Cleves School

Learning Together

6th November 2026



Welcome



Welcome back after our unusually long October half term break. The half-term literally started with a bang on Sunday evening with our PTA fireworks show. Thanks to the amazing work of Charlotte and a large number of volunteers, the evening was a wonderful success with 3,500 in attendance and approx £15k raised, which will be ploughed back into developing our school resources.

Although the weather is getting chilly, it was heartening to see that numbers at Tuesday morning running club remain so high, with 200 in attendance this week. Our netballers had their first outing of the year at a festival at St George's and they acquitted themselves really well. We also had our Y5 boys football team in action against a very strong Y6 team in the Surrey Cup and, although they lost, the experience will no doubt stand to them as the year progresses.

Adam Abbott-Watkins (our chair of trustees) joined us on Friday afternoon to help us elect new PAMs (Pupil Associate Members) who will work with our trustees and leadership team this year to add a pupil voice and perspective to our school development objectives. We also had a multitude of other activities on Friday including Class 4P assembly, Y6 trips to the synagogue and Y3 taking part in mini-Olympics against some of our neighbouring schools. Well done to everyone who represented the school in any of these activities.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday. 'Adeus' (a Portuguese goodbye from our new language of the half-term!).

Diarmuid Skehan



9th November	Y6 Synagogue Trip - Clases 6E & 6N
10th November	Y6 Synagogue Trip - classes 6F & 6S
10th November	School Open Evening - 6pm-8pm
13th November	Class Assembly - 6P
13th November	Y4 Science Day (4H, 4J & 4P)
13th November	Y4 Outdoor Learning (4A, 4M & 4R)
13th November	Y5 Tudor Day
16th November	Flu Vaccinations & Y6 Height and Weight Check
16th November	Odd Socks Day
20th November	Y4 Science Day (4A, 4M & 4R)
20th November	Y4 Outdoor Learning (4H, 4J & 4P)



30th November	Y3 Tuning Up
1st December	Y4 Tuning Up
1st December	Y3 Christmas Concert - St Mary's Church - 6pm
2nd December	Y6 Tuning Up
3rd December	Y5 Tuning Up
3rd December	Y4 Christmas Concert - St Mary's Church - 6pm
4th December	Y2 Mini-Olympics
8th December	Y5 Christmas Concert - Performance Hall - 6pm
9th December	School Christmas Lunch
10th December	Y6 Christmas Concert - Performance Hall - 6pm
18th December	Last day of term - 1.45pm finish

Year 3

Year 3 have made a fantastic start to this half term and have settled back into school routines really well. It has been lovely to see everyone returning with such enthusiasm and ready to learn!

In **Literacy**, we have started an exciting new unit on play scripts, using the brilliant book *Fantastic Mr Fox* as our inspiration. We will be exploring characters, dialogue and stage directions as we develop our own play scripts.

Over in **Maths**, we are continuing our unit on addition and subtraction. The children are building their confidence when using formal written methods and developing their skills in solving calculations.

In **Science**, we are beginning a brand-new topic all about rocks. To start our learning, we are investigating the differences between sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and discovering how each type is formed.

This half term in **PE**, we are getting active with a new unit on indoor athletics. The children will be developing their coordination, speed, agility and a range of athletic skills.

Year 3 (cont'd)

Finally, in **Geography**, we are continuing our topic on the United Kingdom. We have been developing our map skills by using grid references to locate and identify different places on a map.

It has been a brilliant start to the half term, and we are looking forward to all the exciting learning and challenges ahead this half term.

Year 4

Year 4 have settled back into school brilliantly after the half-term break and have had a busy and exciting week of learning!

In Literacy, we have started our new unit, where we will be writing a non-chronological report about how to take care of a pet. We have been exploring the key features of a report, practising writing in the present tense and creating interesting sentences using a variety of sentence starters.

In Maths, we have begun our new topic of area, learning to count squares within rectangular shapes and compare the areas of different shapes.

In Science, we have been experimenting with ice and exploring how materials change state, including the changes between solids, liquids and gases.

Finally, Year 4 would like to say a huge well done to 4P for their fantastic class assembly all about Bonfire Night and the Gunpowder Plot. It was wonderful to see all their hard work come together in such a brilliant performance. Well done, 4P!

Year 5

Welcome back!

We hope you all had a restful half-term break; the children have returned full of energy and ready for another exciting half-term of learning.

In English, we are continuing to work on our detailed Tudor biographies of King Henry VIII's wives, while in Maths, we are investigating key concepts and strategies in multiplication and division. Our Science lessons are furthering the children's knowledge of materials through exploring practical ways of separating solids, and in PE, everyone has enthusiastically started a new Dance unit.

<u>Upcoming Events</u>

Looking ahead, all the children are eagerly anticipating our immersive Tudor Day on Friday 13th November.

Thank you for your continued support, and have a lovely weekend!

Year 6

We have had a full speed start to the half term with the start of a new Literacy unit. The children will be using their knowledge of poverty and hardship for some Victorian children, to write a letter to persuade the Prime Minister of the time to improve their lives. Using their completed TV News Report from last half term, the children have used green screen technology to record their broadcasts during their Computing lesson. In Science, we have started a new unit on Evolution and Inheritance and children have shown their understanding of adaptation by designing their own animal specially adapted to a particular habitat.

Today sees the first of our visits to the local Synagogue as part of our studies on Judaism. Thanks to all parents who are supporting us on our walk to and from the venue.

Remembrance Day Poppies

To mark Remembrance Day, we will be selling poppies on Tuesday 10th November. Poppies will be available to purchase in the playground during break time and lunchtime only. Each poppy costs 50p. Please ensure your child brings the correct amount, as unfortunately no change will be available.

Thank you for your support in helping us mark this important occasion.



Opportunity for Year 5 Pupils and Families to host a French Child - Summer 2027

Cleves School has had an arrangement for many years with the Ombrosa School in Lyon, France, whereby some of their school pupils come over here to spend two weeks with families of Cleves Year 5 pupils. The proposed dates of the visit this coming year are June 7th - June 19th, 2027. Past visits have been very successful, with children from both countries learning about each others' languages and cultures, and making new friends. Children are matched according to gender, and as closely as possible to interests and personalities.

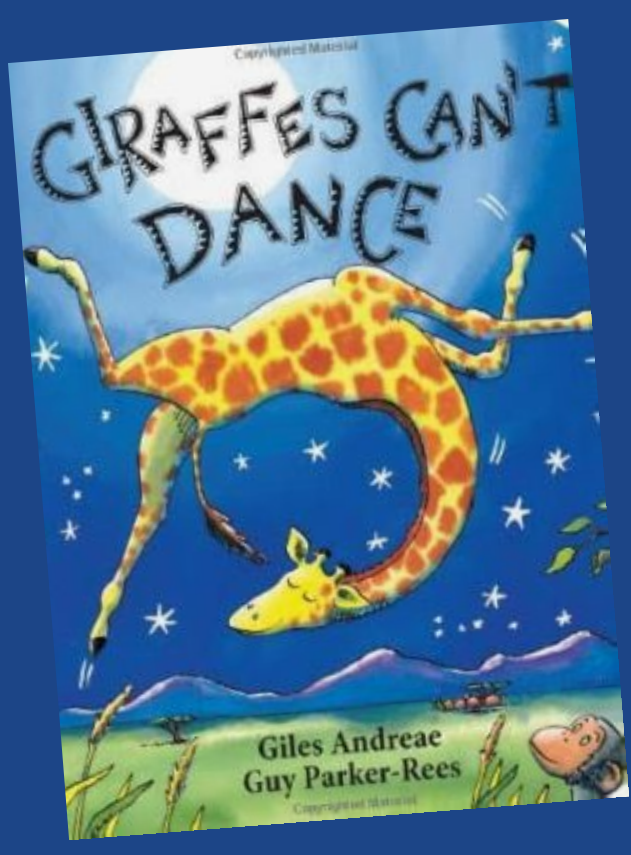
This year, the Ombrosa School is holding an optional online Q&A session on Thursday 12th November at 6.30pm for all families potentially interested in hosting. The link is Ombrosa French Exchange Programme Q&A for anyone interested in finding out more about this scheme.

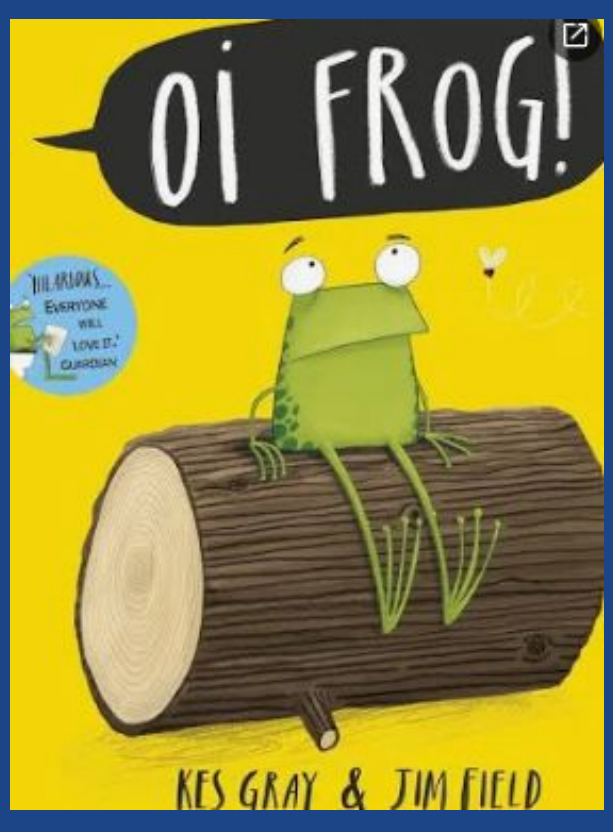
Afterwards, if anyone is keen to apply to host a French student, please email me at adabell@cleves.co.uk with your child's name and class, and I will send you back an application form.

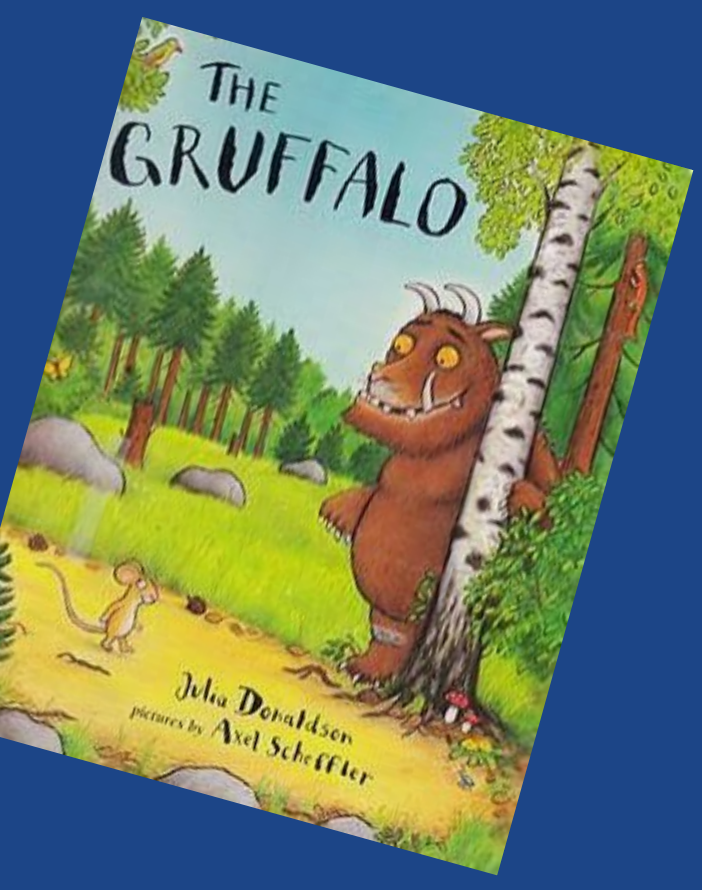
Picture Book Donations

If you have any picture books at home that are no longer needed, we would love to give them a new home in our school library! We are always looking to add to our collection, so any donations of books in good condition would be greatly appreciated.

Please bring any donations to the school office.
Thank you for your support!











Language of the Half Term

This half term we are learning common phrases in:



Thank you to the wonderful Mrs Holland for doing the audio recordings to help us with the pronunciations of the words.

Eco News

Waste

One of our eco topics this year is waste.

Can you create something out of waste?

E.g.

- A picture out of litter
- Wind chimes out of tins
- Plastic bottle planters
- Pen pots out of cans
- Vases out of bottles

The list is endless!

Please send pictures to Miss Pisano - apisano@cleves.co.uk and they will be submitted for the Eco Award.







Eco News (cont'd)

Donations

Donate toys, books, and clothes instead of throwing them away.



Did you know: Donating one heavy winter coat can save roughly 1,000 litres of water, which is the amount needed to manufacture the fabric for a brand-new coat.

Recycling Bins

Use recycling bins correctly – make sure paper, plastic, and food waste go in the right place and recycle batteries safely. Did you know: Recycling just one single aluminium drink can save enough energy to power a television for up to three hours.



Sports News

The return after half term has seen lots of action with a netball festival, a Y3 mini olympics, Y5 football cup match, the launch of the Cleves Championship and Y3&4 swimming trials.

Year 5 Netball Festival

A group of our Year 5 girls had a fantastic time at St George's School Netball Festival on Tuesday 3rd November. The girls developed new skills, built their confidence and enjoyed playing a series of friendly games against other schools. They showed great teamwork, enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the event and represented Cleves brilliantly. Well done girls!



Sports News (cont'd)

Year 5 Boys Football

The Year 5 boys hosted Cobham Free School in the first round of the League Cup on Wednesday. Following their narrow defeat to Boxgrove before half-term, the boys faced another tough test against a side made up entirely of Year 6 players.

For the first 20 minutes, our game plan worked a treat. The boys worked hard, stayed on the front foot and created chances. We took the lead when Antoine expertly finished a cleverly worked short corner. Cobham had rarely ventured into our half up to that point, but a superb strike out of the blue brought them level just before the break.

Cobham stepped up a gear in the second half, hitting the post twice and missing a penalty. Cleves held firm until four minutes from time, when Cobham found the winner to take the tie 2–1.

There were so many positives to take from the game, especially the way the boys stuck to the plan and took the game to an older side in the first half. I'm confident things will start to click when we begin our league campaign in a few weeks' time. Well done, boys!

Sports News (cont'd)

Wanted! Year 5 Girls for a Swimming Gala

Before half-term, we held trials for this year's school swimming squads. With a girls-only gala coming up at Notre Dame in a few weeks, I'm looking for up to five Year 5 girls who would like to represent Cleves.

To take part, your child needs to be able to swim 25 metres confidently in at least two different strokes. We'll hold two training sessions before the gala so the girls can practise together.

If your child would like to take part, please email me at csmith@cleves.co.uk. Thank you.

House Points

Please see below for this Term's House Points.

Windsor	Arundel
12,519	13,117
York	**Warwick**
12,877	14,458

Congratulations

Well done to Emily D (6F), who recently passed her first piano exam! Emily has worked incredibly hard in her lessons, and her dedication and practice have really paid off. We are so proud of her and can’t wait to see what she achieves next.

If you are interested in your child having piano lessons with LTP Music, please contact hello@ltpmusic.co.uk

Reception Opening Hours

Please note that the school Reception now closes at 4:00 pm each day.

To help us support this change, we kindly ask that any enquiries, collections, or visits requiring Reception assistance are completed before 4:00pm wherever possible. If you need to contact the school after this time, please use the usual communication channels and we will respond as soon as possible during school hours.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we implement this change.

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.



New Free School Meals Eligibility

As you may be aware the Government are extending the Free School Meal eligibility. This will mean that from September 2026 all children from households in **receipt of Universal Credit** will be entitled to receive a free meal.

There will be two levels of Free School Meals, targeted and expanded.

Targeted FSM, which continues to be based on the existing threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less. This will include free school meals, an after-school club and financial support if needed for trips.

Expanded FSM, This is a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit. These children will receive free school meals only.

If you think you are eligible, please click on the link below and complete the Eligibility form:

FSM Eligibility Form

If you are experiencing financial hardship at any time and need support, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Pyott - jpyott@cleves.co.uk or Miss Clarke - gclarke@cleves.co.uk

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=7f6BHaEtfP0



EMAIL



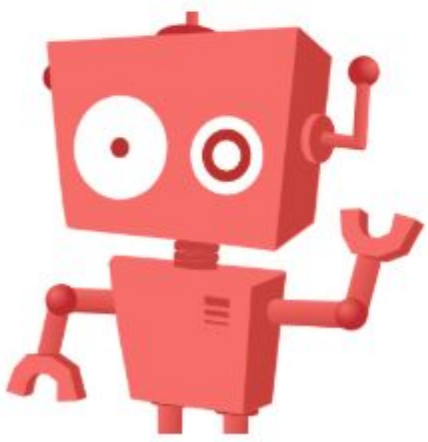
DRIVE



PUPILS' ROOM



CALENDAR



KIDDLE



CLASSROOM

typing.com

TYPING WEB



SEESAW

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 & Sickness

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 Absence Reporting Tab 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 the Absence Reporting form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5LQvyzoZ7_IX0ekeR68mCQJDMGvb82dh9Do2ubVwXUaS29w/viewform

Please find below the link to our Sickness Reporting form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjjG7VMV91zWp5Y0GJyFONDHkBJBInaszmtLsaG2FHjb-FOQ/viewform