



21st December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you

A big thank you to all at Cloverlea for making this Autumn term such a special one. Over the past few weeks we have been treated to two *sensational* EYFS Christmas productions, two *amazing* KS1 performances, a *wonderful* Church carol service and a *terrific* music extravaganza. These events require a lot of dedication and enthusiasm from children and staff. We wanted these celebrations to showcase our children and their achievements and demonstrate their dedication and passion to share their talents. Thank you to all involved for the planning, the rehearsing, the commitment and the never ending will to succeed - well done everyone.

Attendance

As we draw to the end of the first term, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality and encourage all parents to ensure your child's attendance is high.

Whilst we appreciate and understand there are times when absence is unavoidable, for the majority of children these should be rare occasions and **attendance rates should be at least 95%** (and ideally at least 97%). Missed days have a severe effect on a child's education and their ongoing progress in school - improved attendance certainly contributes to improved outcomes.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or feel that we could offer help, please do not hesitate to contact school, we are always here and keen to support. Thank you.

Zones of Regulation

Starting in January, we are introducing a new approach to support our children with emotional-regulation and wellbeing – 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**.

This half term we have received staff training and spent time considering how we will be introducing 'zones' with the children and how we want to embed it with or practice in school. Zones of Regulation closely links with many aspects of our practice including behaviour policy, PSHE curriculum and pastoral support.

In January, as we introduce the 'zones' to the children and we will send more detailed information home for parents. In addition, we are excited to inform you about a planned '**Inclusion Workshop for Parents**', on **30th January** where we will be able to explain in further detail. We plan to run the workshop

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twice in one day: 09:00 – 10:00 and repeated again at 18:00-19:00. Please put the date in your diary – further information to follow in the new year.

Curriculum

We continue to work closely with our external consultants as they support us on our journey of school improvement. This term we have been focused on curriculum **implementation** and this will continue into the spring term.

After a break to recharge, will approach the new term with **pace and purpose** excited to ask deeper questions and forge further enquiry into our **knowledge rich curriculum**. All subject leaders will have further opportunity to work with consultants and SLT to further enhance their subject area and create more **wonderful learning opportunities** for our children.

A recent development has been the purchase of further concrete resources (manipulatives) to support the children in Maths. We wanted maths manipulatives to be even more readily available, on every table, in every lesson to aid understanding and to fully support our **Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract (CPA)** teaching approach. CPA is a highly effective approach to teaching that develops a deep and sustainable understanding of maths in pupils. It aids every child - those who are struggling with a particular concept and those who are striving for a greater depth understanding.

Governing Body

Our newly formed governing body have recently had some excellent training devised to enable them to fully contribute, challenge and support at Cloverlea. They have had training on the roles and responsibilities and on the distinctive role of a link Governor liaising with subject leaders at school. I am delighted with the dedication and commitment shown towards school and this training will really enhance our progress and achievements in our continuous improvement journey.

and finally ...

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. Thank you for all the support you have shown Cloverlea in 2023, the support of the whole school community has been amazing. Whilst it's time for a rest and time to spend with family, we are extremely excited about 2024 and look forward to continuing our journey of improvement in 2024.

We return to school on **Monday 8th January 2024**.

Merry Christmas!

C McConnell

Reminder

SAVE THE DATE: Parent Inclusion Workshop (Tuesday 30th January: 9am-10am **or** 6pm–7pm)

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