



Dear Parents

I can scarcely believe we are heading into November and already thinking about Christmas – the half term has simply flown by! This is in no small part due to the busyness of the term as you will see from the number of activities we have crammed into these past few weeks. Many thanks to those of you who actively took part in many of the events below, starting in the first week with the Parent & Teacher social. It is always such a pleasure to see our families again and welcome new parents to the school community.



Year 3 Pupil 1-2-1 Devices

Our Year 3 pupils were so excited to receive their 1-2-1 devices at the start of term. These laptops are given to the children to use at home and at school during the school year.

The pupils started by successfully entering their email addresses and passwords and navigating all the necessary downloads and updates. They have now begun to use their laptops for some excellent online learning.



Perform Drama Sessions

Our Early Years to Year 3 children welcomed Perform UK into school in early September for some wonderful drama workshops. The classes went on a journey into space, travelling through the universe whilst seeing many different planets, although these weren't regular planets as we know them. The pupils landed on strange planets of different shapes and sizes, with each planet doing something different.

Here are some of the children's reactions:

My favourite bit was when we travelled through the different planets. Some were wiggly and some were big. (Caspian)

I liked planet Earth because it went so fast. (Mickael)

I liked the part when someone got to hold the map and we were rolling left and right. (Dominic)

I liked it when we landed on a planet and had to start acting like a toy. (Lex)

I loved travelling to the Moon. (Bella)

I enjoyed directing everyone to the different planets. (Poppy)

It was really fun to pretend that we were toys. (Kosuke)

I liked flying the rocket around. (Borna)

It was so fun eating the chocolate cake. (Adeline)



Year 5 & 6 Trip to the Tower of London

Our Year 5 & 6 classes had an unforgettable day at the Tower of London.

The pupils were immersed in the Tower's rich history, learning about its role as a royal palace, prison, and fortress. They were fascinated by stories of famous prisoners and daring escapees that brought history to life.

One of the highlights was a special tour led by none other than "Lady Catherine Grey", who captivated the children with her knowledge and tales from the past. The pupils explored the Tower grounds, marvelled at the Crown Jewels, and left with a deeper understanding of England's royal history.

It was a fantastic day filled with discovery. From the excitement on the children's faces, we could see that it had made all the learning come alive!

Grace: "I really enjoyed seeing the ravens, we saw one named Georgie and another named Jubilee. I also enjoyed meeting the second female Beefeater!"

Asher: "When we went to the Tower of London, I enjoyed the tour. It was very fun learning about the prisoners and how they were treated. I was surprised by some of the crimes that could cause you to be locked up."

Hiro: "I enjoyed the guide's quiz about the Tower of London. I also had fun listening about the role of the beefeaters."

Billy: "I enjoyed acting as Lady Jane Grey (sister of Lady Catherine Grey), it was fun and very interesting, and I learnt more about her. I was very interested in seeing the Crown Jewels including the mace made for William 3 and Mary 2, the Ampulla and the Coronation Spoon."





Year 4 trip to the London Museum of Water & Steam

On Thursday 19th September, the Year 4 class visited the London Museum of Water and Steam. Everyone had a wonderful time, learning about water purification, the different steam powered engines, and how these have all changed over time. It was also a valuable insight into sustainable sources of energy and to top things off, there was still enough time to have fun pumping water and enjoying the splash zone.



Early Years Yoga Session

Emma from Kidsyogaflo visited our Early Years to give 2 Yoga sessions to our youngest pupils. The children all had a great time trying out the Yoga positions.



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Global Be Well Day

Clifton Lodge had an amazing Global Be Well Day 2024. Despite the heavy rain, we held a coffee morning for our parents at the front of the school and raised money for MacMillan Cancer Support. Shortly afterwards, our Year 5 & 6 pupils performed at Ealing Broadway Station. Commuters enjoyed group singing and piano performances by Arisa in Year 6. We were again collecting money for MacMillan Cancer Support and raised over £200 with these two events alone, plus we had additional cashless donations. We supported a local state school with donations of toys and games and our pupils had a range of activities to enjoy through the day. Everyone had a great time celebrating wellness and our theme of 'Giving' today. Thank you to all the parents who joined us for coffee or donated to the various charitable causes.

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Well done for raising such a great amount yesterday, and a huge thank you for supporting us as part of your Global Be Well Day! - Andy

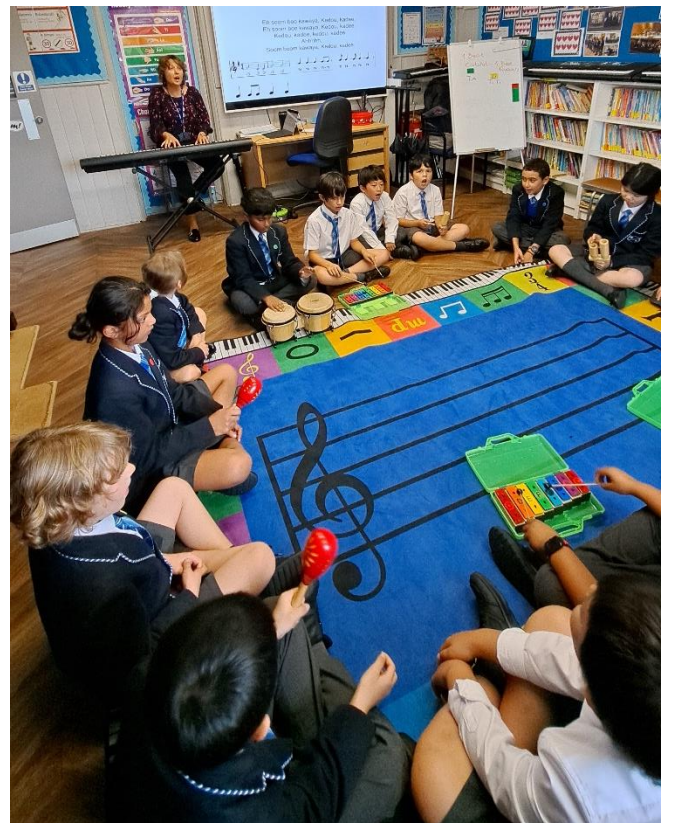
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Music Lessons

Our specialist Music Teacher is teaching the classes about rhythms and beats this term. The children have been composing their own rhythms. By using large and small circles, our Reception and Year 1 pupils explored creating different rhythms and reading them. Year 2 also used Crotchet rests and circles without a note for the silent beats. Year 3 changed the words of the song "A Sailor Went to Sea" and thought of actions to go along with the words - they were all so creative.

Year 5 performed a cyclic piece - layered ostinato patterns during which they sang a song from Nigeria. Well done to all our pupils, we are so proud of their musical achievements and can see how much the children enjoy taking part.



Guitar Lessons

Our Guitar Peri Teacher, Alex Scheuerer introduced the guitar and played some music at an assembly in September, the children were fascinated and really enjoyed asking questions. Alex has been teaching classical and acoustic guitar at Clifton Lodge for a several years and has successfully taught pupils from beginners to Grade 4 with merit! He not only follows the Grade Music Syllabus in his teaching but is always open to teaching a child a song of their choice, keeping his lessons fun and engaging. If you wish your child to start guitar lessons, please contact Alex.

(£25 for a 30-minute lesson, invoiced at the end of each term)

Please get in touch by email: alex.scheuerer@hotmail.com



Harvest Festival

Thank you to our pupils, staff and parents for a wonderful celebration at our Harvest Festival which was held at Christ the Saviour Church. We had singing, poetry reading, individual instrumental performances, and everyone joined together for a hymn. The programme had artwork by Billy & Hiro. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to our parents for supporting us at this event and donating provisions which went to the Ealing Foodbank.



Coffee Morning

This autumn term's Coffee Morning was on the importance of Speech and Language. We had a distinguished guest speaker to discuss the importance of speech and language in our children's lives. Maliha shared valuable insights and tips on how speech therapy can benefit children's communication skills and overall development and how to identify potential speech-related challenges in children. Maliha was then able to answer many questions from parents. It was lovely seeing parents come together as a community to support our children's development.



Languages & Cultures Week

Just before half-term we celebrated Languages & Cultures Week. On the Wednesday, our pupils and staff wore traditional costumes/national dress to celebrate the wonderful diversity in our school. Everyone was so excited coming into school and the array of costumes was amazing. A big thank you to our families for supporting this special day in our school calendar.



Cello Showcase in Assembly

On Friday 11th October, our Piano teacher Mr Fox, joined our assembly to perform with his wife, and daughter, Freya on the Cello. Freya played three pieces beautifully from the Grade 3 cello repertoire, including:

“Contredanse” by Beethoven

“Somewhere Over the Rainbow” from The Wizard of Oz

“Wild West” by Blackwell

Mrs Fox also delighted the pupils with her lively performance of “At the Fountain” by Davidoff, which was a fast-paced and fun piece that the pupils thoroughly enjoyed.

If anyone is interested in cello lessons for their child, please contact Mr Fox, directly:

harry_fox@hotmail.com



Science Trip to Walpole Park

On Friday 11th October, Year 4 took a short trip over the road to Walpole Park for their Science lesson. The children have been learning about classifying animals and were there to search for invertebrates.

They found lots of minibeasts, including examples of annelids, molluscs, insects, and arachnids. The pupils then recorded their findings whilst remaining respectful of the habitats of the creatures.



Science Club

Science Club is always very popular and the pupils have got off to a great start this term with a series of experiments. Here is some of what they have been investigating:

Lesson title: Science is all around

The children moved around a carousel of activities

1. The Washing up liquid boat experiment

They found out about the surface tension of water by disturbing it with washing up liquid to propel a paper boat.

2. Cloud in a jar experiment

The pupils created a cloud in a jar using warm water, ice and hairspray.

3. The Mystery of the twirling tin foil experiment

They explored how heat rises by lighting candles to help a foil spiral spin around.

4. The Rising Water experiment

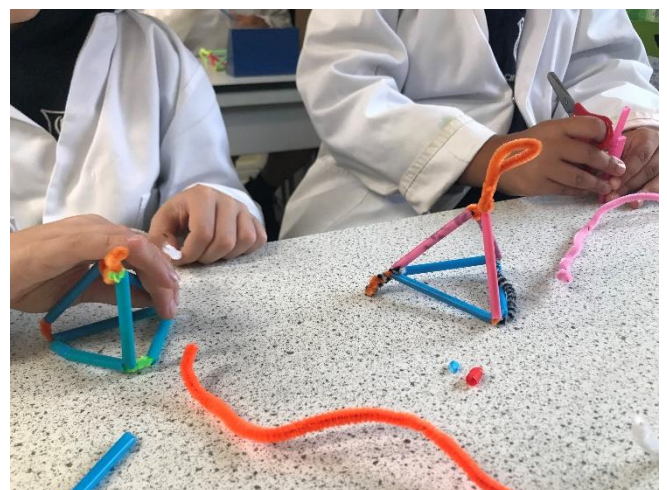
The children lowered a glass over water and matches on a cork. They observed that, as the matches burned up all of the oxygen, the molecules moved more quickly and many of them escaped making the air less dense causing the water to rise.



Lesson title: 2D and 3D bubble wands

The children were posed the question, are bubbles always spherical?

They then used pipe cleaners and straws to make 2D and 3D bubble wands which proved that bubbles take the form of the shape they are in.



Lesson title: Liquid Density bottles

The pupils were asked if liquids are all the same. Then, they made bottles half filled with water and food colouring, and half filled with oil and oil-based colouring. They were able to observe that oil and water don't mix as they have different densities and even when shaken to create a new colour, they will re-settle back to their original state (water at the bottom, oil on top).



Pre-Prep Ancient Egyptian Day

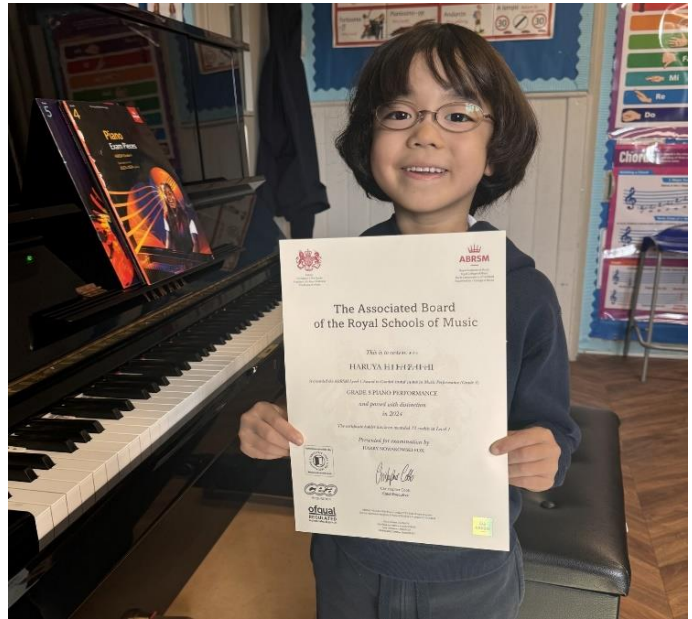
The Year 1 & 2 children were immersed into the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt with a workshop run by Divergent Drama. Thank you to all the parents who provided such amazing costumes to make the session come alive for the pupils.





Haruya – Piano Success

Huge congratulations to Haruya in Year 3 who was awarded a distinction in his recent grade 3 piano examination. Haruya received an absolutely amazing mark of 144/150! Well done Haruya, we are all so proud of you.



Arisa and Karen

We are delighted that Arisa and Karen both gained 1st prizes in their categories (piano & violin) at the 7th New Talent Festival, a prestigious international competition showcasing performers at a professional level. The competition was judged by esteemed professors from the top UK conservatoires. Pictured are the winners holding their certificates, along with recognition for Mr Fox, Piano and Strings London and Clifton Lodge for their support in Arisa and Karen's preparation and participation.



Friends of Clifton Lodge

The Friends of CL would like to invite any interested parents to their second AGM, to be held on Wednesday 13th November at 7pm in the School. This is a wonderful way to come together to foster a sense of community among families as well as to raise funds for the children. They are already planning their next events for the weeks ahead and we look forward to some new additions to the calendar this year. However much or little of your time you are able to spare, I am sure The Friends would be keen to have you along.

Year 6

A big “Good Luck” to our wonderful Year 6s who are in the midst of preparation for their important senior school assessments. We are all so proud of you and all you have achieved so far. Keep up the hard work over the next few weeks – it will all pay off! Thanks to Mrs Trivedi and Mr Beetar for all their efforts in keeping everyone on track and prepared as well as possible for the challenges of tests, assessments and interviews.

Wishing you all an enjoyable break and looking forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 4th November.

Kind regards



Michael Belsito
Head