



Clandon CofE Primary School
Newlands Federation - Roots to grow, wings to fly.

Newsletter 29th September 2023

Dear Families

We enjoyed reading applications from Year 6 for the School Council and House Captain roles this week and are delighted to announce the children who have been chosen to represent our school by fulfilling these important positions – congratulations to you all:

School Council *Chair* – Eleanor *Secretary* – Katherine *Treasurer* – Freya
House Captains *Larch* – Ashleigh *Beech* – Lucy *Oak* – Daniel *Yew* – James

Developing Communication Skills:

Every year we update our School Development Plan and this year one of the strands is focussed on developing writing. Across this term teaching staff are looking at the elements that feed into writing development. We began this week by considering children's communication skills because "if you can't say it, you can't write it". It is important to prioritise talk across the curriculum so that children develop a wide vocabulary, can explain their ideas and the reasons for their opinions and can develop narratives orally before the complex process of recording in writing begins. Talk is also an important social skill and the ability to converse with others whilst working and playing is a vital part of children's development.

Alongside this focus in school, we'd like to enlist the help of our families in developing their child's communication skills. Each week of the autumn term, we will introduce a focus question to the children in celebration assembly and then publish this in the newsletter so that you can use this as a prompt for talk at home. There is no right answer to the question but see if you can support your child to explain **why** they have answered as they did. We will then talk about the question in class the following week and hear some of the children's responses so they can practice speaking in front of an audience. Our first focus question is:



Would you rather
live in a tree house
or under the sea?



Harvest Festival Service and Donations:

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Harvest Service on Thursday; the move of time to 9.30am seems to be a better fit with more families. Thank you all for your generous contributions to the harvest festival. We are very grateful to Lynn Yeo who has kindly volunteered to drop off our school donations to the Food Bank.

Message for Robins and Badgers from Mrs Webb:

In RE, continuing on from our harvest service, KSI are thinking about how God continues to give in the form of harvest. In particular, we are looking at where in the world our food comes from. If they would like to, children could look at foodstuffs at home over the weekend and see where their food is from, near or far, and perhaps look on the world map to see where that is. They could bring in the wrappers (if clean and not too big) to show and pinpoint on a world map for next Friday.

Puppies:

The children from Woodlands were delighted when we received a visit from five gorgeous Labrador puppies on Wednesday. The puppies were brought in by Maree Sutton in order to support children to feel more confident interacting with animals and to encourage discussion about safety when handling animals. The puppies then visited the Senior Leadership Team meeting and we're thinking of making them a standing item on the agenda! Thank you Maree, for creating this lovely experience for our children (and staff 😊).



Athlete Event:

Your children will have brought home a letter and a sponsorship form today in preparation for our athlete visit on the afternoon of Friday 13th October. Today we revealed the identity of our visitor to the children: **Victoria Ohuruogo**, winner of bronze medals at the World Championships, Indoor World Championships and European Championships, plus a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games! She is currently ranked 12th in the world for the women's 400 metres and we are very excited that she will be visiting our school.

On the day of the visit, each class will be completing a fitness circuit and the children have already begun training so they can do their very best on the day. They will be asking family and close friends to sponsor them for their participation to raise money for our school and for the support of athletes so that they can continue to inspire the next generation. We have assured the children that it doesn't matter how much or how little they raise, the focus for this event is participation. All children should come wearing their PE kit on the day and we hope that the staff will join in too!



MESSY CHURCH at the Clandons

All families are warmly invited to the Clandon Churches' Messy Church on **Saturday 7 October!** Do come and join our wonderful Rector Barnaby and the Messy Church team from **3.00 to 5.00pm** in the Poppy Room,

West Clandon RBL.

Our theme this month is the story of a very special saint - St Francis of Assisi, who we all know for his love of animals and nature in general. We can promise you our usual mix of fun and friendship, creativity and craft, singing and celebration and fabulous food - all with an Italian twist... Everyone will receive a very warm welcome, so do come along, and invite your friends to join us too! It's always helpful to have an idea of numbers, so do let me know if you are planning to come (particularly if you have dietary issues). Please email tessa@clandon-churches.org

Advance dates for your diary:

Saturday 11 November - Messy Remembrance at the Poppy Room

Saturday 8 December - Messy Christmas at East Clandon Village Hall

We are still hoping for more volunteers to join us at our **Forest School Working Party** on **Saturday 14th October 11am-1pm**. Please do let the office know if you can lend a hand.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Warmest wishes from

Vicky Voller, Headteacher & Stacey Reynolds, Head of School

The Newlands Federation

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Autumn Term Dates

*New dates added or updated event

October	Thu 5 th	Whole School	Individual Photographs
	Fri 6 th	Whole School	PTFA Cake Sale - Squirrels to donate cakes, shop bought or homemade (please list allergens if homemade) for sale after school (50p per cake)
	Wed 11 th	Kestrels	Visit to Henley Fort (letter to follow)
	Fri 13 th	Whole School	Visit from Athlete - Victoria Ohuruogu
	Sat 14 th	Parents	Forest School Working Party
	Fri 20 th	Whole School	Sponsorship due for athlete event*
	W/c 23 rd	Whole School	Half-term holiday

November	Fri 3 rd	Whole School	PTFA Hot Chocolate Sale after school
	Fri 17 th	Whole School	PTFA Mufti Day - donate a bottle for the Christmas Fair

December	Fri 1 st	Whole School	PTFA Christmas Fair after school
	Wed 6 th	Key Stage 2	Carols in the Wilderness at 2.30pm*
	Fri 8 th	Whole School	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
	Fri 8 th	Whole School	Reindeer Run
	Wed 13 th	Woodlands	Nativity at 9.30am*
	Fri 15 th	Whole School	Last Day of Term, school finishes at 1.30pm