



# The Clinton Church of England Primary School

Merton, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 3EQ

Tel: 01805 603357

Email: [theclinton.sch@alumnismat.org](mailto:theclinton.sch@alumnismat.org)

Headteacher: Mrs Rachael Sharpe

*'Together we nurture, love and learn whilst aspiring for excellence.'*

13<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all.

It was wonderful to see all your children back at school last week and settling back into the daily routine. This term our theme of learning is Social Injustice, the teachers have planning some great learning opportunities and I am excited to see how the theme and learning progresses throughout the next couple of months. You will receive a learning letter from your child's class teacher over the next couple of days highlighting key skills and knowledge your child will be learning in school and how you can help at home. There will also be parent open afternoons this term looking at key areas of learning, how we teach them and what the end of year expectations are for each year group – I am hopeful that you will all be able to attend; please the dates listed below. If you are unable to, we are working on having key subject areas on our website for parents to visit for key information.

I am aware that this time of year there are often horrid viruses around and at the end of last term and through the Christmas break many people suffered. I am hopeful that a new term means an improvement in everyone's health and that both Clinton and Dolton attendance will improve. Please remember if your child is too unwell to be in school that you can leave an answer phone message from 8.30am at both schools.

Can I also remind all parents that registration starts at 8.50am and core learning starts at 9am and this is when the gates close. Arriving after this time can cause interruption to teaching and learning and unhelpful to staff and other pupils, it is important that we are respectful of this punctual.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your child a successful term. It is a pleasure watching all pupils in both settings grow and develop and as always, I am excited to see what learning takes place this term.

Key dates:

- Celebration worship and reading together happen every Friday afternoon from 2.40pm.
- Friday 24th January - Mop up Safeguarding training 1.30 - 3 for all volunteers at Dolton
- How we teach math workshops: Clinton 30th January 2 - 3.30
- Monday 10th February - How we teach reading at Clinton 9-10.30
- Tuesday 25th February - pancake races at both schools (Dolton am, Clinton pm)
- Monday 2nd March - How we teach writing at Clinton 9 - 10.30
- Parent consultation evenings will be the first week back after half term.

### ONLINE Lunch Ordering for all Children

The new online lunch system has arrived! Thank you to those who have managed successfully to order and pay for your child's lunch. Fortunately so far there have only been a couple of issues which we are working through. Just a couple of pointers:

- Even if your child is entitled to a free lunch you will still need to go on the system and order their food choices for each day. You will be able to complete a week choices in advance. **ALL CHILDREN WHO ARE HAVING FREE LUNCHES WILL NEED TO ORDER FOOD CHOICES ONLINE**
- When you are ordering your child's lunch you will need to do so at least a day in advance as you will not be able to order a lunch on the day via the online system. In an emergency you can call the school to request a lunch. This will mean when you login next it will show you owing for that meal. This will need to be paid before you can order any further lunches.

**FINALLY – Thank you to everyone for being so patient and supportive with our new online school dinner system. There will still be issues I am sure but we will endeavour to sort them for you as soon as possible.**

### Important

"If your child has been previously looked after, and in care for even one day, please let Mrs Sharpe (Designated Teacher for these children) know, so that we can ensure they are receiving the support they are entitled to".

### Preschool

Our staffing has now been planned for the term to ensure we have each session covered. Please be aware we are unable to accept a change of day for your child at short notice. We would ask you to give us at least a period of 2 weeks to make any changes to the agreed days your child is booked in. This change must be agreed by the head teacher so please contact the school as soon as possible to put in your request. Obviously if there are extenuating circumstances we will always support you.

### PARENTS/CARERS: Concerned re Special Educational Needs/Disability?

If you are concerned about your child's progress or well-being at school your first port of call should be your child's class teacher as the matter can often be resolved more quickly and easily this way.

### PE

PE kit should be in school every day. It is possible the children may be asked to wear their PE kit on any day so please only take the kit home at the weekend. Please can all children have a spare pair of socks in case their feet get wet.

### Important Notice to Parents

Please ensure you ring in to school by **9am** if your child is going to be absent from school for any reason.  
If they are absent for more than one day you need to ring in every day.

### Universal Infant Free School Meals

ALL children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 (Kingfisher Class) are entitled to free school meals under this Government scheme so if you have children in these year groups you will not need to pay.

### Free School Meals

Please speak to the office if you think your family may be entitled to Free School Meals (which is based on your family income). Even if your child is in Kingfisher Class, this can bring additional funding into school to spend on the children.



### Celebration Assembly

Every Friday at 3.10pm we will be holding an assembly where the children will share with everyone the things they have been doing during the week.  
Parents are very welcome to come along.

### School Attendance

The government believes that all pupils attendance at school should be 96.2% or higher. When schools are inspected by Ofsted, the school's attendance figure is taken into account as part of the judgement of personal development, behaviour and welfare. Attendance figures below 96.2% would require improvement. The main reasons for school absences are from holiday absence in term time, illness and late arrival at school.

We need parents support to help us try to sustain/ improve our current attendance figure. You can help by ensuring your child is at school at 8.50am. If your child has a medical appointment in the middle of the day, please bring them to school prior to the appointment and return them promptly after the appointment has finished. Please avoid taking your child on holiday in term time. Thank you

### Happy Birthday

*Celebrating their birthday very soon is:*



### TERM DATES 2019/2020

7<sup>th</sup> Jan – 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020  
Half Term – 17<sup>th</sup> Feb – 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2020  
24<sup>th</sup> Feb – 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 2020  
Easter Holidays – 30<sup>th</sup> Mar – 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 2020  
15<sup>th</sup> Apr – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020  
Half Term - 25<sup>th</sup> May – 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020  
1<sup>st</sup> Jun – 26<sup>th</sup> Jun 2020  
Non Pupil Day - 29<sup>th</sup> Jun 2020  
30<sup>th</sup> Jun – 21<sup>st</sup> Jul 2020

