



Cleves School Arts Newsletter



Summer Term 2026

Welcome to our final Arts Newsletter of this academic year where you can get a snapshot of what our children have been taking part in this term.

Music

Surrey Tuning Up Concerts

As we have had for every term this year, our term ended with a showcase from the children learning an instrument with their Surrey Arts teacher. All children performed brilliantly and showcased what they had achieved in just one term of learning their instrument. Well done to all who took part.

Annual Summer Concerts

Our annual concerts have become a real highlight of the year for all our musicians at Cleves and this year was no exception. We had all three of our choirs singing their hearts out, the biggest the school orchestra has ever been, our handbell group, our ukulele group, all our steel pan groups and exceptional soloists.

We also had original compositions from our budding composers starting with Elise and Lucy, Jack and Megan and finishing with a surprise piece from Ernie Scriven.

One of the highlights was seeing everyone come together for a rendition of Power In Me to finish off the concert. This certainly raise the roof and half of Weybridge probably heard it as well!

With over 250 children taking part in these concerts, everyone should go away feeling immense pride in what they achieved.

Trustees commented on how the sheer joy and passion for performing was clearly evident with children making up their own actions and getting full immersed in the power of song.



Composer in the making!

Ernie Scriven in Year 6 went above and beyond this term and managed to create his own composition, rehearse the orchestra in secret and surprise Mr. Kilhams and the audience with a performance of the piece in our annual concerts. It wasn't only an exceptional performance and composition but it was even more impressive that they all kept together and performed it so confidently. Huge congratulations to Ernie for his incredible work and we look forward to hearing about your first symphony!



Transition Assemblies

As part of our transitions for the Year 2s that will be joining us in September and starting their journeys at Cleves, we took some performers in to both Manby Lodge and Oatlands School to perform. Little did they know they'd be performing with the children from Cleves! We had 14 Year 3s from our Training Choir who went to sing songs and tell the Year 2s about the musical opportunities they have when they come to Cleves. The Year 2s were also treated to a performance from Alex Vincent on the saxophone - an instrument that most children were seeing for the first time in their lives! It is safe to say that the children really enjoyed the assemblies and everyone performed really well. Well done to all involved and for encouraging the next singers who will be with us in September.





Opera Trip

We were incredibly lucky to get the opportunity to take a small group of Year 5s and 6s to watch an opera at Grange Park Opera, West Horseley Place. The opera the children got to see was The Barber of Seville - rumoured to be the best opera for children with very little death! All children had an amazing time and even got to see the set of where they filmed the BBC comedy, 'Ghost'. One of the cast came out to meet the children as well and say hello which was a real treat. We battled the heat and it was an enjoyable afternoon which the children will hopefully remember for a long time.





The Pied Piper Concert

36 children from the Senior Choir took part in a concert with two local adult choirs and a live band at our very own performance hall. As well as performing their own songs all choirs came together to form a choir of over 100 to perform a musical interpretation of the story of The Pied Piper. The children stole the show with their homemade rats and incredible singing! The composer himself was in the audience and made the comment afterwards:

"That was the best I have heard children singing for a long time!"

The children who took part were a credit to the school and many people came away saying how brilliant they were so well done to all who took part. A special thank you to all the wonderful staff volunteers who helped make it possible for them to take part in this exciting opportunity.





Leavers' Service

The Leavers' Service saw the start of the end for our Year 6s. It was a great chance for the children to reflect on the many positive times they've had over their four years here and we even heard from Year 7s who came back to give some sound advice. We also had our Year 6s perform two songs and our orchestra perform a piece written specially for this term by Ernie Scriven (a

first for Cleves!) It was a really nice service and everyone read, sang and played beautifully.



Steel Pans Update

The steel bands have had a fantastic year. Years 5 and 6 performed brilliantly at the Cleves Christmas concert. On a beautiful hot summers day the year 4,5 and 6 band performed at the Oatlands village fayre, with our version of 'Tequila' (rebranded as 'Ribena') being a particular hit with the crowd. We completed our performances for the year with all bands playing at the Cleves summer concert. Year 6 played a 4 part arrangement of Bob Marleys 3 Little Birds, which we believe is a first for the pans in their 20 years at Cleves. There are spaces available for anyone from years 4,5 and 6 to join a band in September. No musical experience necessary!



Exam Successes!

A huge well done to all of the children who passed various arts exams. Lots have passed ABRSM grade music exams, others have passed dance exams and the array of different achievements is quite amazing. A huge well done to all of you for your hard work and commitment!

Drama

Year 6 Leavers' Production

This year's production of 'Rock Bottom' was a wonderful celebration of the children's hard work, talent and teamwork. Auditions first began back in April and it has been lovely to see everything come together so brilliantly over the final few weeks. From learning lines and songs to perfecting choreography and stage directions, every child showed incredible commitment and enthusiasm throughout the rehearsal process.

Both evening performances were a huge success and provided a fantastic way to celebrate our Year 6 pupils' time at Cleves. Well done to everybody involved, especially our amazing cast, who had the challenge of learning so many lines! It was wonderful to see all of the children smiling, singing and acting their hearts out on stage. They should all be incredibly proud of what they achieved and the lasting memories they have created together.



Art

The Weybridge Summer Arts Competition

Weybridge Library launched an art competition this year for the children to compose a picture of their favourite book character in a location in Weybridge. The children had the most magnificent ideas which were shortlisted and sent to Weybridge Library.

We were very pleased to hear that we had 3 winners from our school! Schools from across Weybridge were invited to enter the competition and a winner was chosen from each year group.

Skyler was our winner from Year 3, Rose was our winner from Year 5 and Ellie was our winner from Year 6. They were all invited to go and collect a certificate and a prize from the stage in the fair. This was presented to them by the Mayor! Well done to all who entered and a special congratulations to the girls who won. What a fantastic achievement from our artistic pupils!



Ellie 6T



Rose 5J



Skyler 3J

Lightbox Gallery trip

This year for the first time, Year 3 went on a school trip to the Lightbox Gallery in Woking. During our curriculum art lessons, the children have learnt about self-portraits and this was a perfect opportunity to see some up close and personal. They had the opportunity to look around the gallery with an art expert and discuss what they could see. They found out about the reasons why the artists created the work the way they did. They then had a chance to create some artwork of their own using clay. Here are some photographs of their clay self-portraits:

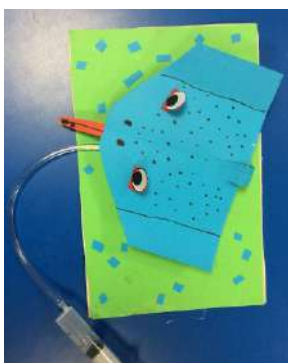
(photos on next page)



Design & Technology

Another busy term full of lots of wonderful DT projects! Every year group has been very busy designing and making some awesome pieces. It's amazing to see the transformation from planning, to making and then seeing the children's final pieces coming to life!

In year 3, the children have been designing and making a Pneumatic Rainforest Animal! The children brought their animals to life by making it out of card, following their plans. Then, they integrated a syringe to make the mouth open and close. The children created some wonderful final pieces and here are a few...



In year 4, the children made bread! The children have learned lots of important skills such as kitchen health and safety rules, different processes to make different food products and studying different ingredients. The children then

studied some flatbread recipes and then made it their own by adding toppings that they had chosen. They very much enjoyed taste testing their creations!

In year 5, their task was to research the structure of bridges to enable them to design and construct the strongest bridge they could. This needed very careful planning and construction. By using straws and making tape, the children constructed their bridges carefully using their plans.

In year 6, the children designed and constructed a WW2 shelter! The children researched different types of shelters that were commonly used at that time and then carefully planned out their own. They needed to think carefully about where the shelter would be located, what the purpose was and what materials would be needed.

The children have worked incredibly hard with all their DT projects this year and we hope they're proud of all that they've achieved!

Many thanks,
The Arts Team

Music - Mr. Kilhams

Drama - Miss Dawson

Art - Miss Rees

DT - Miss Earl