



Claremont Primary School

Be confident, be curious, be creative

Newsletter 3rd November 2023



Good morning

Term 2 has started with wet and windy weather!

Senor Lalo and Mr Cotterill have made sure that our site is monitored and safe during the storm this week. A huge thank you to them!

Just a few things to start this term:

- ❖ We continue to work within our **Discover** curriculum and you have an opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher next week during the first **parents' consultations** of this academic year.
- ❖ We had a parents' **Phonics and Early Reading** information session on Tuesday where Miss Oliver and I were delighted to welcome almost 40 of you to Claremont.
- ❖ We have a similar session for **SEN** with Mrs Smith and myself on **Tuesday 14th November** and we hope to see you there.
- ❖ As you know, we promote all of our school values throughout the year. However, each term has a link to a specific value so that we have the opportunity to explore it in more detail with the children collectively, such as during assembly times. This term we link to **Respect and Kindness**. This value impacts on who we are as a person and how our experiences impact ourselves and that of others. This is significant for the wellbeing and happiness of everyone in life and certainly not just limited to school time.

At Claremont we work hard to teach, encourage, remind and insist on respect and kindness for all at all times. This can be challenging at times as there are 435 children, all with their own personalities, emotions, opinions and experiences. In addition, each of you as families will have differing ideas on how to approach things to ensure it works well for you and your beliefs and values. Our children are who they are because of you and the amazing partnership between home and school is essential. Our collective messages should be positive and consistent between us.

- ❖ **Christmas** rehearsals will begin soon! You will have information from your child's class teacher to give you information and how you can help.
- ❖ **Newton Lang wraparound provision** has started for us.

Have a good weekend!

Mrs Roberts and the Claremont Team

Respect and Kindness in the Early Years: As children start at school, the fundamental underlining work begins for us. The Early Years team focus heavily on the Early Learning Goal (ELG) of Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) in the day during both teacher-led and pupil-led activities. We know that children develop at different rates and learn how to manage their feelings and self-care at different times. They are still only 4 and 5 years old. They learn to share with more people, be tolerant if they are not able to have their choice of play items etc and to maintain self-discipline. Learning not to react when things are not going their way or just to follow boundaries and expectations can take longer for some. This is all part of a child's development. However, sometimes this can result in incidents where someone may be hurt intentionally or unintentionally. As we know, this isn't limited to just the Early Years, however part of that respect and kindness is learning the 'rules' of play. It would be naive to believe that children know how to play kindly together and do it all of the time. To really help us help your children, please do continue to speak with your child about how we play, negotiate and communicate with others and let us know if you feel extra support might be needed for your child.



We would like to let you know that we will be selling paper poppies, snapbands, wristbands reflector poppies and zip pulls next week (Monday 6th – Friday 11th of November) to raise money for the Royal British Legion.

The House Captains will be selling these before school (from 8.45am), at break time and at lunchtime on top and bottom playgrounds.

The prices are as follows:

- Snapband - £1.50
- Wrist band - £1
- Zip pull – 50p
- Reflector poppy – 50p
- Paper poppies – any amount

If your child wishes to purchase something, please ensure they bring the money in coins. Please remember all the profits and donations go to the Poppy Appeal Foundation.

Thank you,

The House Captains

Our Vision is to provide: a hub of educational excellence and innovation, supporting and valuing everyone

Communication Protocol

We work hard to ensure that communications are effective and useful.

Communications occur continually throughout the school day. If you send in an email, our office team will reply whenever possible. Any other emails are forwarded on to the relevant person. If you leave a voice message outside of the school day, the office team ensure that these are listened to as part of their early morning work to ensure no message is missed.

Emails

As you will be aware, teachers are not able to receive or respond to emails during the school day as they are teaching or planning for upcoming lessons. Other staff members, e.g., the SENCo, may be involved in professional meetings. Not having an immediate response can cause some frustrations or anxiety which is most certainly not our intention. Please know that we will endeavour to respond in a timely manner.

- If it is about a **safeguarding** concern one of the DSLs will respond asap or you will be invited in.
- **Daily Business:** If it is a general question/information about something that the office staff cannot answer e.g. homework or a class activity, we will aim to respond the same day or the following morning, **where possible**, in order to support the child. All communications about drop off and collection are passed onto the class teachers in person by the office team. Please endeavour to inform the office of any changes by midday.
- **Other:** If you would like to discuss/ask a question/seek guidance or help, about something to do with your child or a situation that is concerning you, the teacher, SENCo or SLT will need time to consider the communication carefully and, potentially, gather information in order to respond appropriately or organise a face-to-face meeting with you. ***This may take up to two full working days.*** If this is the case, we will endeavour to send a holding email to let you know. Please trust that there will be a response; approaching the teachers about the situation can be tricky to communicate effectively on the playground at pick up, and so would not be our preference.



Keeping Children Safe Online

Keeping children (and adults) safe online has never been more important. At Claremont, we take this really seriously and have many procedures and processes in place to support children use the internet safely. First and foremost, we teach children how to stay safe, including what to do if they are made to feel uncomfortable or see something inappropriate.

We also have an Online Safety group, made up of teachers and a governor, who meet three times a year to look at all aspects of online safety including the curriculum and all our systems to keep everyone safe.

Mrs Smith and I have just attended an Online Safety for DSLs (Mrs Roberts went in the summer) to ensure everything we are doing is current and remains effective.

Our website has lots of information on it for you as parents, so please do take a look:

[Claremont Primary School - Online Safety](#)

A really useful website is this one below, where you are shown how to report any harmful content for a multitude of apps and platforms that are used regularly.

[Submit a Report of Harmful Content \(reportharmfulcontent.com\)](#)

Lastly, this website has lots of support for parents, helping you to navigate an ever-complicated online world:

[Information, Advice and Support to Keep Children Safe Online \(internetmatters.org\)](#)

Mrs Seddon

“The Online Safety Act has today (Thursday 26 October) received Royal Assent, heralding a new era of internet safety and choice by placing world-first legal duties on social media platforms. The new laws take a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm, while empowering adults with more choices over what they see online. The Act places legal responsibility on tech companies to prevent and rapidly remove illegal content... They will also have to stop children seeing material that is harmful to them ...”

Taken from: [UK children and adults to be safer online as world-leading bill becomes law - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

With winter on its way and the very wet weather this week, if your child wears ankle boots to walk to school, please can they bring school shoes to change into?

Ankle boots or boots of any kind are not part of our school uniform.

Thank you,

Mrs Seddon



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Isobel Coleman

timeslocalnews.co.uk

Wednesday October 25 | 2023

Local ballet dancers participate in national youth production...



IN STEP: (from left to right): Catherine Bellinger students Aliya, Isobel and Jeanne

THREE young ballet dancers from the Catherine Bellinger School of Dance (CBSOD) in Tunbridge Wells are set to take to the stage for the English Youth Ballet (EYB).

The dancers, Aliya (14), Isobel (10) and Jeanne (15), were picked after auditioning for EYB in July for the 100 strong cast.

They will be starring in the EYB's production of *Coppélia* at The Hawth theatre in Crawley on Friday November 3 and Saturday November 4.

Commenting on the girls' impressive achievement, their ballet teacher and CBSOD founder Catherine Bellinger told the *Times*:

"We are delighted to see three of our talented dancers perform as part of this year's English Youth Ballet. We wish them the best of luck and are very proud of them."

An EYB spokesperson added:

"The girls and all the cast were selected in competitive auditions. The young cast are currently experiencing the life of a professional dancer in rehearsals and are super excited as they will perform alongside international professional dancers in this year's production of *Coppélia* alongside our principals Lyndsey Fraser and Joshua Webb."

Can you help Teddy Mayor spread a little magic this Christmas?

Please donate your gifts between 10th Nov and 11th Dec

The Mayor's Toy Appeal helps to bring joy to children and teenagers in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells who are in need, or whose families find Christmas an especially difficult time of year.

We are looking for appropriate gifts for children aged between 1 and 18. Gifts can be bought locally or from our Amazon Wishlist or see the tags on our 'Giving Trees' at St George's Childcare, Chilston Road and in Royal Victoria Place.



*New toys only please, no guns or candles.

Scan here to see our Amazon Wishlist.



Please drop your gifts off at one of these locations:

Maddisons Residential (The Pantiles); St George's Childcare (Chilston Road); The Amelia Scott (Mount Pleasant Road); Barsleys (Paddock Wood); Trinity Theatre or Royal Victoria Place.

Thank you for your support and for more information please visit www.twmta.co.uk
Any queries, please contact trevor.crawford@mayorstoyappeal.co.uk



ROYAL VICTORIA PLACE
TUNBRIDGE WELLS



MADDISSONS RESIDENTIAL



Barsleys
FURNITURE STORE • PADDOCK WOOD



Trinity

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E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?

No, it's Illegal...

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?

No, it's Illegal...

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?

The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent
Police**

Think before you buy:

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit www.kent.police.uk/road-safety