



Clyst Hydon

Primary School

Dear Parent/Carer,

We've had another fantastic week at Clyst Hydon Primary School and the pupils are really enjoying their learning and their time here at our wonderful school.

The teachers worked with the Local Authority (LA) English Primary Advisor, Jenny Core, last Tuesday and the LA Mathematics Primary Advisor, Carolyn Wreghitt, on Thursday, on assessing pupil progress over time from starting points and how we can effectively track pupils' progress so that we know that they are on track to achieve Age Related Expectations (ARE) either at Expected Standard (EXS) or at Greater Depth (GDS). We are also using a software package that enables the teachers to assess pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding against the National Curriculum and it is my expectation that this information will be shared with you at the Parents' Evenings before the Christmas holiday so that you can see in detail how your child is progressing in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. I also had a visit from David Lowes, our LA School Improvement Officer, on Wednesday to review and evaluate my progress in leading school improvement as part of our Management Partnership with CCC, to review last year's KS2 data and to assess our progress in addressing the key action points from our February Ofsted report and our LA Evaluation Report in July. I am pleased to say that, after a very intense 90 minute meeting, he was re-assured that CHPS is on an upward trajectory and that this is having a positive effect on pupil outcomes. I know that CHPS is an exceptional school and I am proud to be able to prove this.

We held a Management Partnership Meeting at CCC on Tuesday and I also had a telephone conversation with Gary Chown, Chief Executive of the Ventrus Multi Academy Trust (MAT). I am very confident that our conversion to academy status is on track as is our request to join the Ventrus MAT. As I am sure you will appreciate, this is a complicated legal process but Gary has been through this process many times and I am re-assured by his expertise and knowledge. I will be able to update you in more detail after 10th November and you will then also have the details of the consultation process. The CHPS governors held a Working Group meeting on Monday and they are drafting a plan with a timeline and the allocation of key tasks in the due diligence process.

We hope many of you will be able to join us at the village church for our Harvest festival on Friday 13th October. We hope to start as near to 9.15 am as is possible. The church will be open for the congregation from 8.45 a.m. Please could all the children have their new school jumper on that day. As per tradition, children have been asked to bring in a basket or decorated box containing items for the Cullompton food bank. Items particularly requested are: tinned meat, tinned vegetables (particularly sweetcorn), jars of pasta sauce, jars of coffee and toiletry items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap and shampoo.

Jo Keil from St Andrew's Church in Cullompton will be available to receive our offerings on Monday 16th October at 9.30 a.m. If any parents are available on that Monday after school drop off to load their car with goods (with some help) and take it to Cullompton we would be very grateful. Please see Stephanie Howard on Thursday or Friday after the Harvest service if you can help.

This week children should have bought home song words to learn for the Harvest service. Please support them in learning the words, and enjoy their singing! Key Stage 1 would like to borrow checked shirts and straw hats for the Harvest service. If you can help, please send them into the Key Stage 1 classroom. They will be returned at the end of Friday. Thank you.

CHSA update:

The children in KS2 will be baking apple cake on Thursday afternoon to be served after our Harvest service. If you are able to donate additional cakes, preferably with an autumnal flavour, it would be much appreciated.

Last Saturday's Quiz Night was a great success. We hope to be able to confirm the total amount of money raised in next week's newsletter. Thank you to all the parents who donated prizes/food, helped to organise and clear up after the event. It was a great team effort. The Quiz was well supported by the local community and the School Association has received lots of positive feedback regarding the great atmosphere and ploughman's supper. Congratulations to The Govs (our governors) who came second to a team from Clyst St Lawrence.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the card and flowers for Ange Stevens. The CHSA have arranged for her to receive a contemporary autumn bouquet today.

Ceri Oak has been absent this week due to family issues and she will also be away next week. I am pleased to say that Graeme Watson is taking on the two week supply as this provides continuity in the pupils' learning. I will keep you updated.

I was really pleased to show more potential new parents around the school this week. They were very impressed with our school.

Have a great weekend,

Amanda Farmer
Acting Headteacher