

Friday 18th September 2026



We really are into the swing of things – and whilst I've been walking around school, in/out of classrooms and outside with the children, it reminds me (and warms me) that there are many super opportunities & experiences here to take advantage of. Sometimes, it is tempting to take the easy path and not take part... but what if a leap into something taps into talent you didn't know you had... and leads to fun you weren't expecting? In the words of author Paulo Coelho, *"One day you will wake up and there won't be any more time to do the things you've always wanted. Do it now."* Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

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

www.claypoleprimary.org



Believe & Achieve





What's Happening & When?

Key Dates



When

What

Tuesday 22 nd September	Year 1 trip to Hartsholme Park
Wednesday 23 rd September	Year 3/4 trip to The Deep
Thursday 24 th September	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 7 th October	Whole School Harvest Festival [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am start – families are warmly welcomed]
Friday 16 th October	PTA Disco [details within Newsletter]
Tues 20 th & Wed 21 st Oct	Parent's Evening [4-7pm both evenings]
Friday 23 rd October	End of Term
Monday 2 nd November	Back To School
Thursday 10 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity Performance [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am – families warmly welcomed]
Thursday 17 th December	KS2 Christmas Carol Service [in St Peter's Church, 9:30am start – families warmly welcomed]
Friday 18 th December	Finish for Christmas.

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

Open Events For Prospective Parents

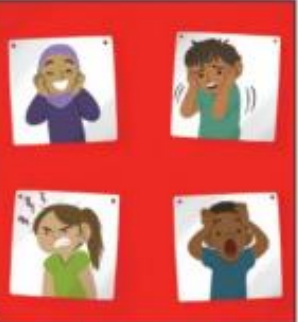
- Wednesday 14th October (5-7pm) – *Open Evening [more information to follow]*
- Wednesday 4th November (9:30-11:30)
- Monday 16th November (1:15-3:15)
- Thursday 3rd December (1:15-3:15)
- Thursday 10th December (9:30-11:30)



Self-Regulation & Understanding Emotions

Zones Of Regulation

Regulation is something everyone continually works on whether we are aware of it or not. We all encounter trying circumstances that can test our limits. If we can recognise when we are becoming less regulated, we are able to do something about it to manage our feelings and get ourselves to a healthy place. This comes more naturally for some, but for others it is a skill that needs more attention and practice. This is the goal of 'The Zones of Regulation.' Each class have began talking about the zones and expressing their feelings through this.

			
Blue Zone Sad Bored Tired Sick	Green Zone Happy Focused Calm Proud	Yellow Zone Worried Frustrated Silly Excited	Red Zone overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified

Feelings are complicated. They come in different sizes, intensities, and levels of energy that are unique with in our brains and bodies. To make them easier to talk about, think about, and regulate, The Zones of Regulation organises our feelings, state of alertness, and energy levels into four coloured Zones – Blue, Green, Yellow, and Red. The simple, common language and visual structure of Zones of Regulation helps make the complex skill of regulation more concrete for learners and those who support them. We learn to regulate our 'Zones' to meet our goals and task demands, as well as support our overall well- being.

For a 2-minute explanation, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZ9X-d3oZvQ>



Working With Parent/Carers

Parent/Carer Forum

We are looking to form a workshop of parent/carers to help us develop our **RSE Relationship & Sex Education Curriculum** and; with the changes due to the **Food Standards** next year, looking to hear from families about food in school. If being part of a working group/forum with our staff is of interest, please contact school – we'd love to hear from you.

Christian Value This Term

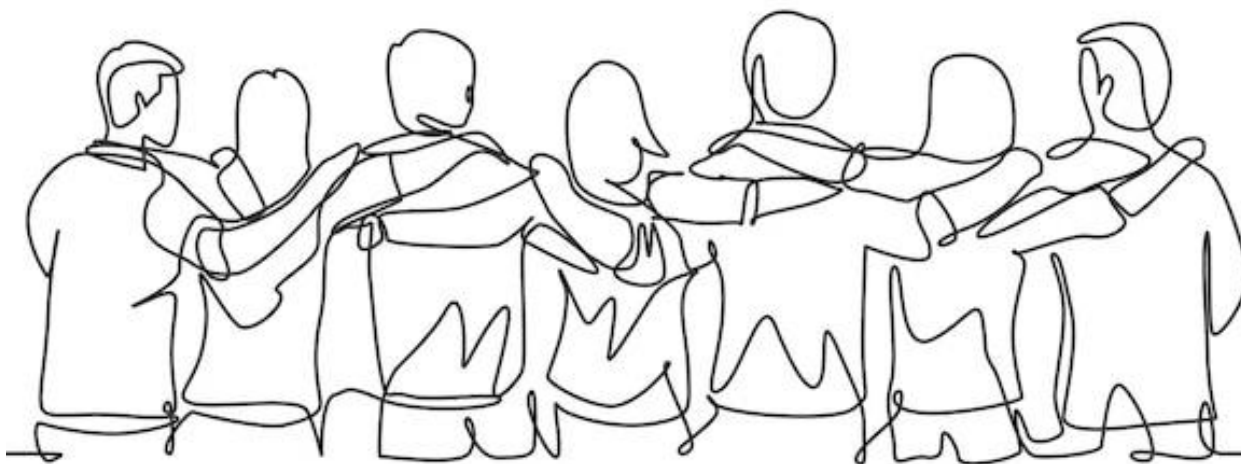
Koinonia

This term, our Christian Value focus is '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](#).

This week the children have been learning about the 'British Values' – specifically about what democracy means. Next week, our focus will be 'responsibility' amongst preparing for our Harvest Festival.

There is a 'Take Home' sheet about the value here: [koinonia](#) with a story to share at home; topics to talk about; a quiz and a home-school challenge.





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@nottscg.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.*





CLAYPOLE SCHOOL PTFA
presents

**CAPTAIN
FANTASTIC**

SAVE THE DATE

DISC-GLOW PARTY

WITH CAPTAIN FANTASTIC

UV LIGHTS NEON FUN NON-STOP DANCING

FRIDAY

16

OCTOBER

2026

CLAYPOLE SCHOOL

SESSION TIMES

KS1

EYFS to Year 2

6.00 to 7.00pm

KS2

Years 3 to 6

7.15 to 8.30pm

TICKETS, FOOD + EXTRAS

DETAILS COMING SOON

Information on tickets, hot dogs, prepaid spend cards and other extras will follow in the coming weeks.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Could you help at either disco session?

pta@claypoleprimary.org

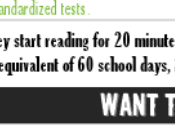
Volunteer sign-up details will also be available when tickets go on sale.



Homework Guidance

Homework

We want homework to be a positive way of reinforcing and celebrating the learning taking place in school, without placing unnecessary pressure on children or families. Homework will therefore be **age-appropriate, purposeful and manageable**, with reading remaining an important part of home learning. Any suggested time guidance is a **guide rather than a target** – children should not be expected to work for longer simply to reach a set number of minutes. We recognise that families have busy lives, and we value the time children spend playing, being active, talking with their families and enjoying other interests outside school. Our aim is for homework to complement learning in school, build positive habits and encourage children to become increasingly independent learners. This will consist of regular reading (phonics for our younger children), spelling & vocabulary practice and maths (number facts for our younger children and timestable & mathematical fluency for our older children).

Year Group	Suggested Weekly Homework Time	WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?		
		Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
Reception	Reading and short practical activities	❖ 20 minutes per day. ❖ 3,600 minutes per school year. ❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 5 minutes per day. ❖ 900 minutes per school year. ❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 1 minute per day ❖ 180 minutes per school year. ❖ 8,000 words per year.
Year 1	Approximately 20 minutes			
Year 2	Approximately 20–30 minutes			
Year 3	Approximately 30 minutes			
Year 4	Approximately 30 minutes			
Year 5	Approximately 30–40 minutes	❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.
Year 6	Approximately 40–45 minutes	If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6 th 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. (Hargis and Reardon, 2002)		
		WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.		

Just 20 minutes of reading each day can make a significant difference to a child's learning and confidence. Regular reading helps children develop a wider vocabulary, stronger comprehension and greater fluency, while exposing them to new ideas, experiences and ways of seeing the world. It also supports writing, spelling and communication skills because children encounter new words and sentence structures naturally through books. Most importantly, reading together provides valuable time to talk, ask questions and share stories. Whether your child reads independently, listens to an adult read, reads aloud or shares a book with you, **20 minutes every day can help build a lifelong love of reading and give children a strong foundation for success across the curriculum.**

For more information, guidance and ideas, visit: <https://www.claypoleprimary.org/reading-for-fun>



Reminder: Contacting Staff

Contacting School



Emails (including correspondences intended for staff) are to come via the school office via adminoffice@claypoleprimary.org

We understand that parents will sometimes have questions, concerns or news that they feel are best directed to their child's class teacher or another member of staff.

To help us respond as quickly and appropriately as possible, we ask that **parent emails are sent via the school office**, rather than directly to individual members of staff.

We want to make sure that your message reaches the right person and, where appropriate, that relevant information is shared with other members of staff who may need to know. For example, a parent may contact a class teacher about something that appears to be a classroom matter, but the information may also be relevant to our **SENDCO, Designated Safeguarding Lead... or a member of the leadership team**.

Having correspondence come through the office allows us to make that judgement and ensure that the appropriate person is involved.

It means that we can:

- make sure your query reaches the **most appropriate member of staff**;
- ensure that important information is **not inadvertently missed or delayed**;
- identify when a concern may require input from another member of staff;
- provide a consistent response when a member of staff is absent or unavailable; and;
- ensure that matters relating to your child are dealt with by the people who are best placed to support them.

We recognise that some messages may be very straightforward and may only require a response from your child's teacher. Where that is the case, the office will simply make sure the message reaches them.

Our aim is to make communication between home and school **clear, efficient and supportive**, while ensuring that the right people have the information they need to help every child.



Claypole

Church of England

Primary School

