



Clockhouse Primary School

Newsletter - December 2023

#ourclockhousefamily



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

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been another exciting, memorable and successful term at Clockhouse Primary School and we could not have done it without you all! I hope you will agree, that together we have worked hard to ensure that the school continues to improve and have endeavoured to provide the best possible educational experience for each and every one of our wonderful children. As always, thank you to you and the children for your on-going support throughout this term but it would also be remiss of me not to thank the wonderful and simply amazing staff team we have. They go beyond the possible every day to make the school exceptional for the good of you all, especially your children. As we come to the end of another busy term at Clockhouse, I hope, like me, you are all looking forward to some very well deserved rest and relaxation as well as the festive season ahead.

It was lovely to welcome so many of you, to our fabulous Christmas concerts. I am sure you will agree, the children certainly impressed us and I know they loved performing to you all. Thank you to everyone who put their change (or more) in the bucket. We really are so appreciative. Once the money has been counted, we will let you know the collective total as well as how much we will be sending to each of the three charities we are supporting this year - Chigwell Riding for the Disabled, Children with Diabetes and St. Francis Hospice.

Once again, I have to thank you for the overwhelming support for all the charity work we have done this term and throughout this year. The stand out event has to be the Cake Sale where we raised nearly £1000 and before the end of the term we will be contributing to the Time FM Christmas appeal.

All that leaves me to say, is thank you so, so much for your overwhelming support throughout the whole term. Working with such a fabulous, helpful and supportive community makes the harder times so much easier. Next year, we continue our pursuit to making Clockhouse the best it can possibly be and will continue all that we can to support you. The staff and I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and the best possible start to 2024. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Thursday 4th January** for another action-packed and fun-filled year whatever it may bring! Have the best possible holiday everyone.

Mrs Savidge

Staffing

As you may already be aware, throughout the term we have said goodbye to a number of staff and also welcomed some new or returning faces to Clockhouse. Mrs Kenealy, Mrs Easton and Mrs Fall all made the difficult decision to move on from the school earlier in the term. Mrs Kenealy's absence was not long lived as she just missed us too much and is already back working in the school although in a different role. Mrs Kenealy is providing administration support to the Inclusion Team led by Miss Ward. We have also welcomed Mrs Code and Mrs Powell who have joined our team of LSA's and Miss Rudd who have joined Team Greenland. There really is never a dull moment at Clockhouse!

Reading Really Does Matter!

As you are aware, reading is such a vital skill for all children and one that they must learn. Please do try to read with your child as much as possible and please do sign their Reading Record Book so that they earn their well-deserved raffle tickets. Even if your children can read well, they still need to discuss their understanding of what they have read. This will only help them to progress further with their learning not just with their reading but across all curriculum areas.

Our Clockhouse Association

A big well done and thank you to Our Clockhouse Association who, thanks to their organisation and your generosity, have managed to raise an overwhelming amount for our school this year. We are busy discussing how we will put the funds to great use for the good of the children as well as what they will be doing in the future - exciting times ahead. Thanks goes again to Keystones for their continued sponsorship and generosity. We hope the children enjoyed the Festive Disco (I know we all did) and are looking forward to the raffle draw before the end of term.

Year Group News

A lot has happened in each year group this half term, so here is a little taster of what has been going on:

Nursery - Our Nursery children thoroughly enjoyed their first Nativity and did us all and you proud. It is so lovely to see how settled they are and see their confidence in being in school growing at a great rate.

Reception - The Reception children have had a great time learning all about Colour and Light. They have been working so hard to learn their sounds and tricky words and their progress is so impressive to see.

Year 1 - The children in Year 1 have had a great time learning about Woodland Life. They loved the visit from the owls and their first trip out of school searching for The Gruffalo and Thorndon Park.

Year 2 - Year 2 have loved learning all about Polar Regions. Polar Express day was once again a 'hit' and the children loved playing in the 'snow'.

Year 3 - Year 3 have had a busy half-term learning a lot. This term they have really got into learning French and even managed to learn to sing in French - impressive!

Year 4 - The children have continued to enjoy their learning about Ancient Egypt. They also really enjoyed their trip to The Thames Barrier and were great Clockhouse Citizens whilst there.

Year 5 - Year 5 have had a busy term completing their learning all about Europe.

One of the highlighted of the term had to be their trip to The Royal Opera House to see The Nutcracker - such an opportunity for them.

Year 6 - The Year 6 children had a great time learning about different periods in History. They made some great Dragons' Eyes and impressed with their determination during their SATs practise.

Greenland - Greenland have had a busy half term and loved having their parents in to learn with them. The families who came certainly seemed to enjoy their time with us also.

As always, I am sure you can appreciate this is just a small taster of what has happened at Clockhouse this term, it would be truly impossible to capture it all! Thank you to all the families who came to the various Learn with my Child sessions throughout the term. It was so lovely to welcome you all. Dates for these events for next term have been set and can be seen on the term dates over the page.



What you have told us!

Thank you to the many Parents / Carers who took the time to complete the Questionnaire at the November Parents' Evening. As can be seen from the table below, the results have been analysed and once again present the positive views in all we strive to do. The figures below are as a percentage.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My child enjoys what they learn at school	56	43	1	0
My child shows a particular preference for an area of their learning	42	45	11	2
The school helps my child to progress in their learning	62	37	1	0
The school informs me about my child's progress with regards to their learning	56	44	2	1
My child is making good progress with their learning	51	46	3	0
The teaching of the curriculum is good at the school	60	39	1	0
The school helps me to support my child with their learning	59	40	1	0
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns with regards to my child's learning	56	47	3	0
Communication between home and school is good and I / we feel well informed about what is happening	67	32	1	0
My child is supported with their learning at home	59	40	1	0

As always, please do not hesitate to come and talk to us should you have a suggestion about how we can improve, we are always open to new ideas!

Important Dates

5 th February	Year 6 trip to Gunpowder Mills
5 th January	Year 4 Egyptian Day
11 th January	Year 5 Space Workshop
w/b 15 th January	Arts Week
15 th January	Year 4 Eco Workshop
w/b 15 th January	Year 6 Mock Tests
16 th January	Year 1 Phonics Workshop for families
24 th January	Year 5 Mayan Workshops
25 th January	Year 1 Learn with my Child
29 th January	Choir singing at O2
30 th January	Year 3 Learn with my Child
31 st January / 1 st February	Year R Learn with my Child
w/b 5 th February	Mental Health Week
7 th February	Year 5 and R Road Safety Workshop
7 th / 8 th February	Year R Health Checks
7 th / 8 th February	Nursery Learn with my Child
13 th February	Year 5 Learn with my Child
16th February	Last Day of Half Term
19th – 23rd Feb	Half Term
26th February	Children return to school
w/b 26 th February	‘We Are’ Week / Attendance & Punctuality Week
28 th / 29 th February	Parents Evenings
1 st March	Year 5 to Barclays
4 th March	Year 1 trip to Discovery Centre
6 th March	Year 4 Learn with my Child
7 th March	World Book Day
8 th March	National Girls Football Day
8 th March	Greenland Learn with my Child
w/b 11 th March	Year 6 Mock Tests
14 th March	Year 6 Learn with my Child
19 th – 26 th March	Travelling Book Fair
14 th March	Year 2 – Chinese Workshop
15 th March	Red Nose Day
21 st March	National Poetry Day
21 st March	Year 6 to Docklands
22 nd March	Year 2 Learn with my Child
27 th March	Year 5 to Frameless
27th March	Last Day of Term
28th March	INSET Day
29th March – 12th April	Easter Holiday
15th April	Children return to school



Holiday Dates 2023-2024

	School Closes at the end of the day on	School re-opens on
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