

CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER FOR WEEK ENDING 20th July 2018

Whole School

MUSIC (REALLY) MATTERS!

Music has been thriving all over the school, and as I type this, the echoes of this morning's Singing Competition Final are still ringing in my ears. The KS1 cup was won by Acorns, with a lovely performance of 'Alice the Camel', complete with costumes, actions and a real-live camel (well, nearly...). The KS2 winner, after much discussion by the judges, and by a very narrow margin, was Elder class, with a spirited performance of 'Bad Guys' from "Bugsy Malone", delivered with much attitude, costumes, instruments and beautiful singing. Very well done to every class and member of staff for their efforts; it's really lovely to hear singing wafting through doors and windows all around the school, and to hear the children humming and singing their songs as they wander about.

The only area which needs more 'oomph' at Claremont at the moment is the number of children learning instruments. Once, we had an orchestra of 28 children, and in September, we may well be down to just six. At present, we can offer lessons in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, violin, cello and harp, as well as in piano, guitar and drums. These lessons take place during school time, either individually, or in pairs, or in small groups, and all the peripatetic music teachers operate a rotating time-table, so that the children are not missing the same lessons (or the same part of a lesson) every week.

Children also have the opportunity to play the ukulele in the course of Year 4, and Miss Newby runs a recorder group for beginners and continuers. And of course, Mrs Smith (from Langton Green School) runs our hugely popular (and increasingly famous) Steel Pans Club on Monday evenings in school.

I would thoroughly recommend that children learn a musical instrument, most particularly one that can be played in a group with others; it has been proven to improve concentration, fine motor skills, listening skills, self-esteem and thinking in greater depth. The children in the orchestra have really enjoyed their time (especially our Orchestral Day at St John's in June), and have also made more progress in their instruments.

If you would like your child to start learning an instrument (ideally, from Year 3 onwards), then either contact me at school in September, or Kent Music directly, from their website.

But how do you choose an instrument? Obviously, size and transportation matter, as well as the ultimate cost of perhaps buying your own instrument in time, but my advice would be to listen together to as many different instruments as possible, and choose the one whose sound your child likes best - a little like being 'chosen' by a rescue dog.....

We are hoping to have some demonstrations early in the Autumn term, so that our children can see and hear instruments close up, which should help them to decide.

With many thanks for your support, particularly at the Summer Concert, and very best wishes for a musical summer

Mrs Moss Tallon

New windows at Claremont!

The summer is going to be a busy time at Claremont with the installation of wonderful new windows. Please could we ask that you speak to your children to ensure that they stay away from Claremont over the summer as the site will be full of very busy contractors. Although they might want to pop their heads around the door to say a sneaky 'hello', we would really appreciate it if everyone stayed away to ensure safety at all times.

Have a WONDERFUL summer, hopefully full of sunshine.

Thank you

Julie Cook (School Business Manager)

Sensational Performance Poetry on show at the P-Factor Final

We had a sensation P-Factor final on Wednesday morning. Eight acts performed and we were so blown away by the talent we had two joint winners. We would like to congratulate all the acts who took part in the competition this year; the standard was incredibly high. From the final, the runners-up were

Isabel, Grace, Zara and Candela from Elder and Linden

Nancy and Amber-Honey from Cedar

Emily, Stella and Molly from Juniper

Nia, Ciara and Phoebe from Maple

Emma from Acer

Clotilde, Olive and Sofia from Aspen

Our two joint winners were

Ruby, Izzy A and Hannah from Rowan

Lucy from Linden

We had one last set of finalists who will be performing at the Year 6 leaver's assembly next week. They are **Louis, Dan and Noah** from Aspen and Whitebeam.

Isle of Wight Trip 2018



The residential trip was a huge success. Thank you to all those who were involved. During the week, the children took part in several activities, including Giant Swing, Climbing, Abseiling and Sensory Trail. As well as centre activities, pupils visited Carisbrooke Castle and The Needles; they particularly enjoyed the boat ride. They all really enjoyed the week and were impeccably behaved – we are very proud of them!

Sports

Rapid Fire Cricket County Final

On Tuesday 10 very excited Y2's travelled down to the Spitfire County Cricket Ground in Canterbury for the Rapid Fire Cricket Tournament. They played 4 games in the morning and were fantastic. There was some great fielding by all and strong batting from Sam Hayes and Johnnie Hepner. In one of the games it ended in a tie and Henry scored 6 runs in his go to win the match in a sudden death hit off. We won 2 and lost 2 (very close games). In the afternoon we played 2 more games to decide our final position. Again some superb batting and fielding meant they won their final 2 games, eventually finishing 5th in the County! Thank you to all the parents who transported and supported on the day.



Y3/4 Kwik Cricket County Final

On Wednesday 20 Y3/4's travelled to Lordswood Cricket Club for the first ever Y3/4 Kwik Cricket County Final.

At the last minute we were asked to take a B team, they played all A teams in the morning and narrowly lost each game, but their bowling, batting and fielding were very good. They were highly commended from another school, and they said 'they were the nicest team they played!' In the afternoon they played a further 2 games and won them both!! A great achievement for these players.

The A team played 3 games in the morning. They bowled superbly and fielded magnificently winning 2 games and losing 1. This meant they went through to the top 4 matches in the afternoon. In the first match they dominated Boughton and won by 45 runs. In the 2nd game they narrowly lost by 1 run! In the final game after an exhausting day they narrowly lost again, but had some good fielding and batting. This meant they came 3rd in the County!! This is a great achievement, especially as some of our players had never played cricket before this year.



School Meals

Change of Menu Next Week!

Monday 23rd July – Pork Sausage/Vegetarian Sausage/Homemade Vegetarian Slice with Seasoned Wedges and Peas/Sweetcorn. Icecream for pudding.

Tuesday 24th July – Breaded Fish/Beef Burger/Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Chips and Beans/Peas. Strawberry Mousse
Break for pudding

School Gateway Payments

Can I ask you all to check your child's school meals accounts on School Gateway this weekend and top up as necessary please?

If your child is in Year 6, can I ask you to ensure that the account is showing a zero balance on Tuesday please? I understand that some of you will need to be refunded or the balance transferred to a sibling where there is an over payment and I will endeavour to ensure this is done on Tuesday afternoon where possible. Refunds will take a couple of days to go through your bank accounts, but please do not hesitate to contact me next term if you do not receive it and I will look into it for you.

School meal prices are not increasing again this year so are remaining at £2.30 per day. If you would like to pay for Term 1 in full the amount is £75.90

I hope that you have a lovely summer.

Janice Sayles

Finance Officer

Diary Dates

Diary Dates for next week

Please see the calendar page on the website for advanced dates. The calendar is updated every Wednesday. For detailed information, please click on the DAY view.

23rd July –

24th July – 10.30 Year 6 Leavers Assembly & finish at Noon

– Years R to 5 finish school at 2pm