

5th December 2025

Welcome

Thank you for all your wonderful contributions toward our Christmas Fair, which takes place this Saturday. We're looking forward to seeing many of you there supporting the school. Thank you to the wonderful PTA for organising this.

As we move into a busy festive period, please ensure that your children bring coats to school as the weather turns colder. We have Christmas dinner next week and we're excited for the Year 3 and Year 4 Nativities at St Mary's Church. It has been lovely hearing the rehearsals, singing filling the corridors. You're in for a real treat!

Have a lovely weekend.





6th December	PTA Christmas Fair
9th December	Y3 Nativity
10th December	Christmas Dinner
11th December	Y4 Nativity
16th December	Christmas Concert - Y5
17th December	Christmas Concert - Y6
19th December	End of Term 1:45
5th January	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
6th January	School re-starts - Spring Term
7th-9th January	Skipping Workshops (timings tbc)
9th January	Y5 Pottage - 5H, 5J & 5M
9th January	Class Assembly - 6T



12th January	Y5 Pottage - 5D, 5K & 5N
13th January	Y3 Ancient Egyption Immersion Day - 3A, 3D & 3M
14th January	Y3 Ancient Egyption Immersion Day - 3GR, 3J & 3W
16th January	Y5 Space Day
16th January	Class Assembly - 6PD
20th January	Young Voices
23rd January	Class Assembly - 4E
30th January	Class Assembly - 5H

School Lunches

Please remember to book school dinners on Scopay at least 72 hours in advance and discuss choices with your child so that they are happy with what they are eating.

If your child has not got a booked lunch, we will expect that you will provide a packed lunch on that day.



Last Friday, the School Council began their fundraising campaign for the 25th Birthday of HomeStart charity. Children wore mufti and in class completed a variety of activities based on the number 25. Across classes children studied their 25 times tables, completed 25 fluency questions on various topics, read 25 pages of a book, wrote mini 25 word stories, ran 25 laps of the playground, completed mini boot camps of various exercises for 25 reps and many more creative, fun activities, which they loved!

In the afternoon, we ran a bake sale, selling over 1,000 cakes baked by the wonderful Stacey and Julie (the catering team). From the bake sale alone we raised £578.55! This brings our current total for HomeStart to £1,700!!! This is an incredible amount of money, which is beyond appreciated and will help so many local families have the wonderful festive period they so deserve. Because we are always striving to achieve more, we would like to remind you that the ScoPay fundraising account is staying open until January 12th.



Lots of children have amazing ideas on how to raise money doing sponsored activities so please do continue to raise money and donate on ScoPay.

If you have any fundraising stories please share with Miss Childs (Ichilds@cleves.co.uk) so we can celebrate excellent efforts.

A huge well done to the School Council for their super selling skills at the Cake Sale!
Well done to Thomas C (5N), Jack B (5M),
Freya B (3M), Georgie C (3GR)
Lyla F(3A) for selling 25 flapjacks, 25
gingerbreads, 25 brownies and 25 dog treats
and raising £150!

Well done to Ellis 6P who baked cookies and mince pies and raised £40!

Thank youu!!!

Christmas News!



The Christmas post box will be located outside the Welfare office from Monday 1st December for the children to post their Christmas cards to friends. Please ensure that all cards have the child's forename, surname & class on the front of the envelope.

Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday

10th December.

There will only be 2 options available on the day. Please visit your Scopay account and amend/book your child's option accordingly. The deadline for ordering Christmas lunch is Friday 5th December.

The children are also invited to wear their Christmas jumpers on this day. Please note, this is not a mufti day and full school uniform must be worn.



We are looking forward to seeing you at our Christmas fair tomorrow. Don't forget to bring cash for the children's stalls!

To be in with a chance of winning hampers, vouchers and more; purchase your raffle tickets here:

https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/clevesschoolraffle2025

Year 3

Year 3 have been getting very festive this week. Not only have we had rehearsals for our Christmas show next week but we have started making our christmas stockings. Thank you to all the parents and carers that have volunteered to help this week and next, your help is invaluable. We have started our last Literacy unit of the year, a creative narrative based on The Polar Express. In Maths we have started reviewing what we have learnt during the Autumn term, with a focus on mental strategies to add and subtract. In Computing we have been focussing on copying and pasting text into a Google Doc and then manipulating size, font and colour, adding pictures etc.

Year 4

We've had another fantastic and busy week in Year 4!

Nativity Rehearsals - The excitement is building as we continue our Nativity rehearsals. The children have been working incredibly hard, and we can't wait to share our performances with you next week! Field Study Council Visit - This week, we were lucky enough to have an assembly by the people at Juniper Hill, who taught us all about greenhouse gases and the positive actions we can take to help protect our planet. The children asked brilliant questions and showed great enthusiasm for becoming eco-heroes! In Maths, we continued developing our multiplication and division skills. The children have shown great perseverance and are becoming much more confident with these important methods. In Literacy, we began our new narrative writing unit inspired by J.R.R. Tolkien's Letters from Father Christmas. The children loved exploring the magical letters and have already begun planning some wonderful stories of their own.

Year 4 (cont'd)

Computing - GarageBand - We have now finished our GarageBand unit in computing. The children have thoroughly enjoyed composing and creating their own music tracks. Some of these have been uploaded to Seesaw - do take a listen!

Year 5

Year 5 have had another busy week, jam-packed with a variety of lessons ranging from fractions in Maths to life-cycles in Science! In Literacy, we have started a new unit where we are writing a letter home - We are aboard the Golden Hinde, travelling the world but life on the ship is both hard and exciting!

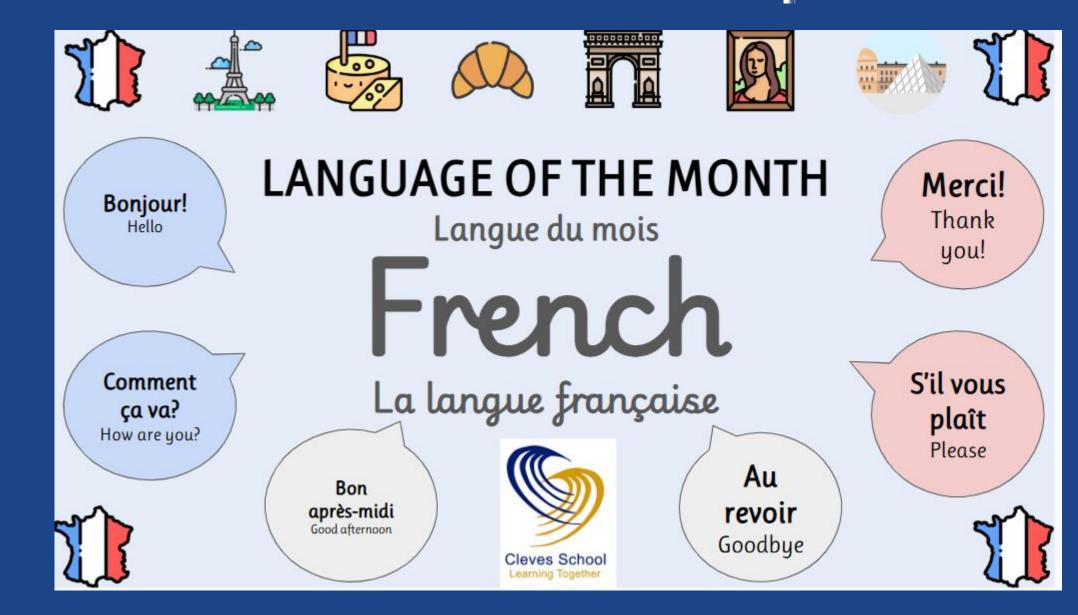
In Whole Class Reading, we have looked at texts relating to our Science unit - thinking a bit more about mammals and why some are bigger than others, and what makes us unique.

The fun of Christmas has also started, with classes preparing for the Christmas performance by rehearsing their poems and songs!

Year 6

Festive excitement is filling the air in Year 6! It has been another wonderfully busy week as the children dive into a new narrative writing unit inspired by A Christmas Carol and Edgar the Dragon from the 2019 Waitrose Christmas advert. In Computing, they have been designing their own tiles, which will begin printing over the next few weeks, and in Science they explored evolution and how different species adapt to survive. Meanwhile, the classroom is buzzing with rehearsals as everyone practises their Christmas poems and songs, getting ready for our upcoming Christmas show!

Language of the Month



It has been a wonderful start to our new Language of the Month. Staff and students have embraced the French language and you can hear it spoken across the school throughout the day. It is wonderful to see staff and pupils learning together and allowing our French speaking students to become the experts and teach us all. We have even started having requests from children for what the next language should be; as they are keen to share with us all the languages they speak.

Eco News

Try Loose Leaf Tea

Did you know some tea bags contain plastic? Loose leaf tea will reduce your plastic



consumption and mean that you can compost your tea without microfibres entering your Compost.

Eco Assembly

This week, we were very lucky to welcome three visitors from Juniper Hall Field Studies, who came to Cleves to deliver an eco assembly about our environment. They explained what climate change is, discussed climate anxiety, and explored how we - individually, as households, and as a school - can make a difference. Now it's over to you: take a moment to think about how *you* can make a difference!

If you wish to find out more or want to get involved, Juniper Hall run a variety of different nature clubs and events. Check it out here -

https://www.field-studies-council.org/locations/juniperhall/

Sports News

Football Round Up

Last Friday, The Year 5/6 A team took part in the Chelsea Tournament at the Walton Xcel. It was a frustrating and difficult day for the boys as they struggled to get their game going and failed to qualify for the knockout stages, managing just two draws out of the five games they played. It shouldn't dampen what has been an excellent first half of the season and there is still plenty to play for in the New Year.

On Monday, the Year 5 A team were back in action. This time, it was the League Cup second round fixture at home to Ongar Place Year 6. Early into the game, the boys were pressing well and kept possession. They attacked down the wings and created chances but couldn't put the ball in the net. Defensively, the boys held strong at the back and played forward. After hitting the bar several times and missing opportunities to get in front, the game stayed at a stalemate. Into extra time, the boys still struggled to finish off a chance and they ended up going to penalties. Unfortunately, the Cleves team missed out this time and lost. A huge well done to those who played!

Sports News (cont'd)

On Wednesday evening, the Year 5 B team were in cup action against St Cuthbert's. This was a difficult match given that our opponents were last year's district tournament winners and many of their team were in Year 6. However, I was extremely impressed with the boys who battled hard and never gave up and despite losing the game 5 v 0, they can all be very proud of themselves.

Highway Code



Get to know the Highway Code

Knowing the Highway Code is really important for school children who walk to school every day. It helps you understand how to cross roads safely, recognise traffic signs, and stay alert around cars, buses, and bikes. By following the rules, like using crossings properly and paying attention to signals, you can keep yourself and your friends safe on your journey. Learning the Highway Code isn't just about rules - it's about building good habits that help everyone get to school safely and confidently.

Find out more at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code or

- order a copy of The Highway Code book online
- buy a copy from most high street bookshops
- buy the app for Apple phones and tablets
- buy the app for Android phones and tablets

Play this game online to learn more about how to be safe when on the roads.

https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/be-bright-be--seen-game/

Parking for Drop Off

A reminder to please take extra care when parking to drop off your children at the start of the day.

For everyone's safety, we ask that drivers avoid pulling up or stopping on the zebra crossing, as this makes it difficult for pupils and families to cross safely.

Thank you for helping us keep the area around school safe for all.



Internet Safety Guide

Last week's guide explored how to set up safe settings on smartphones. This week is a toolkit that aims to support digital resilience, which is broken up into different ages or digital experiences. It looks at how we can help children to face the challenges that they may experience in the digital world.

To read this week's guide, please click on the image.



Cleves Hub Video Guide

We have put together a short video guide on how to navigate and sign into our Cleves Hub. This may be particularly useful for our new Y3 parents. The guide can be viewed by clicking the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7f6BHaEtf



Congratulations

Congratulations to Benjamin (4L) who came 1st place in the end of term competition with Dragon Judo Club - well done Benjamin!



Congratulations to Arabella (5D) who competed in the South East Regional Championships for gymnastics last Sunday and won silver - well done Arabella!

Congratulations (cont'd)

Last weekend, Maffy (5N) travelled to Basel, Switzerland for her very first international Scottish Highland dance competition. Dancing in her newly-upgraded Novice category, she delivered fantastic performances, placing 6th, 7th, and 8th in her events!



House Points

Windsor	Arundel
18,556	21,114
York	Warwick
18,353	21,441

Vacancies

LSA (Learning Support Assistant)

If you or a friend/colleague are interested in applying, please click on the link below. Thank you.

Eteach

Absence Penalties

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

- If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
- If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

Absence Penalties

(cont'd)

 If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Leave of Absence

Please be aware that we have introduced a new system for the recording of absence using a newly created page on our school website. This will allow us to centralise the messages we receive and create a smoother process for our staff.

The <u>Absence Reporting Tab</u> allows you to record:

- 1. Sickness (on the day)
- 2. Requests for absence from school known in advance

Please note that the email address absence@cleves.co.uk is no longer in use. We kindly also ask that you do not email info@cleves.co.uk or office@cleves.co.uk with any absence information as these inboxes are not monitored consistently throughout the day. This will help ensure that your message is received promptly by our admin team.

Please find below the link to our new Absence Reporting form.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPrvlzFARXff-ZCD60nzsAVpSxknSh-qbgtTrrCPu2qqD8YQ/viewform?usp=header

Manby Lodge - New School Governors

Manby Lodge Infant School in Weybridge is looking for new school governors to join our team. Could this be you...or someone you know?

Being a governor is a strategic rather than operational role. You'll help set the direction of the school, ensure accountability, and support our leadership team in achieving our vision of ensuring all children exceed beyond expectations. You don't need to be an education expert - we're looking for people with diverse skills, fresh perspectives, and a genuine commitment to our children's success.

In terms of time commitments - we are volunteers who meet twice per term in the evenings (usually weekday evenings) and we'd expect you to visit the school approximately once per term during the day, so you can see our wonderful school in action!

Manby Lodge - New School Governors (cont'd)

If you care about education, have a few hours to give each term, and want to help play a meaningful role in shaping the future of children in our community, we'd love to hear from you.

Find out more about our school here https://www.manbylodge.co.uk/ and please do contact Manby's school office if you're interested in finding out more. Helen Russell helenr666@hotmail.com