

Class 1 Curriculum Newsletter- Autumn Term (2)



Welcome Back!

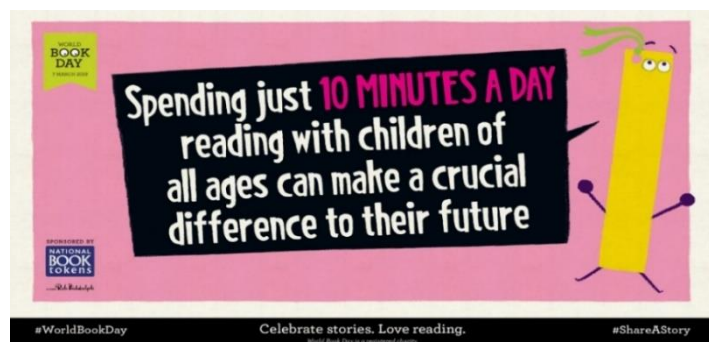
I hope you've had a lovely half term break. Our term has started well with us settling back into the routines quickly and sharing all our half term news.

Our topic this half term is '**Light and Dark**'. The children will be learning about why we celebrate Bonfire Night and why we pay our respects on Remembrance Sunday. We will explore the Hindu festival of Diwali in RE and then Advent and the Christmas story. In English we will be focussing on the text Look Up! and also looking at non-fiction texts about space, the solar system and nocturnal animals in Science. We will explore London, looking at landmarks and considering similarities and differences between the geography of London and St Annes. Our art and creative themes will allow us to explore the colours and textures around us at this time of year and learning about artist Vincent van Gogh. In maths we will be enjoying number representations, 2D shape and positional language. We will be continuing to work in our phonics groups daily and I'm pleased to say the children are working very hard in learning their phase 2 sounds and are now starting to apply their phonic knowledge as they read and write. The focus of our Snack and Chat sessions will be exploring topics such as school values, gifts and giving, feelings, friendships and anything else that we need to chat about! I have sent home some 'Magic Moment' leaves with an explanation letter so we will look forward to discussing these in Snack and Chat.

Reading and Phonics:

Thank you for all your support with reading and phonics mats at home last half term. We have noticed there are some children not reading often or not reading at all at home and in these precious early days, we ask for you to make sure you are enthusiastic and involved in the journey of them learning to read. They have so much to show you! We hope the phonics workshop was useful last half term and helped to reassure you on how to help your child. We were thrilled to read your positive responses to the Bug Club Homework games and the children were so excited to play these at home as well as at school!

Please ensure you continue to hear your child read their school reading book regularly and keep checking on the sounds on their mats daily. **Remember to sign and make**



comments in the reading records to help maintain a positive home school reading relationship with us. I cannot stress enough what a huge difference to your child's progress, attitude and love of reading it makes.

Practicalities:

- As the weather becomes colder; coats, hats and gloves become essential. (Please practise putting gloves on independently as us helping a whole class of children do this, takes the majority of playtime!) Most children now have a named pair of wellies in school. Please check you label everything clearly so they don't get lost. Also please name water bottles clearly as some children have the same bottles!
- There are a lot of cardigans and jumpers that need names in them as these are often the items of clothing that are on and off all day so easily go missing. Where names are written on labels with biro, please check and redo if faded.
- Please remember to send your child in with a water bottle each day filled with water not juice or cordial and ideally make sure they have a sports cap rather than a screw off lid to avoid big spills.
- Please make sure we have a named carrier bag with spare changes of uniform, leggings, underwear and wipes for any toilet accidents.
- Thank you for the £5 voluntary donations so far towards covering the cost of baking, cooking and growing resources. If you have not yet sent this in and wish to do so, please send in a named envelope. Thank you for your support. It has so far enabled us to buy ingredients for our Autumn biscuits and some spring bulbs.
- School sends out a weekly newsletter by email. Please keep checking dates as this is a very busy half term especially coming up to Christmas! If you find you are not receiving Mrs Kelsey's weekly newsletter, go to the office to report this and check your email with Mrs Pilkington. Dates for parents evening, Christmas productions, special events and parties are coming soon so do remember to check newsletters regularly. Thank you.

EYFS Plea: If you have any old rolls of Christmas wrapping paper or old Christmas cards and envelopes that you'd be willing to donate, please can you send them in as we will be having a role-play Santa's workshop in the classroom on the run up to Christmas! Also, any donations of compost, foil, tinsel, kitchen roll tubes or cotton wool would be greatly appreciated.

(X) Twitter:

- For several years now, Clifton have been using (X) Twitter as another way of communicating with our parents. We update regularly with information about daily activities that your children are enjoying at school. We will only be tweeting pictures of children for whom we have been given consent to publish in the media and on our website. Join us if you haven't done already on (X) Twitter and give us a like so we know your looking!

@clifton_fs2

It's a very busy and exciting half term ahead. Mrs Dixon 😊