

Head's Newsletter

Summer Term 2023 – June/July

Dear Parents

We have reached the end of my first academic year back at Clifton Lodge and it is with great pleasure and pride that I look back on the achievements of our pupils throughout this year. Our Year 6 pupils have all secured places at highly sought after senior schools and should be commended for all their hard work this year preparing for those exams and interviews. We look forward to hearing of your future successes and hope you will come back to visit us.

We have had a packed calendar of events all year and many of you have joined us for some of those performances and celebrations. Thank you for supporting the school and your children, those opportunities to stand up in front of parents and sing or act are so important for confidence and character building. In a small school, your children really do have the opportunity to take part in everything from sport to drama, art and music and we celebrate all their achievements in these areas. And, of course, these occasions are a lovely way for the Clifton Lodge family to come together and celebrate with each other.

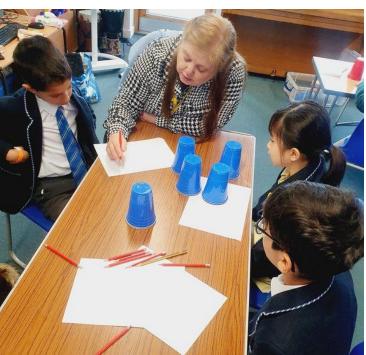
The children across the school have had a very busy term and now need a rest. As we say goodbye to our leavers, I hope you all enjoy the summer break and look forward to seeing you again in September.

A.I.M High – Maths Workshop

Just before half-term, a few children in Year 3 and 4 had an amazing experience at the A.I.M. High Maths Day workshop delivered by the experienced teacher, trainer and author Liz Gibbs.

The children enjoyed working together as investigators to solve interesting and meaningful problems, whilst being mathematically stretched and challenged in an enjoyable way. The workshop supported our children to – Achieve, Inspire and Master.





Early Years Trip

On 8th June, our Nursery and Reception classes went to Hobbledown Heath. They had so much fun!

The children fed the highland cattle and looked at a variety of animals from yaks, lemurs, meerkats, rabbits, maras, giant tortoises, ponies and different kinds of birds such as macaws and owls. They even saw reindeer, who were shedding their coats as they got ready for summer.

The children then played in the various adventure playgrounds which really was a lot of fun. Thank you to all the parents who came along to help us.











Cricket - Y3 & Y4 v Avenue House

Well done to our Year 3 & 4 pupils who played Cricket against Avenue House School last Friday 9th June. Clifton Lodge batted first and scored 237 runs versus Avenue House who scored 225 runs. Great batting performances from Alex in Year 4 who hit some big 6's and Blake in Year 3 who finished with a fantastic 4 to end the innings. All our pupils bowled really well, giving away much fewer wides and no balls to the other team.



Sports Day

Another super day at sports day this year with plenty of fun and energy in the sunshine. The children took part in an array of events including long distance running, relay races, javelin, shot put and jumping. Children in all year groups showcased their skills and unleashed their potential across the multitude of events. Both track and field events impressed the spectators as the students exhibited their strength, determination and stamina.

However, sports day was not only about the competitive nature of sports. It was also an occasion to celebrate the joy of taking part with their friends. Fun-filled activities such as the three-legged race, egg and spoon race and tug of war brought smiles, laughter as well as friendly rivalry. From the family picnic to the parent-teacher races – it was most enjoyable, and we look forward to doing it all over again next year!











Early Years – Picnic

Nursery and Reception had a very exciting afternoon on Wednesday 21st June. They brought their teddy bears to school and took them for a picnic in the park. Both classes played some circle games and then their parents joined us to enjoy some delicious snacks. The children had a fun time playing in the park and enjoyed the lovely sunshine with their parents, friends and teachers.









Early Years – Goldilocks & the Three Bears

We are very grateful to our parents who joined us to watch Nursery & Reception perform Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Our youngest pupils did so well, they even helped get the scenery ready by painting trees to go at the front of the stage. The children worked very hard to learn their lines and all the songs and actions. It was such a wonderful production and we are very proud of them all. Thank you to the Early Years staff and Mrs Velkova as well as the Year 4 children who narrated the play.







Pre-Prep Choir visit to Threen House

Thank you to Threen House Nursing Home who invited our Pre-Prep Choir to sing to their residents on Wednesday 28th June in the afternoon. The children really enjoyed visiting the home and entertaining everyone. Well done to all our pupils, they sang and played beautifully.





Sports Day Medals & LAMDA Certificates

Congratulations to all our pupils who received medals for sports day. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes were awarded for each year group for overall performance on the day in all the events. We also celebrated our LAMDA pupils by handing out certificates for recent exams. Well done to you all.











Year 6 Drama Production

Well done to all our Year 6 leavers for putting on a wonderful performance of 'Schools Daze' in front of their parents. The pupils all took part and gave us a fun-filled play despite the torrential rain! It was a great way for them to wrap up their time at Clifton Lodge and showcase their talents one last time.

We will miss you all and wish you every success in your senior schools.







Art Day / Induction Afternoon

On Wednesday 5th July all our pupils took part in an Art Day followed by an Induction Afternoon when they moved up to their next class to get to know the teacher and routines for September.

Here is some of the wonderful artwork done by Year 2, who recreated "The Garden" by Joan Miro.







'Friends of Clifton Lodge' - School Disco

On behalf of all your children, we wish to say a massive thank you to our wonderful 'Friends of Clifton Lodge' parents who organised and ran a hugely successful disco for the children on 30th June. There was a DJ, face painting and refreshments – the children absolutely loved this event. We welcome parents to get involved with 'Friends of Clifton Lodge', even if you can only support occasionally. Hopefully we can have more events and activities to support the school and your children in future terms.











Speech Day

Thank you to the parents who joined us to celebrate the 22/23 Academic Year. It was a fantastic afternoon of marking all that we have achieved and our guest speaker, Mr Howells, a retired former Head of Clifton Lodge gave some inspirational and good-humoured advice to all our children. Well done to all the performers and pupils who received awards. We are very proud of all our pupils and thank them for their hard work together with the contribution they have made to our school this year. Congratulations to the following Year 5 pupils who will assume the coveted roles of responsibility for the new academic year:

Zachary – Head Boy

Enara - Head Girl

Noah – Deputy Head Boy

Willow - Deputy Head Girl

Wishing you all a great summer.



Kind regards

Michael Belsito

Head