



Dear Parents

It is difficult to believe that we have already completed our first term and Christmas is around the corner. It has been a busy but wonderful end to the Autumn term here at Clifton Lodge and my warm thanks to all members of the community who have helped to make it such a success. This newsletter brings together some of the exciting activities that have gone on over the past few weeks, culminating in our Christmas performances and service at Christ the Saviour Church – I hope you enjoy looking through them.

Remembrance Assembly

On Wednesday 8th November, we held a special assembly at Christ the Saviour Church. This Remembrance Assembly included performances from our Choir and Pre-Prep Choir, instrumentalists, whole school singing and poetry. Our Deputy Head Boy & Deputy Head Girl recited the poem 'In Flanders Fields' and our Head Boy & Girl read a prayer. We were delighted that Father Richard joined us. Thank you to everyone who took part and to our parents for their support. Our pupils, parents and staff raised £225 for the Royal British Legion, which together with a school donation of £200, totalled £425.



Year 2 – Ancient Egyptian Workshop

On Tuesday, 7th November, our Year 2 pupils spent the day absorbing themselves in a fun and interactive workshop which concluded their learning in school on the fascinating and enigmatic world of the Ancient Egyptians.

Throughout the morning, the children created a number of artefacts to bring home. These included a mummified peg, ushabtis dolls, mini clay canopic jars, clay scarab charms on a bracelet or necklace, scarab carving on soap stone, and ink making. They even wrote passages from the book of the dead on papyrus paper and finally made perfume cones with crushed spices and melted bees wax.

In the afternoon, pupils recreated the festival of Wepet-Renpet: The Opening of the Year. They also practised and then performed the dramatic stories of The Lamentations of Isis and Nephthys, The Tale of Osiris and The Dance of the Wax Crocodile. Others were slaves and attendants, Chuhang was chosen to be Pharaoh Tutankhamun and Freya, Queen Ankhesenamun.

Pupil Quotes:

Freya- "I liked acting out the stories because they were very dramatic"

Alaiya- "I liked experimenting with different materials to create things like the Ancient Egyptians did"

William- "I liked making a solid perfume from herbs, spices and bees wax".

Shreya- "I loved carving a soap stone scarab beetle".



Anti-Bullying Week

Week commencing Monday 13th November was Anti-Bullying Week and this year's theme was 'Make Some Noise'. Our pupils took part in an activity each day, kicking off the week with Odd Socks Day on the Monday. They took part in workshops about 'Kindness, Respect and Cyber Safety' delivered by Bigfoot Arts Education - HQ as well as completing activities linked to Anti-Bullying week.

Anti-Bullying Week helps our school to shine a spotlight on bullying and encourages all children, teachers, and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year. During the first half of the autumn term at Clifton Lodge we had been concentrating on our School Virtue of Love, thinking of how we can positively work with each other and grow together as a family. From parents and carers to teachers and politicians and children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference. We must all work together to be 'United Against Bullying'. Here are some of our Year 1 children's thoughts about the workshop they took part in:

Sasha: "I learnt that I should be kind to others."

Saki: "I have to be brave to help children that need it."

Yuna: "It was calm and it helped me think about bullying."

Dominic: "I learnt that I have to talk nicely to others."



Year 1 – Oceans & Continents Workshop

Year 1 enjoyed a wonderful workshop in school where they learned about the different continents and oceans of the world. The children sailed around the different continents with a facilitator pirate and created scenes exploring the culture and landmarks in each continent. During the workshop, they explored all the wildlife across the world, learning about the different terrains and habitats.

Dagmar: “The workshop was very fun and we learnt a lot about different countries.”

Dominic: “I enjoyed the workshop because it was really fun and we were explorers travelling the world.”

Parisa: “I enjoyed sailing across the Indian Ocean because I felt like I was really there!”



Year 3 – Ancient Greek Day Workshop

As a part of their history unit on Ancient Greece, Year 3 had their Ancient Greek Day at school on Tuesday 21st November and dressed up in traditional costumes!

The pupils were taught by the Greek God Dionysus and the first session consisted of stories of myths and legends where the children were transported to a Greek theatre to re-enact tales of the Greek Gods and Goddesses.

Other morning activities included, a Greek quiz, Archimedes' Stomachion (the oldest known mathematical puzzle), and Petteia (the Greek strategy game).

After lunch, the Greek hoplite soldier demonstrated his weapons and armour. He taught the children the differences between the city states of Athens and Sparta, the children took a lesson in democracy and competed in a mini-Olympic Games as well as practising battle commands!

Aryan – "I loved getting to play Poseidon in the myths and legends stories."

Aila – "All the Ancient Greek games were really fun!"

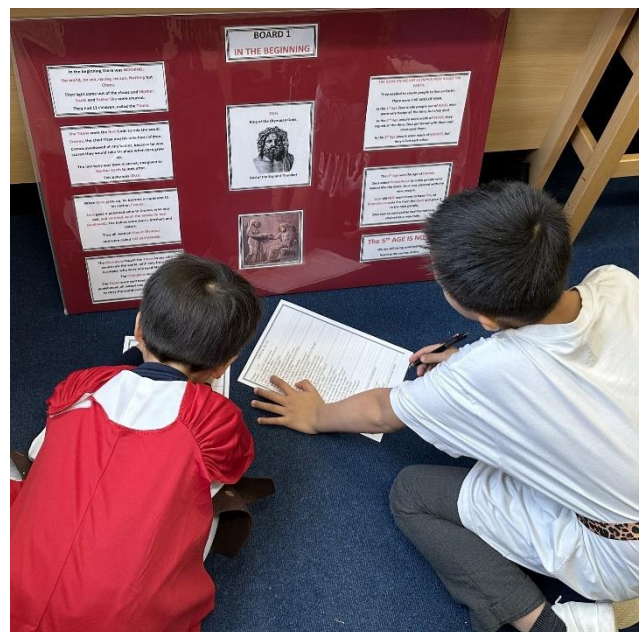
Finley and Lenny – "We enjoyed playing Petteia against each other."

Theodore – "Acting as Cronos was really cool!"

Tara – "I loved acting and I played Hera!"

Jahnara – "The Olympic Games were awesome! We learnt how to throw and how to march like a soldier!"

Ashan – "I loved everything. It was a great day!"



Year 4 – School Trip to the Barbican

The Year 4 class were treated to a wonderfully entertaining and interactive performance by the London Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican Centre.

It was themed around the story of Diwali and gave the children an excellent opportunity to learn a little more about some of the instruments on show as well as the Diwali festival itself.



A.I.M High Writing Workshop – Year 5 & 6

Some of our children in Years 5 & 6 had an amazing experience at the A.I.M. High Writing Day workshop delivered by the experienced author Stephen Davies.

The children enjoyed this challenging day, designed to stretch pupils to their authorial limits. The aim was to reinforce what they have learned in their English lessons and challenge them with advanced writing techniques.

The workshop supported our children to – Achieve, Inspire and Master.



Early Years – Nativity Play

Our Early Years Nativity took place on Monday 4th December at St John's Church. Thank you to all the parents who joined us and to our staff who worked so hard with the children to create such a festive event. The children did so well, learning their lines & songs and they loved performing in front of their families. We are sure this helped to get everyone into the Christmas spirit.



Pre-Prep Choir – Threen House

Our Pre-Prep Choir visited Threen House Nursing Home on 6th December to bring some Christmas cheer to the residents. In addition to the choir, we had soloists and instrumentalists performing.

It was lovely to see how enthusiastically the children sang and played. The residents were waiting for them, eagerly. The pupils performed so well that after the last song, one of the residents asked for: “One more song please!” They also sang along to “Silent Night”, which our children performed in English, Danish, Gaelic, Polish, French, Greek, Russian and Hindi.

Two siblings performed at the event, Arisa on piano, accompanied her sister Karen on the violin. There were also two piano duets from Haruya and Merrie playing we wish you a Merry Christmas and Chuhan and Freya playing Jingle Bells.

It was a very happy afternoon, and the residents didn't want the singing to end!



Christmas Carol Service

We held our school Carol Service at Christ the Saviour Church in the last week of term. Thank you to all the children including our youngest in Nursery for taking part. The singing and readings were wonderful. We were delighted to have so many parents join us and hope you all enjoyed the service.



Choir – Ealing Broadway Centre

Following on from our wonderful Carol Concert, the choir performed at Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre. They were warmly welcomed by shoppers and supported by many parents. Well done to all the children who took part and to our Music Teacher, Mrs Velkova, for preparing the Choir so well to perform.



EY Trip to the Lyric Theatre – Father Christmas

Our Nursery & Reception classes had a wonderful trip to the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith in early December. They were treated to a festive performance of Father Christmas by Raymond Briggs.



Inter-House Rugby Match

On Friday 8th December we held Inter-House Rugby matches at Trailfinders. Here are the results:

Year 3 & 4

Cass - Mayet – Northover - joint 2nd 4 points

Ward - 1st 9 points

Cass showed the best team spirit camaraderie.

Year 5 & 6

1st place - Cass 12 points

Joint 2nd Mayet - Ward - Northover - 4 points each

Combined totals and overall Running

Mayet & Northover 8 points

Ward 13 points

Cass 16 points -Inter-House Rugby winners

Year 5 & 6 teams all displayed great sportsmanship and team spirit! Well done to you all, the pupils also showed some superb Touch Rugby Skills.



Father Christmas Visit & Wear a Christmas Jumper Day

Santa came to Clifton Lodge School at the end of term! Everyone was so excited. Huge thanks to Ms Leenders, Mrs Antoniou & Mrs Law-Harrison for creating Santa's Grotto - it was truly a winter wonderland for the children.



Christmas Lunch

A massive thank you to our wonderful Chef, Rohan and his assistant, Marie. They not only cooked a delicious Christmas lunch but also decorated the dining hall to make all the children feel festive.



House competitions

Things really started to hot up on the last day of term when we held the end of term house competitions. The children in Years 1-6 started the day in their separate houses where they were motivated and encouraged by their House Teachers, House Captains, and Sports Captains. Having had their fill of motivational House chants, they all then moved off to take part in the inter house quiz competition and art contest before coming back together for a round up of the results. The current standings for the term are:

1st Cass

2nd Northover

3rd Ward

4th Mayet

The standings changed significantly over the course of the morning, so it still remains all to play for over the coming two terms.

Year 6 Senior Schools

The Year 6's have had a very busy end to the term, attending interviews and assessments in a wide variety of schools. They have worked so hard to prepare and we are very proud of them. A few more interviews to go after the holidays – one last push! Good luck to all.

I hope you have enjoyed looking over the events of the past few weeks and I would like to wish you all a joyful and happy Christmas with your families. I look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Kind regards



Michael Belsito
Head

