

# Newsletter



6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

I am sure the children's highlight of the week was our World Book Pyjamarama Dazzle Day! Thank you to everyone who supported this! It was so lovely to have so many parents pop in to read and of course for the children to have OTTER time to read for pleasure, buddy reading as well as Reading for Meaning Sessions; reading was certainly a clear focus across the school! Although we want our children to make good progress in this pivotal subject which open doors to learning across the curriculum, and is hence a school priority, we also want them to love reading now and in the future!

Sports Relief is coming up next week and we are concerned that we are collecting for so many charities etc that we have planned opportunities for inter-house activities in PE lessons and on Friday, children are welcome to wear their house Tee shirts with their tracksuits!

Linked to both a love of poetry and developing oracy, the children will be invited to participate in our termly poetry recitals; last term was very successful and the children chose from a selection of poems. This term the children can choose a poem they simply would like to share! They will perform their chosen poem w/c 16<sup>th</sup> March and final poetry winners will share their poem at celebration assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> March. I am already looking forward to this event!

Some of our 'always' children visited me for cake and Golden Tea; a highlight for me! This recognises children who simply consistently demonstrate our values. Children are chosen on merit and may visit more than once; sadly not everyone can or will be chosen. The children were surprised, excited and a delight to chat to (although Year 6 were pretty subdued in comparison to the others!)

This week we have focussed heavily on the progression and development of writing across the school. The senior leadership team and English leaders worked with L. Pickton, a consultant for the day, and he delivered a training session to the staff team during our weekly training session! We are now excited to put our learning into practice and map out when we will teach certain skills and genres of writing to make strong and valuable links with science, RE, history, geography etc! This week our reception teachers visited an outstanding school to share expertise and ideas; what an amazing opportunity! As you know, our school focussed on developing how we teach mathematics last year; our journey continues and our maths leads visited schools on Wednesday as part of the Surrey Maths Hub research project.

Today, I am off site, working with my head teacher colleagues across the Ember Learning Trust to explore further opportunities for our children and staff as well as sharing priorities and strategies - all of our schools are focussing on curriculum development due to the recent new Ofsted Framework.

## Pobble

This weeks' published authors on Pobble are:

Elm	-	Dhillon
Hazel	-	Zachary
Aspen	-	Owen
Pine	-	Oliver
Beech	-	Maha



Read our writing on [Pobble.com](https://www.pobble.com)

## BBC Radio 2 - 500 Words Competition

Hamish (Elm Class) also entered the BBC Radio 2, 500 word writing competition. His story is called 'The Wise Tiger' and is about a brave group of animals who face their fears and save the jungle from the dark side called Geoff (who really just wants to be their friend!).

Hamish's mum said "His imagination and perseverance to get to 500 words was super impressive".

Well done Hamish and good luck!

# Newsletter



## NAS support group meeting

Come and join the next local autism meeting. Whether the child you care for has a diagnosis or not, everyone is very welcome to join this small and friendly support group. For any questions, please contact Emily.gorvy@hotmail.co.uk.

**When: Friday 20th March 1.45-3pm**

**Where: Claygate Primary school**

## Wellbeing Ambassadors

A group of Year 5's and 6's did Wellbeing Ambassador Training last Thursday. We learnt about the 5 ways to wellbeing and have lots of new ideas to share with the rest of the school.

Amelia, Amelie & Catriona (Cedar)



## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As I am sure many of you will have seen over the weekend, there have been media reports about Coronavirus in the UK and in Surrey, and many of you will be concerned. Although this is a concern for us all it is very important that we work together; following government and Public Health as well as Surrey's guidance. I am also keen that we safeguard our children's mental well being by remaining calm, keeping our conversations with the children factual and giving them guidance re hand washing and the use of tissues.

The advice to us from Public Health England and Surrey County Council remains the same and is as follows:-

- 1) Where a suspected case has been in a childcare or educational setting, **there is no need to close the setting or send other learners or staff home.**
- 2) Even if there is a confirmed case in your childcare or educational setting, **in most cases, closure of the childcare or education setting will be unnecessary and advice would be provided by Public Health England.**
- 3) As always, everyone should continue to promote good hand and respiratory hygiene:
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze, then bin the tissue and wash your hands (or use a sanitiser gel).
  - Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

Remember, if you have any direct medical concerns, to contact NHS 111.

The Department for Education have set up a Coronavirus helpline (tel 0800 046 8687) for queries relating to schools and other educational establishments in England. Lines are open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm.

Please be assured that when there is a confirmed case, Public Health England (PHE) use the method of contact tracing to prevent the infection spreading further. Please see below to link below to find out more about contact tracing: <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/02/13/expert-interview-what-is-contact-tracing/>

For further information, please see [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) and 'Guidance to educational settings about COVID-19' <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

# Newsletter



## Prospective Parents Invitation

Please do share the invitation below with any prospective parents:



Dear prospective Parents / Carers,

As you may be aware, we have recently had a Section 5 Ofsted Inspection. I would like to invite you to an evening briefing to share the detail of Ofsted's judgements and to discuss our journey to date and future plans for Claygate (and of course a chance to meet with other prospective parents). The meeting will be in the school hall at 6.30pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March. After this session the powerpoint presentation will be added to the school website.

Sandra Cunningham  
Head Teacher  
head@claygate.surrey.sch.uk

## Woodland Learning Zone



A huge 'Thank You' to Graham Copland-Cale for building us a shelter in the Woodland Learning Zone.

This is the first of the improvements that we are making to make the Woodland Learning Zone an interesting and inspiring place for the children to learn.

### Please Note:

**The Woodland Learning Zone Working Party due to take place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March (this coming Sunday) is postponed due to predicted weather conditions. We will be setting a new date as soon as possible.**

The Woodland Learning Team

## Parents Evening – 10<sup>th</sup> March

If you are coming to Tuesday's parent's evening please do stop by the kitchen where Nicky and her team will have some lovely samples available for you to try. You will also have the opportunity to have a chat with Nicky and ask any questions you may have.

## ELT Internet Safety Workshop for Parents and Carers.

Please join us at Thames Ditton Junior School on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm for an informative workshop on Internet Safety. To prepare children for learning and working in the 21<sup>st</sup> century world, the use of technology and digital tools for teaching and learning are being used more frequently in schools across the curriculum. In addition, children have access to technology outside school so we need to continue to reinforce the messages of internet safety.

As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. You don't need to be an expert on the internet to do this. The workshop will provide advice and resources to support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively, including how you can start protecting yourself at home.