

Clover News

The newsletter for Cloverlea Primary School.



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Parking Problems at the School Gate - Residents Complain to Councillors.

At a meeting of the school governing body at the start of October, it was raised that local residents have approached councillors complaining about the parking situation around the school gate.

These complaints consisted of illegal parking on zigzag and double yellow lines, parking too close to corners, parking across neighbours' drives and neighbours receiving verbal abuse when challenging parents over using their drives to perform three point turns.

We are very lucky at Cloverlea because we have ample street parking close to the school gate in the surrounding roads. It is difficult to get anywhere near some primary schools in Trafford due to parking restrictions.

Not only is this situation a nuisance for our neighbours, it is positively dangerous for your children. The parking restrictions at the gate are there for a reason - to protect children and parents entering and leaving the school.

Will all parents ensure that they park and manoeuvre safely and responsibly outside the school when dropping off or picking up. The Community Police team in Altrincham are aware of the situation and will likely be looking to take action in the future.

Cloverlea offered Academy status

As an 'Outstanding' school Cloverlea has been offered the opportunity to apply for the new government's 'Academy School' status.

This would effectively mean that the school would break away from Trafford local authority control and be totally responsible for its admissions, curriculum and budget.

At present the situation regarding the advantages and disadvantages of such a move are unclear and therefore the governing body has decided to wait and gather more information before deciding how to proceed.

We shall, of course, let parents know about any important developments in this area as time goes on.

Best Ever SAT Results for Year 6

I am very pleased to announce that the school has, once again, achieved its best end of Key Stage 2 (11year old) SAT results ever recorded.

Last years' Year 6 results were as follows:

- 94% of pupils achieved their level 4+ in English.
- 81% of pupils achieved a level 5 in English.
- 90% of pupils achieved their level 4 + in maths.
- 58% of pupils achieved their level 5 in maths.

The average score for each pupil across both subjects is the highest it has ever been.

Well done to all the pupils, staff and parents involved.

School Year 2010/11,
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Ofsted Interim Review

An interim review of standards was carried out by Ofsted recently and a letter sent to the school and parents. It stated,

"I am pleased to inform you that our interim assessment indicates the school performance (outstanding) has been sustained and that we can defer the school's next inspection.."

It is pleasing that the school's hard work in continuing to raise standards throughout the school is recognised in this way.

Late for school?

Can parents ensure that pupils arrive at school on time. We had some persistent problems with lateness last school year and we are hoping for an improvement this year.

Starting times:

For juniors: 8.50 p.m.

For infants: 8.55 p.m.

Pupils may arrive at school 10 minutes before these times. A late register will be kept to monitor the situation. Thank you.



The new outdoor classroom/shelter in the infant playground

Work Continues to Improve School Grounds and Buildings.

The pupils, staff, governors and parents, represented by the PTA continue to plan to develop our school grounds and buildings for the benefit of all school users, especially the pupils.

This summer saw the installation of a new school sign up at the main gate and the building new large wooden gazebo/outdoor shelter at the bottom end of the infant playground (See photo on the front page).

The PTA has been working hard and saving its money from fundraising events so that we can continue to improve our playgrounds for the benefit of the children. A large, all weather activity trail will be installed in the junior playground in order to give the children a challenging and fun piece of equipment to play on. This high quality project

will cost in the region of £8,000, so thanks to all parents who have supported the school at PTA events.

We are planning to make improvements to our reception/office area by installing a new larger hatch so the Mrs Marlow can greet and deal with visitors more easily and comfortably. The hall will also be redecorated and re-curtained. Both these projects are planned for Easter 2011.

Our biggest planned project is the resurfacing and extension of the school car park. The current surface is in a very poor condition and is deteriorating fast. We are also struggling to fit in all staff cars. We hope that this project will take place in the summer break of 2011.

Provisional Key Dates for the Year

The dates outlined are provisional dates and may be subject to change.

Friday 22nd October	PTA Halloween Disco
Thursday 11th November	Parents' Evening
Saturday 4th December	PTA Christmas Fair
Wednesday 8th December	Infant Christmas Production (p.m.)
Thursday 9th December	Infant Christmas Production (a.m.)
Thursday 16th December	Carol Concert at Christchurch.
Monday 20th December	School visit to pantomime (Lowry Centre)
Friday 11th February	PTA Valentine's Day Disco
Wednesday 9th March	Parents' Evening (Longer evening)
Thursday 10th March	Parents' Evening (Shorter evening)
Monday 9th May	Start of Year 6 SAT week
Thursday 19th May	Start of the Year 4 residential visit to Ilam Hall
Wednesday 8th June	Start of Year 6 residential visit to Robinwood
Saturday 18th June	PTA Summer Fair
Tuesday 28th June	Infant sports afternoon
Wednesday 29th June	Junior sports afternoon
Tuesday 5th July	Start of Year 5 residential visit to Castleton
Thursday 14th July	Parents' open evening
Tuesday 19th July	Year 6 production (p.m. and evening)
Wednesday 27th July	Year 6 Leaver's assembly
Wednesday 27th July	Last day of the school year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PTA Birthday Sundial Now In Place

The 40th birthday celebration sundial has finally been installed in the school nature area. The beautiful solid brass engraved dial (funded by the PTA) has been fitted to the solid sandstone plinth at the centre of the paved area. It looks fantastic.

Thanks to the dads in the PTA (especially Chris McKenzie and James Spark) for risking a hernia in moving and installing the



plinth at a recent nature area volunteer morning.

Cloverlea Runners-up in Caterpillar Eco Award

Well done to Mrs Wilde, Mrs Smith, Mrs Fazackerley and the pupil Eco-Committee for winning the runners-up prize of £450 at the Caterpillar Eco awards, held at their distribution centre in Irlam last July. The prize money will be used to develop environmental education over the year ahead. We have been previously winners in 2009 and 2007 and runners-up in 2006.

Operation Christmas Child—Annual Shoebox Appeal.

One again we shall be taking part in this very worthwhile appeal. Instructions on the filling of the shoeboxes will be sent home soon and we have a deadline of Thursday 25th November for the shoeboxes to come into school and be picked up by the volunteers. We hope as many children will be able to take part as possible.