Claypole Church of England Primary School

issue 442

Friday 23rd October 2026





We've come to the end of the first half of the Autumn Term. I would like to thank our children, families and staff for their continued support, hard work and commitment to our school community. It has been lovely to see our children learning, growing in confidence and living out our values of **Koinonia, Respect and Excellence**. Thank you to our families for working in partnership with us and to our staff for the care, dedication and encouragement they give our children every day. I hope everyone enjoys a restful half-term break, with time to relax, recharge and enjoy time together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, ready for another term of learning, opportunity and achievement on Monday 2nd November.

Martyn Wells

Martyn Wells
Headteacher
BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH, NPQEL

www.claypoleprimary.org

Believe & Achieve

What's Happening & When?

Key Dates



When	What
Friday 23rd October	End of Term
Monday 2nd November	Back To School; Creswell Crag trip [Y2]
Monday 9th November	'Christmas Shoebox Appeal' collection
Wednesday 18th November	PTA AGM (The Hayloft, Five Bells.) – time TBA
Friday 4th December	Christmas Fayre (after school festive fun)
Wednesday 9th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity Performance [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am – families warmly welcomed]
Thursday 10th December	Rock Steady Concert; Christmas Jumper Day; Christmas Dinner Day – *a very busy, exciting day!*
Thursday 17th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Service [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am start – families warmly welcomed]
Friday 18th December	Finish for Christmas.

Term Dates for 2026/27: https://www.claypoleprimary.org/term-dates



Kingfishers Artwork

Alberto Giacometti





Year 2 have been studying the art of Alberto Giacometti and have begun making paper maquette sculptures in his style.

Avoiding Blocking Paths

Parking Considerately

The paths leading to/from our school are narrow with many grass verges and two sharp corners. Please help us to keep our children safe by parking responsibly & avoiding blocking the entire path for our children/families to walk along

The school does not have the power to dictate to parents at the school how they use the highway or other land which does not form part of the school's premises. Schools do not have a "parking policy" for parents; schools cannot police the behaviour of those whose children attend school but can only ask them and remind them to be considerate & courteous and make them aware of complaints received by the school.

Thank you for your support and thank you to everyone who drives & parks carefully around school and village – we know the vast majority of you do. The safety and well-being of the children is paramount. If you have any traffic or parking concerns, can we please ask you to contact PCSO's: Victoria.baker-hussain@lincs.sch.uk and/or mark.barr@lincs.police.uk

PTFA Event

Disco!



We hope everyone who came to the DISCO last week enjoyed themselves. Thank you to the PTFA for organisation another memorable experience. An amazing £700 was raised for school – which will help go towards prepare more exciting experiences and help fund extra initiatives and projects we have planned!

Keeping Safe

Road Safety





We welcomed Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership into school this week to teach the children about the importance of road safety – including practical pedestrian training and road safety walks.



Hummingbirds

Parachute Games





This Is Claypole

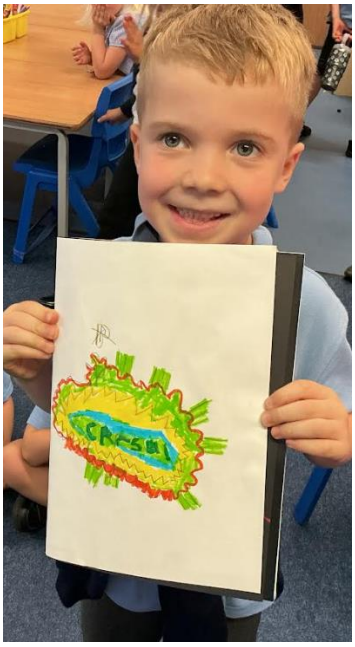


I love this photo taken at the Girls Football Tournament last week; it reminds me that at Claypole, some of our proudest moments happen before the whistle even blows. Heads bowed, arms linked, a circle of friends gathers to encourage one another. No one stands in front and no one is left out. Everyone belongs. That huddle says a lot about who we are. Rooted in our values: fellowship, kindness, respect... we help every child grow in confidence, resiliency and character. Whether on the pitch, in the classroom or in the playground, our children learn that they achieve more when they support each other... and that taking part, trying our best and cheering on your friends matter just as much as the final score.

Kingfishers

Andy Warhol Pop Art







Year 1 have been studying Pop Art and looking at the colours & vibrant style of Andy Warhol and have applied the look to 'Superhero' comic book onomatopoeia !





















Family Action

Family First



Family First is a free three-week course of workshops with parents and carers to explore and understand their child's behaviour, empowering them to develop a plan to support them at home.

Sessions include:

- Understanding your child's needs
- Exploring the stress bucket model
- Identifying triggers and potential strategies
- Using effective communication
- Supporting sensory issues
- Understanding meltdowns

If you would like to take part in these three sessions, please let us know. There are limited spaces available.

For further information, please ask Mrs Silby.

E-Safety Advice

Screentime

We appreciate that some of our homework is prepared using digital platforms; and I'm sure many of our children enjoy playing on their computers/consoles in their free time too. Getting the balance of screen and non-screen time is important.

It is recommended that children under five are limited to one hour per day; 1.5 hours for ages up to 11 and 2 hours per day for children over 11.Research shows some children [even pre-schoolers] spend over 6 hours a week online. It's all about finding the right screen time balance that works for you and your child. Recent evidence and research suggest we should be thinking about the quality of screen time rather than just the quantity. This means making sure what your child is watching or doing is at the right level for them, using sentences and vocabulary at the level they can understand and use, or a small step up - not too 'young' or 'old' for them.

Follow the 20:20:20 rule

The 20:20:20 rule is simple. It means your child should look away from their screen every 20 minutes, and look at something 20 feet away, for at least 20 seconds. You should encourage your child to follow this rule as it will relax their eye muscles and help to reduce the risk of many symptoms of digital eye strain.

Adjust their screen positioning

It's also important to make sure all digital devices or screens are at the correct distance for your child. The screen should be slightly below their eye level, as looking up at screens widens the eyes and dries them out quicker. Another guide for screen distance is the 1-2-10 rule. This says that mobile phones should ideally be one foot away, laptops and computer screens should be two feet away, and televisions should be 10 feet away. This would allow your child's eyes to focus properly on screens at the correct distance.

Schedule some outside time

Children should also be encouraged to make the most of their outside breaks. The time spent outside will not only give the eyes a rest from focusing on a screen or the board, but will also give the mind a chance to slow down and relax too.

Stay hydrated

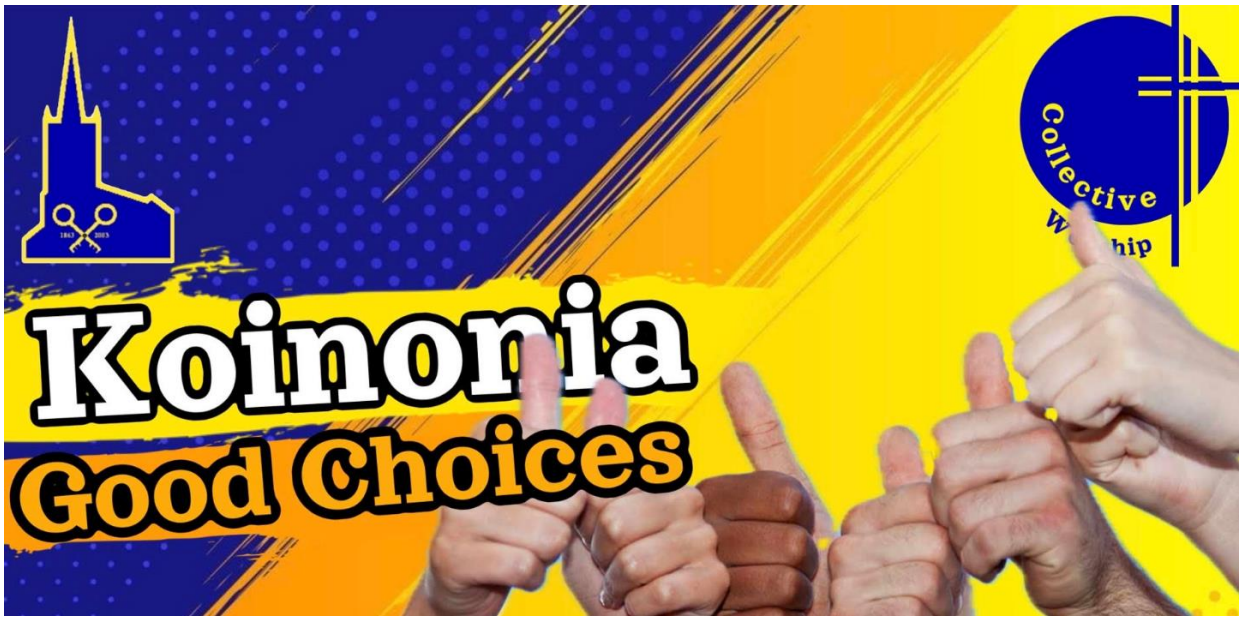
Staying hydrated will help to avoid dry eyes too.

Establish media-free times

It's also a good idea to arrange some media-free times every day to help reduce your child's eye fatigue and remove any fixation or reliance on digital devices. This could be establishing 'screen-free' time in the evenings, using this time to connect as a family — with parents leading by example and turning off their digital devices too.

Christian Value This Term

Koinonia: Good Choices



Our Christian Value focus continues to be 'koinonia' with focuses in Collective Worship on kindness, compassion, responsibility, truth, co-operation, forgiveness & reconciliation, self-control and acts of/spirit of service. More information can be found here. The week after half term, our focus will be **good choices**

You can follow or Collective Worship by subscribing to our YouTube channel too: https://www.youtube.com/@ClaypolePrimarySchool

Royal British Legion

Poppy Appeal

These will be available to buy after half term. The suggested donation prices are:
Paper Poppy 20p – 50p (often a silver coin or general donation)

Poppy Sticker: 20p - 50p

Key Rings / Zip Pulls / Reflective Poppies: 50p

Wristbands (Fabric): £1.00

Snap Bands / Snap Rulers: £1.50

Pencils / Pens: £1.00



CLASS REPS WANTED!

Following our brilliant Meet the PTA evening at The Five Bells, we're looking for a volunteer class rep for each class!

What does a class rep do?

It's a simple way to help your child's class stay in the loop by:

- Sharing PTA event information
- Reminding parents about non-uniform days and deadlines
- Answering questions (where you can)
- Passing on feedback and ideas
- Being the link between parents and the PTA

What's involved?

Just joining a WhatsApp group with the PTA committee and other class reps.

- ✖ No need to join the PTA
- ✖ No meetings to attend
- ✖ No fundraising responsibilities

It's simply about helping us share information and keep everyone in the loop!

One academic year

It's a commitment for just one academic year, with the option to continue if you'd like.

Interested?

Email us at **pta@claypoleprimary.org** and let us know which class you'd like to represent!

Thank you for helping us keep our school community connected!

Claypole PTA

Claypole
C of E Primary School
Believe & Achieve

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Raising Concerns
(as a school and/or as a parent)

As a school

As a school, we have a responsibility to act on safeguarding concerns about children.

Where we have concerns about a child's welfare or safety, we will follow our safeguarding procedures and, where appropriate, make a referral to the relevant Children's Services / Safeguarding Team. The local authority will then consider the information provided and determine whether further assessment, support or intervention is required.

Parents and carers

Parents and carers can also report concerns about a child's safety or welfare directly to Children's Services using the contact details below. You do not need to wait for the school to make a referral.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.

If you wish to contact the police for advice or report a non-emergency concern, call **101.**

For further advice and guidance about keeping children safe, visit the **NSPCC website: www.nspcc.co.uk**

Lincolnshire – Children's Services

https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding/report-concern

During office hours:
Children's Services Customer Service Centre (CSC)
01522 782111

Outside office hours (24 hours):
Emergency Duty Team (EDT)
01522 782333

Nottinghamshire – Children's Services

https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/childrens-social-care/nottinghamshire-children-and-families-alliance/pathway-to-provision/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub-mash

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH):
Email: **info.nscb@nottscc.gov.uk**
Phone: **0300 500 8090**

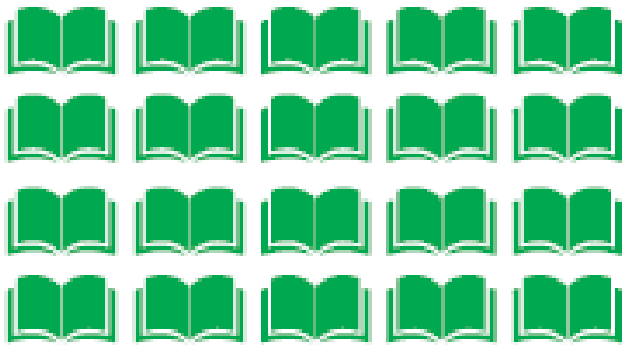
Emergency Duty Team (24 hours):
0300 456 4546

If you are worried about a child, please get in touch.

Why Read at h?



STUDENT A READS
- 20 minutes per day
- 3,600 minutes per school year
- 1,800,000 words per year





SCORES IN THE 90TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS

STUDENT B READS
- 5 minutes per day
- 900 minutes per school year
- 282,000 words per year





SCORES IN THE 50TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS

STUDENT C READS
- 1 minute per day
- 180 minutes per school year
- 8,000 words per year





SCORES IN THE 10TH PERCENTILE ON STANDARDIZED TESTS

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

www.bettefetter.com

Claypole
Church of England
Primary School

YOUTH SPORT TRUST Ambassadors

STEM AMBASSADORS

MUSIC MARK

SCHOOL GAMES PLATINUM 2024/25 - 2025/26

ESFA

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Lincolnshire Reading Pledge

Best Practice Network We ♥ CPD Outstanding Leaders Partnership

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Ofsted Good School 2023

MHFA Champion Mental Health First Aid England

Somebody To Talk To

BARCLAYS GIRLS' FOOTBALL SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS BY ENGLAND FOOTBALL

FOOD HYGIENE RATING 0 1 2 3 4 5 VERY GOOD

SUPPORT SCHOOL