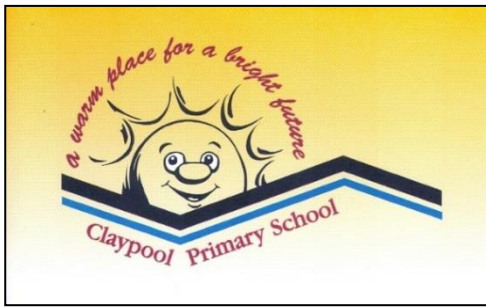




Claypool Newsletter

Summer 2 – 2026



Reflections on the second half of the Summer Term

Well, what an eventful half term it has been! There has been so much to celebrate, and many moments that have made us incredibly proud of our children.

First and foremost, I would like to recognise our wonderful Oak Class. They are a remarkable group of young people who embody our school values of kindness, resilience, aspiration and respect each and every day. As they prepare to take their next steps into secondary school, we hope they carry these values with them, along with the many memories and experiences they have gained during their time at Claypool. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved over the past 11 years and have every confidence that they will continue to thrive and make us proud in the years ahead. Although they are leaving Claypool, they will always remain part of the Claypool family, and they will be greatly missed.



We also say goodbye to Mr Seddon, Mrs Watson and Miss Flanagan, who leave us this week. Each of them has made a valuable contribution to school life and has had a positive impact on the children, families and colleagues they have worked with during their time at Claypool. We thank them for all they have done and wish them every success and happiness as they move on to the next chapter of their careers.

A highlight of this half term has to be the wonderful performances that the children have been involved in.



Earlier in the half term, we had the pleasure of watching Beech Class Assembly. I always love it when we can learn something new before 9.30am and Beech class definitely bombarded us with new learning. The children were confident and happy to perform in front of a large audience - their resilience shone through and that always makes me feel so proud.

Claypool's Got Talent was as spectacular as ever! The evening was filled with incredible performances, and it was wonderful to see the confidence, courage and enthusiasm our children displayed on stage. From singing and dancing to karate demonstrations, every act showcased the remarkable talents of our pupils.

We were treated to 10 fantastic performances from children in Years 3 to 6, making the audience's decisions extremely difficult. After a truly entertaining evening, the winners were:

1st Place - Juno Brown and Georgie Carlton-Jones singing 'It's a Hard Knock Life'

2nd Place - Lucas Egerton performing karate

3rd Place - Toby Islip and Brogan Jenks singing 'Stick Season'



We were also treated to a Music Concert and Rock Steady Concert this half term. I am always amazed by the confidence and composure our children show when performing in front of a hall full of parents, staff and fellow pupils. Whether singing, playing an instrument or performing as part of a band, they do so with such skill and enthusiasm. The talent we have at Claypool is truly phenomenal, and our children never fail to impress and inspire us.

On Wednesday morning, we held our annual Sports Assembly, and it was wonderful to celebrate the achievements of so many children. The number of awards presented this year was truly impressive and reflected the enthusiasm, commitment and sporting success of our pupils throughout the year.

We are particularly proud that every child in Years 5 and 6 has had the opportunity to represent the school in at least one competitive sporting event this year. Providing such a breadth of opportunities is something we value greatly at Claypool, and it plays an important role in building confidence, teamwork, resilience and a sense of achievement.

These opportunities do not happen by chance. They are the result of an enormous amount of planning, organisation and dedication from our staff, all of whom play a part in supporting our sporting programme. I would like to thank every member of staff who has contributed, but a special mention must go to Miss Miller and Mrs Gilmore for their outstanding leadership and commitment in this area of school life. Thanks to their hard work and enthusiasm, our children continue to enjoy exceptional sporting experiences and opportunities.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has so generously donated to the school instead of sending me an end of year gift. So far, we have raised an incredible £746 and received donations of new books and new playtime equipment, and I am truly touched by your kindness and generosity. Please be assured that every penny will be used to benefit our children and enhance their experiences at Claypool. In addition to this, Ben in Sycamore Class, set up a little business and managed to raise £11 which is just lovely! Thank you everyone.

In other news ...

Building work over the Summer

As you may have seen in the Bolton News, the school will be undergoing significant improvement works over the summer holiday, including the installation of a new boiler and upgrades to our emergency lighting systems.

We were informed last week that contractors will be taking over the whole school site for the full six-week holiday period and we are not allowed access, although they are hopeful that parts of the building will be available to us during the final week. As a result, much of our usual preparation for the new school year has already begun. Whilst we will do everything possible to ensure classrooms are ready for September, they may not look quite as polished as they usually do on the first day back.

As a precaution, I would ask families to consider a contingency plan in the unlikely event that we are unable to reopen on Tuesday 1st September. This would only happen if the building work is not completed on schedule. The contractors have assured us that the project will be finished on time, and we remain confident that school will reopen as planned. However, I feel it is sensible to make families aware of this possibility in advance. Should there be any change to our reopening arrangements, I will communicate this with you as soon as possible via MCAS.

New staff

We were delighted to successfully appoint two new Learning Support Assistants and a Higher Level Teaching Assistant this half term. We are excited to welcome Danni Norwood, Maliha Dixon-Mamsa and Emma Wallwork to the Claypool family when they join us in September. We know they will be a wonderful addition to our team, and we look forward to the skills, experience and enthusiasm they will bring to our school community.

Length of Service Recognition

Each year, we take great pride in recognising members of staff and governors who have been part of the Claypool family for more than ten years. Their dedication, loyalty and commitment have helped make Claypool such a special place.



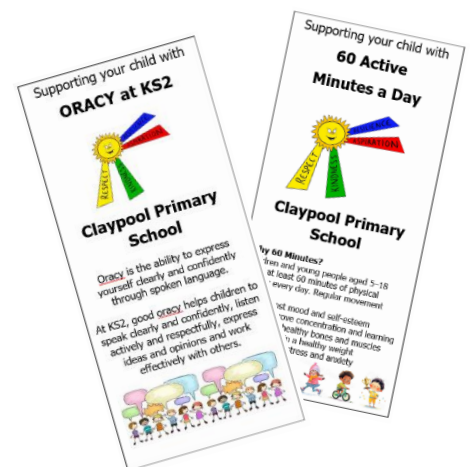
This year, we were delighted to celebrate the 20 Years of Service from Elaine Gilmore.

Elaine's remarkable commitment to Claypool was celebrated during a special surprise assembly on 16th June. Completely unaware of what was planned, Elaine was overwhelmed by the special memories shared by children, the singing and gifts to mark this milestone.

Elaine is an incredibly valued member of our team, and her kindness, dedication and unwavering support have touched the lives of countless children, families and colleagues over the past two decades. We are extremely grateful for everything she has contributed to our school and are proud to celebrate this wonderful achievement with her.

Leaflets to support learning at home

Leaflets related to Oracy, mental maths and 60 active minutes were sent home to all families earlier in the year. We would really appreciate it if over the summer holidays and beyond you were able to continue to support your child at home with these vital skills. If you haven't received the leaflets, please pop to the school office and we can provide you with duplicates.



Fundraising Update - H. Roocroft

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising events this half term. We are delighted to share that our Fancy Dress Friday raised £650 for the Bolton Destitution Project, while our fantastic Summer Fair raised an amazing £1,361. Claypool's Got Talent showcased the wonderful talents of our pupils and raised £218, while our two Frozen Fridays brought in a further £239.



None of this would have been possible without the support of our school community. Thank you to everyone who helped organise events, volunteered their time, donated raffle prizes, and took part in our fundraising activities.

Your generosity and continued support make these events such a success and help us provide even more opportunities for our children. Thank you!

National Assessment Results 2026

I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the fabulous achievements of our children in this year's national assessments.

Our children have achieved excellent outcomes in the Year 1 and Year 2 Phonics Screening Checks, the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check, and the Key Stage 2 SATs.

These results reflect the hard work, resilience and determination shown by our pupils throughout the year, as well as the dedication and expertise of our staff.

We are incredibly proud of what our children have accomplished. Their success is a testament to the strong partnership between school and home, and we would like to thank parents and carers for the encouragement and support you provide every day.

Congratulations to all of our pupils and staff on these fantastic achievements. They have given us much to celebrate and are a wonderful reflection of the high aspirations we have for every child at Claypool.

Inclusion at Claypool - H. Eckersley

As we come to the end of another school year it is a great time to reflect upon how proud we are of all of our pupils, particularly the way in which our awareness days have been embraced throughout the year.

We have had a busy half term ensuring that our Year 6 children have a smooth transition to high school. Behind the scenes, meetings have taken place with each high school and many children have enjoyed additional transition days to ensure they are ready for September.

Over the summer holidays, there are a number of free activities taking place in the local area which are being co-ordinated by Bolton Council. There are also some funded sessions for pupils who are eligible for free school meals. Please see this website for details <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF>



School meals update from September - C. Hyde

We have been informed by Bolton Council that, from September, the cost of school dinners will increase to £2.75 per day.

If your child is currently in Year 2, please be aware that when they move into Year 3, they will no longer receive Universal Infant Free School Meals, and dinners will need to be paid for.

If you think your child may be entitled to benefit-based Free School Meals, we strongly encourage you to apply. This could mean your child continues to receive meals free of charge and also provides additional support for the school.

You can apply here: <https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

Staffing from September

Rowan	Sarah Beck	Linda Evans Sarah Walton Jess Wiggans
Cherry	Sarah Worden	Jenny Walkden Vicky Griffiths Victoria Little (2.5 days)
Beech	Saxon Miller	Jen Brookes Iain Beesley
Hazel	Jessica Evans	Jan Ebrahim Sue Ratcliffe (3 days)
Willow	Alison Bell	Debbie Thornton Fiona Needham (3 days) Sue Ratcliffe (2 days)
Sycamore	Emma Fisher	Danni Norwood Maliha Dixon-Mamsa (am) Melanie Bird (pm)
Silver Birch	Ben Matthews	James Coyle
Oak	Hayley Eckersley	Claire Dearing Melanie Bird (am) Maliha Dixon-Mamsa (pm)

Deb Nevins and Emma Wallwork will cover classes across school whilst teachers take Planning, Preparation and Assessment Time and Subject Leadership Time.

Dates for your diary

Here are a few dates early in the school year, a full calendar of events are detailed below:

15 th	4.00pm	Rowan Class Year Ahead meeting
	4.00pm	Cherry Class (Foundation) Year Ahead meeting
	4.30pm	Beech Class (Y1) Year Ahead meeting
	5.00pm	Hazel Class (Y2) Year Ahead meeting
16 th	4.30pm	Willow Class (Y3) Year Ahead meeting
	4.30pm	Sycamore Class (Y4) Year Ahead meeting
	5.00pm	Silver Birch Class (Y5) Year Ahead meeting
	5.00pm	Oak Class (Y6) Year Ahead meeting
18 th		Jeans for Genes day
28 th	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Open afternoon for the parents and carers of children starting in September 2027
30 th	9.15am - 11.00am	Open morning for the parents and carers of children starting in September 2027

School Uniform

Below is a reminder of our school uniform requirements as you prepare to purchase items in readiness for September; we try very hard to ensure that it is simple and affordable for everyone.

Main uniform

- White or navy blue (dark blue not light blue) polo shirts
- Dark grey or black trousers, jogging bottoms, shorts or skirts
- Jade green school logo jumper or cardigan
- Navy blue school logo jumper for children in Year 6 (optional)
- Black shoes or trainers (no designs i.e. stripes or patterns)

PE Kit

- White or jade green t-shirt
- Black shorts or joggers

Please can I remind you that the children do not need rucksacks in school - a drawstring PE bag and a book bag is all that is needed. The rucksacks are too big for the cloakroom areas and are a trip hazard. In addition, other than a simple watch children are not allowed to wear jewellery in school.

Also, just a reminder that 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.

Finally ...

I would like, as always, to thank you for your support during this school year. We have a fabulous school and that is thanks to the staff, governors and parents but especially the children who bring such enthusiasm and creativity to their learning. I hope that you have a lovely break and I really will look forward to seeing all the children safe and well at 8.45am on Tuesday 1st September.

Enjoy the holidays!

Amanda Hulme



Dates for your diary 2026/2027

Please note that the diary of events is subject to change and further details about many of the events listed will follow.

September			
15 th	4.00pm	Cherry (Foundation) Year Ahead meeting Rowan Year Ahead meeting	Classrooms
	4.30pm	Beech (Y1) Year Ahead meeting	Classrooms
	5.00pm	Hazel (Y2) Year Ahead meeting	Classrooms
16 th	4.30pm	Willow (Y3) Year Ahead meeting Sycamore (Y4) Year Ahead meeting	Classrooms
	5.00pm	Silver Birch (Y5) Year Ahead meeting Oak (Y6) Year Ahead meeting	Classrooms
18 th		Genetic Conditions Awareness Day Jeans for Genes Day	
28 th	1.30pm – 3.00pm	Open afternoon for the parents and carers of children starting in September 2027	
30 th	9.15am – 11.00am	Open morning for the parents and carers of children starting in September 2027	
October			
1 st		ADHD Awareness Day	
6 th	3.45pm – 5.00pm	Open afternoon for the parents and carers of children starting in September 2027	
8 th		Dyslexia Awareness Day	
9 th		Big Debate World Mental Health Day – wear something yellow	
16 th	9.00am	Silver Birch Class Assembly	School Hall
20 th 21 st	2.00pm - 7.00pm	Parent/Teacher Meetings online Details of which classes are on which night to follow	Online
23 rd		Dwarfism Awareness Day Winter Watch Food Bank Collection	
November			
12 th	3.30pm - 5.00pm	Movie Night	Classrooms
13 th	9.00am	Willow Class Assembly Diabetes Awareness day	School Hall
20 th		Children in Need Day	
December			
2 nd	3.45pm or 5.30pm	Christmas Bingo	School Hall
8 th	9.00am, 2.00pm or 4.00pm	Rowan, Cherry, Beech & Hazel Christmas Concert	School Hall
11 th	3.30pm	Christmas Fair	School Hall
WB 14 th		Random Act of Kindness week	
14 th	2.00pm or 5.00pm	KS2 Christmas Carol Concert	St Elizabeth's
15 th		Christmas Party Afternoon	
17 th		Festive Thursday	
January			
21 st	3.30pm-5.00pm	Movie Night	Classrooms
22 nd	9.00am	Hazel Class Assembly	School Hall
February			
2 nd	2.00pm - 7.00pm	Parent/Teacher Meetings in person	Classrooms
5 th		Big Debate	Online
11 th	2.30pm 3.30pm 4.45pm	Rowan Class Disco Foundation and KS1 Disco KS2 Disco	School Hall
26 th	9.00am	Sycamore Class Assembly	School Hall
March			
5 th		World Book Day	
11 th	9.00am and 5.00pm	Arts Festival	School Hall
12 th	9.00am and 2.00pm	Arts Festival	School Hall
19 th		Comic Relief Day	
22 nd		Downs Syndrome Awareness Day – wear odd socks	School Hall
24 th	3.45pm or 5.30pm	Easter Egg Bingo	School Hall
25 th		Autism Awareness Day	

April			
22 nd	3.30pm – 5.00pm	Movie Night	Classrooms
May			
7 th	9:00am	Cherry Class Assembly	School Hall
WB 10 th		Year 6 SATs week	Year 6
19 th	1.15pm 2.15pm	KS2 Sports Afternoon Rowan, Foundation and KS1 Sports Afternoon	School Field
20 th	6.00pm	New Parents Meeting	School Hall
26 th	1.15pm 2.15pm	Sports Afternoon reserve date	School Field
June			
18 th		Big Debate Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Day – wear something yellow	
22 nd	5.30pm	Claypool's Got Talent	School Hall
25 th	9.00am	Beech Class Assembly	School Hall
July			
2 nd	3.30pm	Summer Fair	Playground
7 th		Moving Up Morning	
12 th	9.00am	Music Concert	School Hall
15 th		School reports sent to parents and carers	
21 st		Sports Assembly	
22 nd	6.00pm	Oak Class Leavers' Concert	School Hall