



# Cliffe Woods Primary School

31st March 2025 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Charity

Thank you to you for your generosity on Red Nose Day – we raised a whopping £416.50 and as you can see, everyone got into the spirit of the day!



Our Year 4 children are selling a range of items, and have so far raised just over £46 for Battersea Rescue Centre. We are, as always, proud of their commitment to good causes.

We also have another group of volunteers from Year 4 next week selling a range of goodies to raise funds for Hope UK. We will share how they get on in the next newsletter.



## Parking

Please can I remind you again that you must not park, pull in or drop off on the zig zag lines outside the school or park cars blocking our neighbours drives. More and more people are doing this, and this is extremely dangerous for our children, as well as being illegal.



# Enrichment

Last week, Sally Green, the Prevent Education Officer for North and West Kent, came to lead a workshop with our Year 6 pupils. The pupils learnt about information sharing online and the potential dangers of adding people they don't know to groups or games. They also discussed the importance of being responsible when posting things online or commenting in chat groups. Sally commented on how engaged and enthusiastic our pupils were.



The wonderful musical extravaganzas have again taken place, with Year 4 taking us on a journey through the musical decades from the 1950s, and Year 3 celebrating their class topics through music.



# Speaking Competition

Our lucky class winners of the KS2 speaking competition attended an oracy workshop at Holy Trinity School in Gravesend. They were treated to a session delivered by an amazing story teller and then given tips as to how to be great public speakers. The final of the competition takes place at the beginning of term 5, and the lucky winner will get a trip to the House of Commons or Lords and the chance to enter the final of the competition. Good luck to them all.



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## Governors

Some of you will know that the role of a school governor is an unpaid, voluntary role, and we are very grateful to all members of our governing body who give their time and expertise to improve our school.

Our two most recently appointed governors, Mr Richard Smith (Trust Appointed Governor), and Mr Jonathan Smith (Parent Governor) are joining some of our other governors on a learning walk later this week.

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## Careers' Fayre

We are planning on holding another careers' fayre in June this year, provisionally on Tuesday, 17th from 1:30pm. Our focus is on STEM careers, and in the past some parents/carers have offered their time to share their roles with our Year 5 and 6 students. If this is something you feel able to offer, and you are free to come in to school for a couple of hours on the 17th June, please let us know, and we can share more details with how the afternoon runs.



# Reading

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we were delighted to receive a visit from author and poet, A.F. Harrold.

Many of the children in Key Stage 2 have studied Harrold's quirky and hilarious poems in their English lessons so it was a real treat to meet the man himself! He read a selection of poetry and extracts from a couple of his children's books and then spent some time in our Early Years Foundation Stage reading poetry with our youngest children.

We know that lots of the children were keen to hear more of his stories so if you are interested in finding out more about him or his books, please use the link below:

## A.F. Harrold



# Agents for Change

This week, our Agents for Change led another whole school assembly. This time the focus was on challenging gender stereotypes. The children shared a fantastic book called 'Except When They Don't' by Laura Gehl, which invited the pupils to really consider what they are sometimes told are 'boy' or 'girl' activities and games. Instead, the children were encouraged to play with whatever they want and be exactly who they are. The Agents for Change reminded all pupils to be an 'upstander' and challenge prejudice wherever they see it.



# Diversity

The Aletheia Media Team were in school this week filming in preparation for our Trust's 10 Year celebrations. To celebrate diversity both within individual schools and across the Trust, they invited any staff or pupils who speak a language other than English at home, to share a little message in their home language. It was wonderful to hear our children speaking in languages such as Punjabi, Russian, Turkish and Romanian, along with adults who shared their message in Maltese, Mandarin, Afrikaans and Hebrew.

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## Art

We would really appreciate any old adult shirts that children can wear over their uniform when doing art lessons. This will help us to help you keep the children's uniforms pristine!



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## Safeguarding

We have been working on positive behaviour reinforcement and the children have responded really well to this. As an additional support for this work, there are sessions aimed at parents and carers to support with strategies to use at home. The link below takes you to the free sessions which could be useful.

### **[Behaviour Book Club | WhenTheAdultsChange](#)**

Can I also please take this opportunity to ask that when you collect your children from the Key Stage Two playground at the end of the day, that you wait behind the picket fence in the centre of the playground, and that any younger children remain with you and do not use the playground equipment. This is to keep the children safe as the equipment should only be used when children are supervised by a qualified adult.

Also, can you please remind children not to use scooters once on the school grounds, as this can be dangerous to small children or people with mobility issues.

# SEND

Medway Council have overhauled their Local Offer for families of children and young people with SEND. The offer has been rebranded as the SEND Information Hub, and we have added a link to this hub on our website.

SEND Information Hub – / Local Offer : [www.medway.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.medway.gov.uk/localoffer)

This is a great resource for all parents! Not just parents of children with SEND. This website showcases all that Medway has on offer for families and provides a wealth of information.

Education and travel	Activities and groups	Social care and support	Health and wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School and education support &gt;</li><li>Find a special school &gt;</li><li>Apply for a school place if your child has an EHCP &gt;</li><li>Educational Psychology Service &gt;</li><li>SEN travel support &gt;</li><li>Grants, allowances and money management &gt;</li><li>Preparing for adulthood &gt;</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Find things to do on our Local Offer directory &gt;</li><li>SEND activities &gt;</li><li>Medway Sport - disability sports and clubs &gt;</li><li>Sports centres and swimming pools &gt;</li><li>Medway Youth Service &gt;</li><li>Child-friendly Medway &gt;</li><li>Medway library events &gt;</li><li>Places to visit &gt;</li><li>CEA cinema card &gt;</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Social care services &gt;</li><li>Short break services &gt;</li><li>Family help and support &gt;</li><li>Request support for a child with disabilities &gt;</li><li>Support for disabilities &gt;</li><li>Join the Register of Children with Disabilities &gt;</li><li>Early Help for families &gt;</li><li>Positive behaviour support (PBS) &gt;</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Health and wellbeing support &gt;</li><li>Annual health checks &gt;</li><li>Children's speech and language therapy &gt;</li><li>Community paediatrics &gt;</li><li>Children and young people's physiotherapy &gt;</li><li>Medway Young Persons' Wellbeing Service (YWPS) &gt;</li></ul>



## Finally

We hope those who are able to come to the Mothers' Day Tea have a lovely afternoon.

A reminder that we break up at 2pm on Friday, 4th April, and return on Tuesday 22nd April. We wish you all a lovely Easter Break and look forward to a wonderful summer term.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Connolly  
Head of School

## **Dates for the Diary**

Please take a careful look at the following dates, all of which can be found on the Events Calendar on the school website, and make a note of any that may affect your child.

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>
<b>Tuesday 1st April</b>	<b>Mother's Day Tea - 2.00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 2nd April</b>	<b>Yr 6 Trip to Lion King</b>
	<b>Mother's Day Tea - 2.00pm</b>
<b>Friday 4th April</b>	<b>Last Day of Term - Finish 2.00pm</b>
	<b>PTA Break the rules day</b>
<b>Tuesday 22nd April</b>	<b>First Day of Term</b>
<b>Wednesday 23rd April</b>	<b>Parent Consultations</b>
<b>Thursday 24th April</b>	<b>Parent Consultations</b>
<b>Monday 28th April</b>	<b>PTA Meeting - 7.30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 29th April</b>	<b>Gosling Class Stay and Play - 2.30pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 30th April</b>	<b>Yr 5 Elephant Class Trip to Pizza Express</b>
	<b>Puggle Class Stay and Play - 2.30pm</b>

### **Have Your Say Meetings:**

**Friday 25th April at 9.00am**

**Monday 23rd June at 2.30pm**

