



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

The last day of the strangest ever summer term has actually arrived. It hopefully brings an end to a school year, the likes of which we just couldn't have ever imagined and one that we certainly hope never to see again.

I want to end the term on a positive – by recognising the amazing team we have here at Cleves Cross and thanking each and every one of them for the hard work, resilience and team spirit they have shown throughout the year, but especially over these past few months. I know from the many thank-yous and gestures of appreciation that we have had over the past few days and weeks, that you too very much value the support you and your children have received from staff during the lockdown period. Thank you for that – it means a lot.

I would also like to applaud yourselves as parents - and of course our children, for trying their best and doing some amazing work. You have been faced with trying to manage a whole new world of juggling home-schooling with your own work and caring commitments. Supporting your children to keep learning whilst having their health and wellbeing at the forefront of your thoughts has been a huge challenge. I know it hasn't been easy. I hope that the light at the end of the tunnel continues to grow and that, come September, we will be back to as close to normal as possible – and, at the very least, we will all be back together!



Goodbye to our fantastic Y6 pupils!

One of the saddest things of the lockdown has been that our Year 6 class have missed out on so much. Their SATs of course – I know they were devastated! And all of the other treats too; London trip, their end of year performance, Durham Cathedral leavers service, trips, Summer Fair stalls, leavers disco...etc. etc. I hope that they still have fond memories of their time here and that they continue their education journey with the same positive attitudes and determination to achieve their very best that they have shown during their time at Cleves Cross. We wish them all the very best as they move on to their new challenges and know that there will still be many fantastic experiences ahead of them.



Farewell...and Good Luck!

Today we are saying a fond farewell to a very special member of staff. Mrs Pauline Foster, our Trust Business Manager, who is retiring at the end of August. She has been part of the Cleves Cross team for 17 years and has been an integral part of all that goes on behind the scenes here at school. I cannot thank her enough for the commitment and dedication she has shown to our school during her time here; she has been my right-hand person in the office and I know many of you have benefitted from her knowledge, problem-solving skills and friendly manner during your child's time here. We all wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement and she does know that we expect her to visit frequently when she has so much time on her hands come September!

Parent Guide – F.A.Q.s

Thank you for the positive feedback around the Parent Guide for September that was sent out on Wednesday. There have been a couple of questions that parents have asked so, if you are unsure about any aspect, perhaps the following will help:

- **What about siblings, Group A and B and different times?**

You will receive a message today letting you know which Group your child has been allocated to. It is important that you know, and follow this, to help us maintain a safe school environment in September. Staff have done their best to keep siblings as close together time-wise as possible to help you manage drop-offs and pick-ups.

Remembering that Years 4, 5 and 6 will come into school independently from the school gate will also help this - please let your child's teacher know via class email if you are happy for them to leave independently too.

- **What about P.E. kit?**

Key Stage 2 pupils will wear their P.E. clothing to come to school on their P.E. days. A plain t-shirt/polo-shirt, preferably blue or white is fine. Black jogging bottoms or leggings are ideal. Shorts can be worn underneath if needed. Trainers will be needed too. If their school shoes are trainers then that's fine – they can be worn. If they need to use different trainers on P.E. days, I really don't want parents to go to additional expense of buying black ones especially for school – but if you are replacing trainers, please do buy black ones for use at school. Black plimsolls are also great value and totally acceptable.

- **Water bottles** - will need to be brought daily and will be returned home daily for thorough washing. Children will use these at lunchtime too and our water dispensers are out of action, so please ensure your child doesn't forget their bottle each day. As has always been the case, the bottles must be filled with water, nothing else. Thank you.

- **Wellies** – we will be making as much use as possible of our outdoors and hopefully the weather will cooperate! If it does get to the point where wellies are needed to access the field, we will let you know.