# Newsletter

CLAYGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**1st October 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Ofsted seems a long time ago, however, since January our journey of improvement has not paused; our strategic development plan targets continued to remain a focus for both staff and governors. Throughout lockdown, staff seized the opportunity to engage with professional development opportunities, revisiting planning in the light of recent whole school training and development initiatives and review their subject priorities and development. The Governors, Mrs Ali and I met with our Local Authority Improvement Advisor. She was pleased with our risk assessment processes, approach to remote learning and we shared our priorities with her, including how we have looked at Curriculum Design as a team and utilised Lockdown opportunities for further subject training and the development of our CPS Curricular offer. It was a pleasure to show her around our school and to celebrate our successes to date. These challenge sessions are incredibly valuable for us all

This week, we have been excited to have a visit from our Local Authority Early Years Consultant. Post Ofsted, our plan was to redesign how free-flow learning worked across the Early Years indoor and outdoor classrooms making it truly free flow and with all areas of development catered for, for all children to access. Our children also have greater outdoor learning opportunities through the creation of Mini-Woodies, working with Mrs Buttery, our Forest School Leader. We have a sensory garden and a story circle now within the EYFS outside learning zones, as well as a story café!

In the consultant's subsequent report, she noted

- **'There has been significant improvement in the quality of provision in the EYFS at Claygate'**
- **'The new EYFS lead has sound knowledge of EYFS practice with a clear vision'**
- **'She has worked tirelessly with the rest of the team to transform the provision'**
- **'Expectations are high'**
- **'Behaviour was excellent'**
- **'Overall, the quality of provision…was good'**

I am sure you would agree that this is excellent externally validated evidence for CPS.

Our Strategic Development Priorities have been developed with staff and governors and in consultation with our Local Authority Improvement Advisor:

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## Strategic Development Plan Priorities

## 2020 - 2021

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| **Leadership & Management:** | To continue to develop subject leaders and those new to role, at both middle and senior level |

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| **Quality of Education:**<br><br>To improve the quality of teaching so that all pupils, particularly disadvantaged, make better progress in all year groups and key stages. | To ensure a consistent approach to the teaching of reading impacts on the progress and attainment of all children (see reading action plan)<br><br>To develop the teaching and learning of writing and SPAG to ensure an increase in greater depth writers (see writing action plan)<br><br>To ensure a continuing broad and balanced curriculum with high quality provision for our focus subjects:<br>Computing, DT, MFL and Art<br>(see individual subject action plans)<br><br>To develop all aspects of the EYFS curriculum so that the quality of education improves for all children |
| **Behaviour & Attitudes:**<br><br>To foster a positive attitude towards learning. | To focus on the British Values (alongside and linked to the CPS Values) to nurture aspiration, inspire love for life-long learning and prepare children for the changing society.<br><br>To further develop pupil voice and leadership opportunities |
| **Personal Development:**<br><br>To develop emotional self-regulation and resilience in children | Through an emphasis on the recovery curriculum, children will understand and appreciate the role and importance of emotions, health and well-being. |
| **Safeguarding Priorities** | To ensure the CPS early help offer identifies and supports vulnerable families.<br><br>To raise staff awareness of the importance of meticulous record keeping in identifying wider safeguarding/behaviour issues (extending use of CPOMS to all staff).<br><br>To raise our children's' awareness of the wide range of support mechanisms available through CPS and beyond |

**Thank you for your continued support; it really does mean a lot! Have a lovely weekend!**

## School Photographs

Our school photographer will be in school on Tuesday, 6th and Thursday, 8th October taking individual photos. Unfortunately, he will be unable to take siblings together on this occasion.

Please make sure your children have their full school uniform on and look lovely and smart for their photo!

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## Kuk Sool Won

Lucas (Hazel class) got his yellow belt at KSW this week.
He did a LOT of practice at home having missed lots of sessions over the summer.

Well done Lucas!

## Harvest Festival

East Elmbridge Foodbank collection boxes will be at the school gates from Mon 12 - Wed 14 October to collect any donations.

The items they have requested are:

Fruit juice and juice boxes
Lunch box items
Tinned fish
Fray Bentos pies / tinned hot dogs
Tinned peas, carrots, potatoes
Instant noodles, microwave rice, etc
Tinned fruit
Rice pudding and custard
Biscuits

Thank you!

## Pobble

As you may already be aware, at Claygate we use the online platform Pobble to celebrate and share children's writing. Teachers regularly select "published authors" and share their work with the school community and a global audience. Sometimes, it may be that your child's class does not have any work published. This may be because they are working towards writing a longer text which needs more time to be developed. You may receive an email requesting permission for your child's work to be published please respond if you would like to be part of the Pobble community.

We hope you'll enjoy seeing the wide range wonderful writing produced by the children. This week's published authors are:

Chestnut - Emily & Matilda

## Dogs!

A number of parents have raised concerns about the amount of dogs at drop off and pick up each day. Some of the dogs are quite large and can be rather intimidating for both our children and their younger siblings, especially as the space is rather confined.

We would therefore be grateful if you could avoid bringing your dogs with you to the school gate if possible please.

Thank you for your help with this.

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## Year 5

Last Friday Year 5 were investigating the force of gravity and finding out that air resistance helps to slow an object down. They did this by creating their own parachutes and predicting what would make the 'best' parachute; what would they need to make sure the parachute generated the most amount of air resistance.

In the afternoon, they designed and created their own dragon eyes out of modelling clay using the score and slip techniques to build layers. This linked with their Viking topic as they were looking at the front of Viking longboats.

## Jammie & Dodger

The rota to look after our lovely guinea pigs is now full until February half term so thank you to all the volunteers.

If you would like to look after them please do let Gill in the office know at gill.kosbab@claygate.surrey.sch.uk

They are still looking for a home for the Christmas holidays however, so if you are able to have them please do get in touch.
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