

Newsletter



11th October 2019

What a joy! I had a parent tell me how his daughter was loving reading and learning phonics in reception this morning. We love positive feedback; teaching is definitely a vocation and a little positivity means so much to us. This is also great because one of the school's priorities is to improve reading across the school; we have already seen the benefits of our new books and of course our new reading journals and expectations. It is great to know that your donations to Friends are having an impact - thank you everyone. Last week, Friends of CPS agreed to fund even more home reading books for our children to enjoy... and most have already arrived – almost 2000

Last week our senior leadership team worked alongside a Local Authority English consultant to reflect on reading across the school. It was brilliant! We created our vision for reading, looked at good reading practice and reflected on ways to improve how we actually teach reading skills. Staff then added to this vision and we received some excellent training on research based methods for this. This week, our senior leadership team worked with a coach regarding the implementation of Accelerated Reader. We have also looked at and reviewed CPS' Guided Reading which we will rebrand as 'Reading for Meaning' sessions after half term ...watch this space! Linked, as part of our oracy and developing performance skills, the children will soon be given the opportunity to learn and perform a poem from a selection – very exciting!

We continue to reflect on ways to improve the children's mental health and we are developing a calm area for 'mindful colouring'; a great 'go to' space and we have an exciting new club promoting mindfulness to look forward to.



The children in Hawthorn Class enjoyed some mindfulness with Mrs Evans

Equally our physical well-being is also important and it was so lovely to have the sun shine on Claygate's annual family Fun Run...what a fantastic community event.

Well done to Simon and his team who ensured its smooth 'running' and to everyone who participated.

An extra shout out to our 5km and 2km placed winners:

2km

- 1st Ethan (guest) – 11:30
- 2nd - Archie (Rowan) - 11:49
- 3rd - Henry (Cedar) - 13:40

5km

- 1st Thomas (Pine) – 23:42
- 2nd Oliver (guest) – 23:50
- 3rd Jamie (Pine) – 25:30

Finally, apologies, I still cannot receive emails, so please send anything via the Office for my attention. Have a restful weekend and do enjoy your Vegas experience!

Harvest Festival - East Elmbridge Food Bank

Just a reminder that we are collecting items for the Elmbridge Food Bank as part of our harvest festival this year.

If you are able to make a donation please bring it to the office between Monday, 14th and Wednesday 16th October. Food Bank volunteers will be collecting all donations on the evening of 16th October and so we won't be able to accept any further donations after that.

In particular they are short of the following:

- Tinned vegetables
- Pasta/ rice
- Tinned custard / rice pudding
- Pet food
- Jam

Thank you.

Friends of Claygate Primary School donate a further £14,954.41 to the school

At a meeting of the charity last week it was agreed a further £14,954.41 would be donated to the school for the following:

- Phonics resources
- Spelling training for staff and resources to implement across school
- Music resources
- New reading books for KS1 and KS2
- An IPAD for each year group for videoing etc.
- Teaching resources for school and home use

None of this would be possible without your continuing support. If you are not contributing, please consider doing so as without this additional money we would not be able to provide all these essential resources for your children, it does not matter how much. Forms can be obtained from the school office.

We are looking for additional trustees as two will be standing down this year. It involves about four or five two hour meeting a year. If you would like to find out more please email Mark.Aulds@ntlworld.com

Aspen Class enjoying their new reading books



Celebrating Chess Success

We would like to congratulate the following children.

Tristan (Aspen) came 4th in the under 10 Section and 1st in the area Section of Kingston.

Theo (Elm) and Jessica (Lime) also represented the school at 'The All Surrey Chess Championships'.

Well done to all of you!

Mrs Gledhill would like to invite all children to attend a taster chess lesson on Monday lunchtimes. She would also like children to join Chess Club if they would like to represent Claygate Chess Team, playing against other local schools.

Year 4 Science

At the end of last week, Year 4 went around the school grounds to complete a habitat survey during one of our Science lessons. We were able to find a range of living things and describe their characteristics as well as the habitats they were found in.



Attention Working Party Volunteers

If anyone is able to help with our working party on 19th October please do let Mark Aulds know via email at mark.aulds.gov@claygate.surrey.sch.uk. The more the merrier!

Woodland Learning

The Woodland Learning Team would be grateful if anyone who has a chainsaw would be willing to come in and cut some wood for us. They would like to make use of the tree that fell over the summer. If you can help please call the office so we can put you in touch to arrange a convenient time. Thank you.

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Year 6 Football

Congratulations to the Year 6 boys football team for playing their first game of the season against Royal Kent. A close league match ending 2-2 going down to the last few minutes! Well done Claygate! Well done also to Neev Gill (goalie) for getting player of the match.

Match Report by Sports Ambassador and Team Captain - Harry Jenkins



Pepper and Patch

Pepper and Patch, the school bunnies, are looking for weekend homes during December and also over the Christmas Holidays. If anyone would like to look after them please let the office know. Thank you.

Spare Plimsolls & P.E. Kit

If you have any spare plimsolls or PE Kit at home that would fit our reception children we would be really pleased to take it off your hands. It's always good to have a few spares in reception! Thank you.