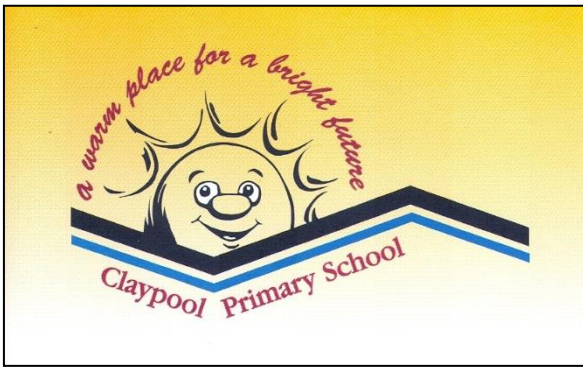




Claypool Newsletter

Autumn 1 - 2025



Reflections on the first half of the Autumn Term

It seems a long time ago that the children returned to school looking lovely and smart in their new uniforms and shiny shoes.

All of our children have settled into their new classes and it was lovely to welcome the children and parents of Cherry class to the Claypool family this half term.

Oak class visited Winmarleigh Hall in September and had an amazing time by all accounts - the children were so resilient throughout the visit and although the staff looked exhausted on their return, they were smiling.

Our new Junior Oak Leaders are in place and already doing a fabulous job. The Environment Leaders are doing their best to switch off lights as soon as someone leaves the room and the Arts leaders have already launched their first competition. The Well-being Leaders have attended training on how to best support the children in school. The House Leaders and Pupil Voice Leaders will be discussing safety with the children across school and they have also provided great support during assemblies. Finally, the Sports leaders will be organising intra-house activities after half term for the children at lunchtime. It's quite clear that the children are ready for these Leadership responsibilities and are rising to the challenge really well.

We are now ready for a short holiday to recharge our batteries ready for the most exciting half term of the year (in my opinion)!

In other news ...

Sarah Worden

I'm really pleased to let you know that Sarah is recovering well following surgery at the end of September - she has quite a long road to full recovery but we are hopeful that she will be back at school in the new year. In the meantime, Emma Fisher is doing an excellent job teaching in Cherry Class and Hayley Eckersley has risen to the challenge of taking on the role of Deputy Head teacher seamlessly. Although, both have learnt from the best (that's Sarah not me!)

Our School Governors

We were in the great position this time of having 3 parents who expressed an interest in becoming a School Governor. Sayeh Mariner, mother of Louie, was elected to serve as a Parent Governor for the next 4 years.

Our Parent Governors' are:

Zoe Bluer - mother of Xander in Hazel Class

Peter Dunn - father of Violet in Oak Class

Lydia Gibbons - mother of Ivy in Sycamore Class and Edison in Beech Class

Sayeh Mariner - mother of Louie in Beech Class

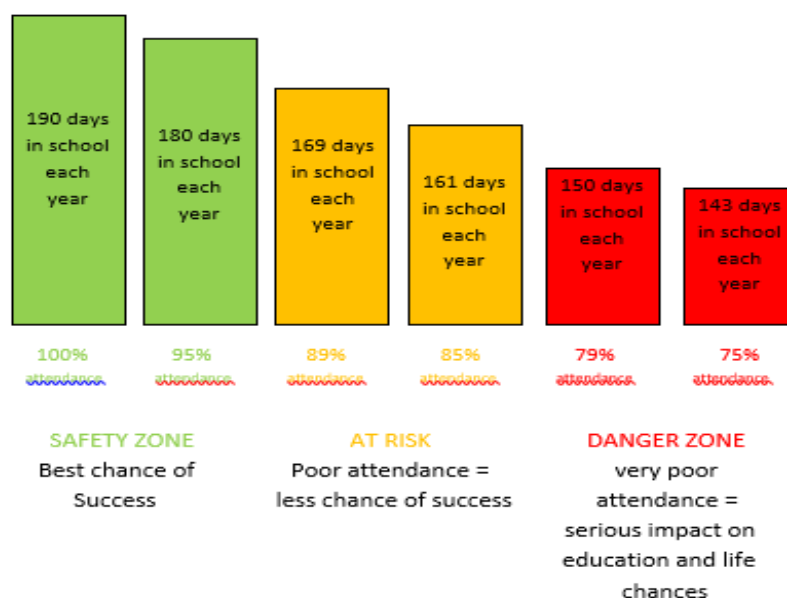
All information related to Governance in school is available on our website under the Our School tab, this includes the Annual Governance Statement, the structure of the board, minutes of meetings and attendance.

Attendance

Please can I remind you about the importance of ensuring that your child is in school every day. We are striving for all children to be in school at least 97% of the time, this will ensure the best chance of success. Missing school has a huge impact on how well a child progresses both academically and socially in school. The more school a child misses, the harder it is for them to get into a routine of attending regularly and catch up on the learning they have missed. The rules around attendance have been tightened considerably and include penalty notices and possible prosecution.

GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS ...

being in school at least 95% of the time
or between 180 and 190 days.



THERE ARE ONLY 190 SCHOOL DAYS EACH YEAR,
THAT MEANS 175 DAYS NOT AT SCHOOL FOR
SHOPPING AND HOLIDAYS

Rights of the Child, British Values and Protected Characteristics

Through our assemblies each week, we discuss the UN Rights of the Child, British Values and Protected Characteristics. I thought it would be useful for you to be aware of these at home so that you can discuss them with your child.

In each newsletter moving forward, I will share with you the overview of the half term, this is also available on our school website with a little more detail.

Week Beginning	Question of the week	UN Rights of the child	British Values	Protected Characteristics
8.9.25	What makes a building special?		Mutual respect and tolerance	Religion or Belief
15.9.25	Why do we vote?		Democracy	Age
22.9.25	Can anyone break a record if they try hard enough?		Individual liberty	Age
29.9.25	Can sport bring people closer together?		Individual liberty	Disability
6.10.25	Can we learn from people who prove others wrong?		Mutual respect and tolerance	Disability
13.10.25	What makes a good peacekeeper?		Rule of law	Race
20.10.25	Should everyone have an identity card?		Rule of law	Race

Sports at Claypool (S. Miller)

Wow, what an amazing start to the school year in regards to sporting achievements! We have had over 50 children in KS2 representing Claypool in a range of sports!

Our cross-country team competed in 3 events and all of the children ran amazingly well. Each week, the children were determined to run better than the week prior and I was so proud of their resilient attitude. Jake (Oak) had a stand out moment; coming 14th out of 180 boys in one of his races. The girls team managed to place 9th overall in the final week, which was exceptional.



Four of our children from KS2 got to represent school at Graystone Action Centre. A day which always promises scootering, skateboarding and many other adventurous activities. The children who attended came back raving about the fun they had and all had beaming smiles whilst talking about their experiences.



Both our Mixed and Girls football teams have played well in the Cluster football competitions. They have shown excellent sportsmanship each week, with Mr Seddon and Mrs Evans informing me of how brilliantly each child has played.

We finished off this half term with the Primary Panathlon event. Every year, I am blown away by the children who attend this event and this year certainly was no different.

The children who attended had a day of developing their resilience, confidence and sporting ability and to top off what was already an amazing day, they managed to come in third place.



A huge well done to all of our wonderful children this half term. They have been a real credit to our school, showing true sportsmanship and respect to all of their team mates and competitors.

Inclusion at Claypool (H. Eckersley)

We have had a great start to the new school year, we always put a lot of thought into ensuring our children have a smooth transition to their new year group and it has been wonderful to see how settled the children have been.

This half term we have already had three awareness days - Genetic conditions, Dyslexia and ADHD, and on Friday it is Dwarfism awareness day. As always, the children have responded brilliantly to increasing their knowledge and understanding and we are quite sure this will continue to have a positive impact on all of our children.

Finally a quick reminder that we are very lucky to have support in school from the Bolton Mental Health Support Team (MHST). A member of the MHST comes into school on a weekly basis and provides interventions for pupils that have been referred to the team. These interventions only take place following parent consent and can support children in many different areas including managing their worries, low mood, social anxiety and managing emotions. If you feel your child would benefit from this type of support, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Uniform Bundles

As the cost living continues to cause concern for many of our families we do have uniform bundles in school available at no cost to any family who finds themselves in difficulty at the moment. If you could just nip to the school office and let us know the size and gender needed, we will be able to provide you with a bundle of uniform.

Charity Fundraising

Thank you so much to all of you who supported our Jeans for Genes day last month, we managed to raise £163, we also took the opportunity on this day to raise awareness of Genetic conditions.

Winter Watch

Just a reminder that we are again collecting non-perishable items for Winter Watch this year.

Please could you encourage your child to bring an item or two into school by Friday at the latest.

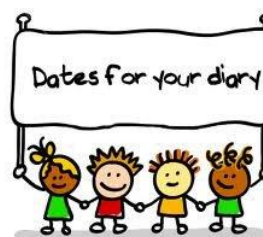


School Website

Just a reminder that all Learning Overviews, Home Learning Challenges and Knowledge Organisers are available on the school website along with the PowerPoint Presentations from the Year Ahead Meetings. These can be found under the Class Pages tab at <https://www.claypool.bolton.sch.uk/>.

Events next half term

November		
6 th		Individual Photos
12 th	3.30pm - 5.15pm	Movie Night
14 th		Children in Need Day
WB 17 th		Please send in Toy Donations
20 th	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Toy sale for Parents/Carers
28 th	9.00am	Sycamore Class Assembly



December		
3 rd	3.45pm and 5.30pm	Christmas Bingo
10 th	9.00am, 2.00pm and 4.00pm	Rowan, Cherry, Beech and Hazel Christmas Concert
12 th	3.30pm	Christmas Fair
WB 15 th		Random Act of Kindness week
15 th	2.00pm and 5.30pm	Willow, Sycamore, Silver Birch and Oak Christmas Carol Concert
16 th		Christmas Party Afternoon
17 th		School reports sent to parents and carers
18 th		Festive Thursday Last day of term

Finally ...



If you are at a loose end over the holidays - Phil Brickell MP is holding a Christmas Card competition this year. A pupil from Claypool won this competition last year and King Charles received their card! If your child would like to participate, entries need to be received by Friday 8th November and sent to:

Phil Brickell MP - Bolton West
112 Winter Hey Lane
Horwich
BL6 7PJ

I hope that you have a lovely half term break next week. School re-opens at 8.45am on Monday 3rd November.

Thank you for your continued support,

Amanda Hulme

