year, coming soon.

Clockhouse is...

OUTSTANDING!

As many of you already know, the school was graded as Outstanding in all aspects when Ofsted visited us in June. I am sure you are as delighted as we are that your children attend an outstanding school. Whilst this is a huge accolade, it does not make us perfect and please know we will continue to strive to improve the school further or the good of all.



Beyond the Possible!

This year we are all working hard to go 'Beyond the Possible' in everything we do, say and show following the success of 'Being Exceptional' last year! We have certainly taken this on very quickly and are loving lots of 'Beyond the Possible' learning and acts taking place. As a reward for this, the children get to have Hot Chocolate with me - one of my favourite parts of the week!



How can you support your child's learning at home?

Home Learning

As many of you will already know, our Home Learning Policy changes last year. Whilst this was appreciated by many, I know a few families had reservations about this new approach. We have spent time reviewing the new approach and can see that this is benefitting the children in terms of their learning in the classroom. Whilst Year 6 do get paper based weekly home learning the rest of the school will continue with the approach from last year. Therefore we ask that you hear your child read every night and question them about what they have read, practise their spellings with them as well as practising their times table or number bonds. This really does help them in the classroom and support their progress. Thank you in advance for your support and please do speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.



Online Reading and Maths resources to use at home

Please remember that **Spelling Shed**, **Times Table Rock Stars** and **SumDog**, the online programmes that we subscribe to, are available for the children. If you cannot remember your password, please speak to your child's class teacher who will be able to reissue it to you .



A Few Reminders - Important Please Read!

Uniform:

Thank you so much to all parents who have worked with the school in ensuring that the children have come back to school looking so smart, and dressed in correct school uniform. Please can I remind you that the school uniform includes black, flat shoes. As part of Health and Safety, please ensure that long hair is tied back. This does help prevent the spread of head lice amongst children. Please can I also remind you that the children are not permitted to wear nail varnish. Thank you also to all those who have ensured that PE Kit is being worn on PE days. Please remember that at least one PE session per week is outdoors - if you would like to know which days this is, please speak to your child's teacher. Please ensure children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Thank you in advance for your support.

Jewellery:

Can I please remind you that, apart from small stud earrings, jewellery is not permitted for safety reasons. It is a Local Authority policy that children do not take part in P.E. if they are wearing earrings. As P.E. is a compulsory part of the curriculum, please can I ask that you remove earrings on PE days. If earrings are not removed, you will be asked to come to school and remove them before the start of the lesson. The school cannot tape over earrings themselves as again, Local Authority guidance does not permit us to do this.

Conduct on School Site:

Thank you to our fabulous community, who uphold the school's community ethos and values whilst on the school site as well as off site when the children are in school uniform. Our rules of Ready, Respectful and Responsible should be modelled by us all at all times to ensure that we show the children how they should behave.

Scooters and Equipment:

Please can we remind you that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on site at the beginning and end of the school day. Similarly play equipment should also not be played on at these times of the day. Please do remind your children about this and we do ask for your support this this matter.

Smoking and Vaping

A number of parents / carers have spoken to staff at the gate concerned about smoking and vaping in the queue and outside of the school gates.

We really do appreciate your patience when waiting in the queue but if we could kindly ask you to refrain from smoking and vaping whilst waiting it would be appreciated by so many.

Come and Learn with us

We are delighted to welcome you back to school for Learn with My Child. Arrangements, including times, will be shared with you nearer to the sessions but dates in the diary, are as follows -

Nursery

Reception 3rd and 4th October

Year 1 5th October

Year 2 17th October

Year 3 15th November

Year 4 13th October

Year 5 18th November

Year 6 22nd November

Greenland 16th November

We look forward to welcoming you into school.

**LEARN
WITH
US**

Important Dates

3 rd & 4 th October	Year R – Learn with my Child
5 th October	Year 3 Prehistoric Workshop
5 th October	Year 1 – Learn with my child
10 th October	World Mental Health Day – wear Yellow
11 th September	WOW Day
13 th October	Year 4 – Learn with my child
16 th October	Flu Immunisation (1) – Year R-6
17 th October	Year 2 – Learn with my child
18 th October	Year 5 – Learn with my child
19 th October	Bright Day
19 th October	Quality of Education Governors Meeting @ 7.00pm
20th October	Inset Day
23rd – 27th October	HALF TERM
30th October	Children back to school
1 st / 2 nd November	Parents Evenings
w/b 6 th November	Best of British Week
w/b 6 th November	Attendance and Punctuality Week
w/b 13 th November	Year 6 Mock Sats
w/b 13 th November	Bikeability
15 th November	Year 3 – Learn with my child
15 th November	HSSW Coffee Morning
16 th November	Individual Photographs
16 th November	Greenland – Learn with my child
17 th November	Children in Need Day
20 th November	Road Safety Week
22 nd November	Year 6 – Learn with my child
24 th November	Cake Sale Fundraising Day
27 th November	Flu Immunisation Catch-up Day Year R-6
4 th December	Christmas Dress Rehearsal - a.m- 1 (Scotland / France / Mexico)
4 th December	Christmas Dress Rehearsal – p.m 2 (Northern Ireland / Spain / USA)
5 th December	Christmas Dress Rehearsal – a.m 3 (Wales / Italy / Canada)
5 th December	PM Nursery Christmas Concert @ 2.30pm
6 th December	AM Nursery Christmas Concert @ 9.15am
6 th December	KS1 Concert 1 @ 2.30
7 th December	Full Governing Body Meeting @ 7.00pm
7 th December	KS1 Concert 2 @ 9.30
7 th December	KS1 Concert 3 @ 2.30
8 th December	Christmas Dress Rehearsal – am – Year 3 and Year 4
11 th December	Year 3 and 4 Concert @ 9.30
11 th December	Year 3 and 4 Concert @ 2.30
12 th December	Year 5 and 6 Carol Service @ 2.00
12 th December	Year 5 and 6 Carol Service @ 7.00
13 th & 14 th December	Year N – Learn with my child
15 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
15 th December	Christmas Dinner
19 th December	Father Christmas in school
19 th December	Non- Uniform Day / Whole School Parties
19 th December	Last Day of Term
22nd December – 5th Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
4th January	Children back to school

Holiday Dates 2023-2024

	School Closes at the end of the day on	School re-opens on
Autumn Half term	Friday 20th October	Monday 30th October
Christmas	Tuesday 19th December	Thursday 4th January
Spring Half term	Friday 16th February	Monday 26th February
Easter	Thursday 28th March	Monday 15th April
May Day	Monday 6th May	
Summer Half term	Friday 24th May	Monday 3rd June
Summer	Wednesday 24th July	to be confirmed
In Service Training Day:	Friday 20th October 2023 Monday 17th June 2024	Thursday 28th March 2024