

Headteacher's Update - May 2025

Good afternoon,

It has been a short but very busy half term, with two residentials, SATs week and many wonderful year group activities. Whilst many children looked ready for the half term this morning, it was very exciting to see the amount of additional 'bits' coming into school this morning with a Year 6 World War 2 immersion day and a Year 3 stop-go animation project.

Raising the profile of the Arts

As you may remember, I shared with you some of the exciting projects that we were able to offer in the Arts last term. This continues to be an area of school life that we are aiming to develop for our children. The music concerts this week have displayed the sheer number of pupils engaged in music based clubs, and the final group singing of Little Blue was an incredibly powerful performance. These performances epitomised our school learning behaviours of perseverance, high aspirations and collaboration, and it was great to see so many children enjoying success together. Art is continuing to develop and I hope that you all join us to see every child's artwork exhibited in the Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre on 18th - 29th June. Through seeing their work publicly displayed, we hope our children will be inspired to view the arts as enjoyable and valuable outlets of their creative thought. Creativity provides numerous benefits including fostering confidence, supporting emotional wellbeing and enhancing cognitive skills. It boosts communication and social skills, as well as cognitive development in areas such as problem solving and critical thinking. It encourages children to explore, experiment and take risks in a safe space. These are all learning behaviours that we want our children to embrace as they prepare themselves for their future lives.

Sports

Due to the vast number of exciting sporting events happening this week, the Sports Newsletter will follow in the next half term. Once again, the children and staff continue to represent our school in the local community, showcasing our commitment to collaboration, perseverance and aspiration. It is great for our children to experience positive, respectful competition and to find ways to enhance their happiness and mental wellbeing through sport. Thank you to all the members of staff that help to offer so many sporting opportunities to our children.

Eco-Award

Children at Cleves are very aware of ways that they can make the world they live in a pleasurable place to be. They are keen to make the environment clean, picking up litter and keeping their spaces tidy. They are also very aware of ways that we can make positive choices for our environment on a wider scale, considering ways that we can recycle, reduce and reuse resources

to ensure a sustainable approach to life. This hard work has resulted in being awarded our Green Eco-Award again. The assessors were impressed by how pupils have shared their Eco-learning, inspiring peers and even influencing family choices. The children's success in encouraging reusable bottles, questioning food sustainability, and even writing to companies about packaging showed true leadership and commitment. The school was also commended on how Year 5 explored Healthy Living during their PSHE lessons, discussing sleep, sun protection, hygiene, and nutrition through engaging activities like sorting tasks, posters, and real-life scenarios. They said it was wonderful how Year 6 combined Geography and Art, learning about marine life protection and plastic pollution while creating recycled mobiles inspired by Eco-artists. Thank you to Miss Pisano for all the work on this and her regular reminders to keep it at the forefront of our minds.

Trips and Residential

This half term, we have had a number of trips and residential which add value and depth to our curriculum. Through these experiences, children embed knowledge and understanding, as well as develop social and life skills that give a rounded, wholesome experience. We are currently reviewing our offer in terms of ensuring the trips match our curriculum offer and are value for money, especially at this time where family finances are stretched. We would welcome your views on this and would appreciate any feedback via [this form](#).

As we move into the final half term, we will be preparing our Year 6 children for the next step in their learning journey and welcoming our new children into Year 3. Change can sometimes feel challenging, and the next half term aims to alleviate some of the concerns that children have at this time. Cleves is a special community and we aim to all support each other. I look forward to the myriad of events and experiences that will unite us and remind us of the importance of the relationships we build at school. I'm sure that the PTA would very much appreciate any help for Fete in the Field or the upcoming events we will be planning for next year (especially Firework Night!).

Thank you for your continued support and wishing you all a restful half term.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Green', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mrs N. Green
Acting Headteacher