



# Spring 1 2024 Newsletter John Clifford School



## Year 6 Celebrate with the musicians from Nottingham University



Y6 visited UoN to hear their dream classical performance. The children were so engaged and inspired by this project.

This term has started with great success and there is much to share with you about our exciting curriculum events. The children have loved being back at school and this is evident in their behaviour and attitudes around school and to their work. They remain an absolute credit to themselves and you and we are so proud to call ourselves Team JC. Thank you for your continuing support.

### Aspirational Futures Week (w/c 25.3.24)

We are planning on delivering an aspirational futures week for upper key stage 2 and would love your help. This would involve, coming in to share information about your profession and journey through your career. It will support the children in understanding a context for their learning and give them insight into possibilities and goals that they may not have considered. We do not know at this stage what careers are out there for our young people but know that having a grand work ethic, open mind and bags of resilience are a starter for ten. If you would like to help out, then please contact [Janine.waring@johnclifford.school](mailto:Janine.waring@johnclifford.school)

### Working Together

Here are the children of Y2 working together, in the ICT Suite (funded by The FoJC) on their TTRS. The children are working on their fluency which is really important in maths and using their fingers to recall number facts. Parents/carers please continue to provide time for children to access TTRS and Numbots at home. The benefits are evident in confidence and competence. There is even an esteemed certificate on a Friday for frequent use. Go Maths!!



All logins for Numbots and TTRockstars are in the Communication Diaries

## Willersley Castle

The Y6 residential was a huge success. It was cold, it was bleak but none of this mattered to those who attended. From fencing to the zip wire, the children had an amazing time. It is reported that the grownups did too. The range of activities and the joy and development for the children is amazing. The children have exited their comfort zone, stayed away from home, developed independence and tried new things that they may never get the experience to again. Watch out GB Olympic teams. Please see the full catalogue of photos at <https://johnclifford.school/learning/year-group-pages/y6>

Thank you, staff, governors and children.



### Attendance Matters



#### Strategies to Improve Attendance & Punctuality

- Get everything ready the night before
- Set your alarm 10 minutes earlier
- Call school for advice around sickness before keeping children off
- Don't allow children the use of devices before school
- Develop good habits and a routine in your children
- Walk to avoid parking problems
- Be positive and stay calm

### Attendance and Punctuality

Being at school **every day** and **on time** is vital for your child's success. We have good attendance figures but there is always room for improvement.

We are currently updating our Attendance Policy and will notify you of the updates when this is complete. If you are struggling with your children and getting them to school, please get in touch.

### Phonics and Early Reading

"Reading is the gateway for children that makes all other learning possible," Barack Obama.

Reading for pleasure regularly is both a delight and opportunity for being together. For support with this, please visit:

<https://johnclifford.school/learning/school-curriculum/phonics>

Even if you believe that your child is a reader, they still need help to infer and deduce within a text. Keep reading and asking questions of the text. This may help:

<https://johnclifford.school/learning/school-curriculum/reading#key-stage-two>

### Parent and Carer Questionnaire

Thank you so much to those people who contributed to the Parent/Carer Questionnaire. The feedback has been very informative and constructive and as a school we appreciate and want to be responsive of all feedback. Where suggestions for enhancement have been made, I will correspond separately via letter



Here are all of the positive things said about JCS:

**Strengths of JCS:** Outdoor learning, staff/relationships, events/clubs, leadership, SEND/nurture, inclusivity, teaching, values/JCPromises, communication, environment, curriculum, behaviour, diversity, community, confidence building, emphasis on wellbeing, parental engagement and research led decision making.

**Impact of JCS:** Building friendships and community, confidence, progress/development, love of school/learning, acceptance/awareness of others, improved wellbeing, developed citizenship, freedom to try new things, feeling safe, being happy, developing communication and independence.



# The Friends of John Clifford

The FoJC are a dedicated group of volunteers who support school and the children with as a little or as much of their time that they can. They are a formal committee and an informal working party, and you can help to support this group in so many ways. From helping Santa to wrap presents at Christmas, sending emails to local businesses, helping at events, advertising and encouraging engagement or just eating cake and having a chat, we need you. The FoJC fund events such as school discos, Christmas parties, Easter bonnet prizes, Easter egg hunts, Christmas and Summer Fayres and much larger projects like the ICT Suite and the current project of the refurbishment of the library. Without more support, I will have to delete the above as these things will fail to continue. Please, please, please get in touch if you can help in any way, email: friends@johnclifford.school

**It wouldn't be a JCS Newsletter without a poultry update!!**

Here we have our extended family with the introduction of offspring to the original flock.



We have also introduced two old hens who were looking for a place to spend their retirement. Both hens and ducks freely lay eggs which is great for the children to manage. The eggs are sold which generates revenue for their upkeep. Well done girls.



**Safer Internet Day 2023** | **Tuesday 7 February**

As a school, we will be observing, **Safer Internet Day**. This day is designed to highlight the safe use of the internet which helps to protect the wellbeing and safety of our young minds. The BBC is a trusted website for resources, so please take a look and help us combat unsafe activity online. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/safer-internet-day-resources/z6bbhbk>

Please contact school if you have any concerns.



**Thank you so much**

We would like to extend our greatest thanks and appreciation to Kathryn Jackson who has been an outstanding Chair for the FoJC. Your guidance and drive have been outstanding. Thank you also to Sarah Bailey for being our school liaison and parent volunteer for FoJC. You have been brilliant in every way.



We intend to get involved in [The Big Help Out](#).



**Bikeability, or in old money Cycling**



**Proficiency**



Riding a bicycle is a life skill and when you are lucky enough to live in flat Beeston it is an excellent mode of transport. The children have been taking their bikes to the playground to develop their skills. If your child rides a bike to school, please make sure that you know they have the skills, the bike is road worthy and that your child is wearing a helmet. The roads are crazy in Beeston and not everyone is 100% aware of cyclists.



Thank you.



**Happy Birthday Leap Yearers!!!**