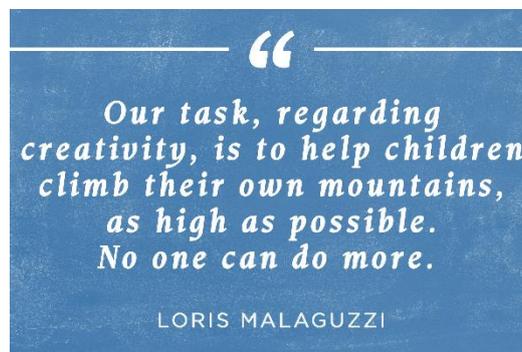




Dear Families

A great deal has happened in the two weeks since my last newsletter as we prepare for the next phase in our school development journey. Before I explain a little about our next steps, it seems like a good opportunity to reflect on last year's achievements because, despite months of lockdown, we worked together to achieve an awful lot.

Our focus was on steadying the Clandon ship, building a team of professionals, improving progress and outcomes, and taking a different approach to behaviour so that all pupils could learn effectively.



A strong and dedicated team:

Our team really has gone from strength to strength; we now number twenty-two professionals all working as one to provide the best education for all children. Each member of our team is strong and dedicated and crucially in the right place at the right time to best meet the needs of our children.

Excellent Outcomes and Progress:

There is that healthy buzz of hard work and focus from our staff and our children. All year groups are making accelerated progress because of dedicated, engaging, and rigorous teaching; when progress is accelerated better outcomes follow. We have high aspirations for all our children, making all the difference to their preparedness for future education and life!

Behaviour for Learning:

In 2019, Ofsted commented on low level disruption in classrooms. We had to get to the root of this issue. It was a little like peeling an onion; but many layers and a few tears later we have it sorted. The introduction of our code of conduct helped children understand our collective responsibility for each other's school experience. In response to this most of our pupils settled and engaged with the school experience on offer; this was a great start.

Our new behaviour policy helped all of us realise that behaviour is a form of communication. Rather than seeing a difficult child, we now see a vulnerable child. We work together to find the root of the behaviour. Once most children were calm and settled it was easy to spot the children who had unresolved concerns. The basis in most cases was unmet special educational needs.

Fantastic and relentless work by our SEND team has resulted in six Education Plans being awarded to children in our school. They now benefit from one-to-one support and access to a brilliant nurture facility. Their needs have been met and therefore everyone can learn!

I think we can all be enormously proud of the changes we have made at Clandon; thank you for being a huge part and driving force by my side.

School Reimagined:

REIMAGINING THIS PLACE CALLED SCHOOL

The last year has been immensely rewarding and I am so excited for what is to come. Since starting at Clandon I have battled with the school site, it is fair to say that it presents us with some challenges. I have come to realise that these challenges are of our own making, we are trying to fit an 'ordinary' primary school onto a unique site. It's time to stop battling with our buildings and time to start discovering what unique opportunities they can offer! **It is time to reimagine school!**

We started this week with break times. Each class had their own break time lasting twenty minutes with access to the whole playground! They loved it! Less children, more space, and more opportunities for age appropriate play! We are already seeing a difference in their focus in class and their enjoyment of play and social relationships.

We will be taking this approach to our whole school day. Lunchtimes, breaktimes, lessons, uniform, curriculum; every aspect of school is open for debate. **Maybe you have some ideas. Can you help Clandon reimagine school? I have attached a form for you to complete with any ideas you may have!**

Growing Environments:



I have two exciting meetings lined up. I am meeting Lord Onslow today and I am already nervous. We will be discussing use of the ancient woodland site by the traffic lights at the end of the village. Next week I will be meeting Joanna Manning from the National Trust, who has already agreed to give the school unlimited access to the Clandon Park grounds. **The gates of Clandon School are about to be opened to a whole range of fantastic spaces and wonderful adventures.** With acres of country estate at our fingertips we might be the best resourced school in the country!

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Executive are conducting spot checks on schools as we strive to stop the spread of Covid19. As one of the lucky chosen schools 😊 we were inspected last week! This was a remote inspection and took place on the phone. I am pleased to say that our careful risk assessment and measures we have put in place were well received and we passed with flying colours. Of course, this does not mean there is no risk, but it does demonstrate we are doing all in our power to keep everyone safe.

Whilst on the subject of Health and Safety, the school held a fire drill last week; the children were incredible and evacuated the buildings quickly. Behaviour was exceptional; well done children 😊

Parking!

I hoped to have to say no more on this issue as parking in the Bull's Head has now stopped – thank you. However, some parents are now parking on the track between Clandon Park and the school. This is dangerous and irresponsible behaviour. The school does not have permission to park on this land. If you park here, you are putting children at risk for the sake of a couple of minutes of your time. I will be on the track next week to monitor this issue.

In addition, some parents are also using short cuts across Onslow land. We are working hard to build a relationship with Clandon Park that will benefit us all. It would be a great shame if this were jeopardised by the behaviour of a few parents.

I really am enthused and excited about this year and I would encourage you to get involved. Complete the form, drop me an email, join the PTA, or simply have a chat with me. I am open to all your ideas!

Have a lovely weekend and send me good thoughts for my meeting this evening. I will feedback as soon as I can.

Best wishes

Vicky

Thank you to ...

Mr and Mrs Braithwaite who spent time in school recently refreshing the planters around school.

Mr and Mrs Taylor for the donation of tissues for the classrooms.

REIMAGINING THIS PLACE CALLED SCHOOL

Clandon is reimagining school! This mean we are considering all aspects of our school day and how we can use our beautiful site and facilities to provide a uniquely wonderful educational experience. Do you have any ideas, can you help reimagine school? If forms aren't your thing, please talk to us. We'd love to hear all your ideas.

Use this form to record any ideas you may have, this could be playtimes, lunchtimes, curriculum and lessons, uniform, after school provision. The list is endless and its all open for debate. Send your form back to school or email me, head@shere.surrey.sch.uk