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**CLOVER HILL
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Mrs Ailsa Holden

Friday 8th May 2026

Hello everyone! It may have been a short week in terms of days (can we move to a four day week please??) but we have filled them full of action!! Our active playtimes have really taken off with resources and equipment changed on a weekly basis. This week, we have found lots of different games to play with simple skipping ropes, bat and balls, cones, hula hoops and beanbags. Our balance bikes are on offer everyday for KS1 and Reception to use around the daily mile as are the bouncy hoppers and the table tennis station Mr Toomer has made for the children. If you have any suggestions of equipment you think the children may enjoy or have anything you would like to donate, please get in touch with the school office who will pass this information onto me and our Mini Health Champions.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Holden

TTRS Summer Showdown is launched!

Children have been asked to take part in an in-house 'times-tables' competition. Each child should aim to complete 15 minutes per day on TTRS to contribute towards the class total minutes. Anything above 15 minutes will not count. The winning class will be announced in Friday's Celebration Assembly and the children in this class will receive 5 Dojo points each!! It's all to play for!

Good luck Year 6!

Next week, our Year 6 children begin their SATs, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them. They have worked so hard throughout the year and are absolutely ready for the opportunity to show off their learning and shine. These tests are simply government assessments that we are required to complete — they do not define who our children are, nor do they reflect the many talents, kindness and qualities they demonstrate every day. Our staff have ensured that the children feel well prepared, calm and confident, and we know they will give their very best.

We are also reminding the children that there is so much to look forward to over the rest of the summer term. It all begins with our much-loved post-SATs water fight, followed by Enterprise Week, leading Sports Day, the highly anticipated residential, transition days at Whickham School, and, of course, their very well-earned leavers' treat.

It was a special moment this week as the children received their leavers' hoodies, marking the beginning of this exciting final chapter at Clover Hill.

We are really looking forward to welcoming Year 6 into school for breakfast each morning next week from 8.15am, giving them a calm and positive start to each day.

Good luck, Year 6 — you've got this. We are all behind you!

Class Highlights – what have we been doing this week?

Reception

We are incredibly proud of how hard the children have been working on their phonics assessments this week – they are absolute superstars! We have loved reading our Book of the Week, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, while continuing to care for our sunflowers and peas and learning about the different parts of a plant. The children have been fascinated watching our chrysalises form, and in maths have been focusing on numbers 14 and 15, number bonds to 10 and doubling. It has been a very busy week... and we are all a little bit exhausted!

Year 1

This week, Year 1 have begun writing the first part of their biographies about Mae Jemison. In Maths, they have been learning to find half of a shape or object, while in Science they have been investigating what plants need to grow. In Geography, they have been identifying which seas surround the UK, and in PE they have been staying active by jumping around the school and observing how this affects their heart rate, breathing and body temperature. We are also just as exhausted as Reception class!!

Year 2

The children have been developing their understanding of volume, capacity and temperature through practical, hands-on activities in Maths lessons across the week. In English, they have enjoyed bringing *Jack and the Beanstalk* to life, using contractions confidently in their own creative writing. Geography has taken the children closer to home as they learned about the bridges of the River Tyne, discovering their importance and unique features. In RE, they have been reflecting on what it means to be a good Samaritan, thinking carefully about kindness and helping others in our daily lives. Year 2 have also been proud to showcase their creativity through beautiful water art, producing some striking pieces.

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have been developing their understanding of telling the time and continuing their exciting class story, *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*. In science, they have been working as young investigators, exploring which plants can grow without sun, water, light or air, and making thoughtful observations about what plants need to survive. In PE, they have been building their stamina through long-distance running with Miss Sinclair, pacing themselves around a mile circuit, and in History, they have been learning about the beliefs of Ancient Egypt.

Year 4

Our Maths focus this week in Year 4 is about finding the decimal equivalents of halves and quarters. In Reading, while exploring *The Lambton Worm*, they have been identifying prepositional phrases and creating their own inspired by the text. In PE, the children have been learning the rules of tennis, and in the ICT suite, they have begun to develop their skills in manipulating photos.

Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed an inspiring range of learning, including a bread tasting session in DT where they explored different types of bread from around the world. In Geography, they have been comparing Whickham with America, while in Science they have been learning about sexual and asexual reproduction in plants. The children also particularly enjoyed creating their own growing spaces using tubers, bulbs and seeds.

Year 6

Need we say more... Congratulations Year 6!! You have earned these hoodies – we hope you enjoy wearing them.



Diary Dates

Friday 8th May onwards

TTRS – Summer Showdown begins.

Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May

Year 6 SATs

School is open from 8.15am for all of our Year 6 children to enjoy delicious SATS breakfast with their friends before school.

Thursday 14th May

Reception trip to Whitehouse Farm

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May

Whole School Sports Week: Children will need to be in school PE kit ALL WEEK

Tuesday 19th May

Class photos for Year 6 and Reception ONLY (PE kit can be worn)

Wednesday 20th May

Sports Afternoon for Parent Spectators

Families are invited into school from 12.30pm to watch our children take part in an afternoon of sport-related activities that sees the battle of the castles... who will be crowned champions this year: Bamburgh, Alnwick, Lumley or Warkworth?

Friday 22nd May

Year 4 trip to Gibside National Trust

Fun Run at Saltwell Park – Further information will be given to those children participating

HALF TERM 25TH MAY – 29TH MAY
