

Claydon Primary School report – Barham Annual Parish meeting.

Pupils at Claydon Primary School have been enjoying a wide range of enriching experiences both inside and outside the classroom this School year.

Our Year 6 pupils kicked off with a three Night Residential Adventure to Hilltop, Norfolk. Throughout the visit, the children embraced a wide range of challenges, from high-ropes and archery to team-building missions and coastal walks. Their confidence, resilience and camaraderie shone brightly, and staff were immensely proud of how they represented the school with maturity and enthusiasm.

Black History Month was a joy to celebrate here in school with an incredible ‘Hidden Figures’ Workshop and also a fun Divali and Hindu dancing session. We welcomed Bigfoot Arts Education, who delivered their impactful ‘Hidden Figures’ workshop - Pupils learned about remarkable individuals whose contributions have influenced history but are often under-recognised. The engaging sessions sparked thoughtful conversations, encouraged critical thinking and inspired pupils to reflect on the importance of equality, representation and cultural understanding. Our KS1 and lower KS2 children had a wonderful time taking part in a vibrant Hindu and Diwali dance workshop. Led by an experienced instructor, the pupils learned traditional movements, discovered the cultural significance behind the festival, and enjoyed expressing themselves through rhythm and dance. The session was full of energy, colour and excitement, giving the children a memorable and enriching experience.

Christmas fast approached and our youngest pupils in EYFS/KS1 shone bright in their Nativity Performances while Lower KS2 Carols and Crafts was a hit with children and parents! EYFS were busy preparing and performing their delightful Nativity plays. Their singing, acting and infectious festive cheer were thoroughly enjoyed by families and staff. For many children, this was their first time performing on stage, and they rose to the challenge brilliantly, showing growing confidence, teamwork and pride in their learning. Our Years 3 to 4 pupils also delighted families and staff with a heart-warming performance of Christmas carols and festive crafts. The children sang beautifully, filling the hall with seasonal cheer. A particular highlight was their ukulele performance, where pupils demonstrated the musical skills they have been developing this term, bringing an extra touch of sparkle to the celebration.

Our Children and Staff absolutely love celebrating World Book Day – twice in one week! On the official World Book Day, children were enthralled by a series of assemblies throughout the day, where they listened, debated and learned about all aspects of reading and the magical world of books. To round off the day, pupils took part in our hugely popular Clonka Bar sale! Over 60 lucky pupils discovered a coveted golden ticket hidden inside their Clonka Bar and won a range of brilliant prizes, including Jump

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In vouchers, cinema tickets, books and many more. It was a wonderful way to celebrate books, reading and a little bit of chocolatey fun!

The celebrations didn't stop there. Later in the week, we held our very first 'Claydon Book Day', and we were incredibly fortunate to welcome performance poet Zohab Zee Khan to our school. Zohab is an internationally recognised spoken word poet and educator who has delivered hundreds of workshops in schools around the world. His energetic performances and workshops inspire young people to express themselves creatively through poetry and spoken word. Throughout the day, Zohab worked with every class across the school, sharing his powerful poetry and guiding pupils through exciting writing activities. Children explored rhythm, language and performance, learning how poetry can tell stories about family, identity and the world around them. Zohab's enthusiasm and creativity inspired many budding poets and encouraged pupils to find their own voice through words. A huge thank you to our wonderful HAS (PTA) for generously funding this fantastic experience for our children.

Sporting success has also been celebrated! A group of our UKS2 pupils proudly represented the school at the School Games U11 Panathlon competition. The team took part in nine different activities, including bowling, curling, football, basketball, boccia, jumping and target throwing. The pupils showed fantastic teamwork throughout the event, taking turns, supporting and encouraging each other every step of the way. When the results were announced, the team were absolutely delighted to discover they had achieved 1st place – GOLD! We are incredibly proud of their effort, determination and brilliant team spirit.

We took two teams to the School Games U11 Girls Futsal on Monday 23rd March. Our develop team won 4 out of their 5 games, rotating positions and supporting each other throughout. There were a lot of goals scored, much to the delight of the girls! Our compete team won their way through to the final through great team attitude and spirit working collaboratively throughout! The final was a very close match with full time finishing at 0.0. It then proceeded to extra time with a golden goal to decide the game. However, the two teams continued to match each other equally so it had to go to penalties. Unfortunately, we lost out on penalties, but we are very proud of the girls for their achievements.

We are delighted to share that our brand new outdoor sensory area is now complete! This wonderful space provides a calm, engaging environment for our children to explore, relax and develop their senses through a range of thoughtfully designed features. It has already made a positive impact, and we are thrilled to see the children enjoying and benefiting from it. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our fantastic HSA for their generous support and part-funding of this project, alongside Penrose Learning Trust. Their continued support helps us to create enriching opportunities and spaces for all our pupils.

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Finally, our youngest learners had an unforgettable experience when local farmers visited our EYFS and KS1 classes with their enormous tractors! The children were fascinated to see the machinery up close and loved learning about the different crops grown on local farms. They discovered how crops are used to make many of the foods we eat every day and even had the chance to sample some examples. We can happily report that the Maltesers were a clear favourite!

We have a jam packed summer term coming up and can't wait to share this with you in our next report.

Warm Regards,



Mrs Donna O'Connor
Head Teacher
Claydon Primary School