



Clover Hill Community Primary School

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Friday 1st February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

As we welcome in the month of February our children are busy working hard and having fun, embracing all the new learning they are being presented with and enjoying all their subjects. Keep Fit Fridays have been a popular and energetic addition to our curriculum provision for this term 😊

Reading comprehension

Over the past couple of weeks, I have spent some very enjoyable time in classrooms observing reading lessons. A truly inspiring and rewarding experience. Clover Hill children certainly thrive with their love of reading and their acquisition of phonics, grammar and punctuation and comprehension skills. We are extremely lucky to have skilful teachers who expertly know how to hook children into their learning and develop their knowledge and skills to a high standard. Similarly, we are grateful that our children come to school enthusiastic about learning. We instil in them high expectations for their learning behaviours, these were clearly demonstrated throughout all the lesson observations.

Reading is such a joyful, but also vitally important skill. I think adults can often take reading for granted and don't find time to read much themselves - other than for information. One of my personal favourite visits is a trip to Barter Books in Alnwick. Based in the old railway station it houses a vast collection of second hand books. If you have never been I recommend you plan a visit and explore the many different books available for all ages. Mrs Holden has previously posted information on our website about how to help your child with their reading as well as some age appropriate recommended book lists. Please remember to listen to your child read and/or read a book together with them as often as you can, asking them lots of questions about the text. 15-20 minutes every day can make a big difference to their reading accuracy, comprehension and passion for reading. Make it fun and engaging. Switch off the tv, shut down the tablets and visit the local library and book shops.

Date reminders for the rest of this term

Friday 15th February INSET staff training day - School closed for children

Half term: 18th - 22nd February 2019

Assessment dates: w/c 4th March internal assessment week for Year 2 and Key Stage 2

SATs week for Year 6: w/c 13th May 2019 SATs work for Year 2 will take place across May 2019

Year 1 Phonics screening: w/c 10th June 2019

Please can I remind parents that holidays cannot be authorised in term time and assessment dates need to be strictly adhered to.

Tuesday 5th March: Pancake book breakfast to celebrate World Book Day - more details to follow



Clover Hill is a safeguarding school. Please remember that any photos or videos captured whilst attending school events are for private use only, they cannot be posted onto any public social media sites.

Consultations: Monday 18th March 2019 and Tuesday 19th March 2019

Thursday 4th April: Lions of Zululand workshops and performances - more details to follow.

Parent Assemblies @9.30am:

THURSDAY - Y1: 14th February, Reception: 7th March, Y2: 14th March, Y3: 21st March, Y4: 28th March

WEDNESDAY - Year 5: 3rd April

Environmental projects

I hope you have noticed your child taking an extra interest in our garden birds. We have been working together to take part in the RSPB's 'Big Garden Birdwatch' It has been a fascinating project and we have sent off a wide range of evidence on the birds that we have spotted to help the RSPB with their statistics. Well done to all our Clover Hill eagle eyes! We are very lucky at Clover Hill when it comes to wildlife as we often spot red kites, rabbits and squirrels in our school grounds and there is also plenty of evidence that there are moles too.

Our next environmental project is to take part in the 'Great Big School Clean' at the end of March. Eco-Schools and Keep Britain Tidy are calling on all schools to help improve the environment on our doorstep. We have joined the campaign because our Clover Hill children want to stand up together and declare that litter degrades the beauty of our local environment, threatens our wildlife and is simply not acceptable! We will set up our plan of action soon and keep you informed.

Enjoy the snowy weather, keep warm and have a lovely weekend. Carpe diem!

Yours truly

Louise C Easton

Head Teacher



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