

Telephone: 0115 9258057

Email: <a href="mailto:office@johnclifford.school">office@johnclifford.school</a> Headteacher: Janine Waring Acting Headteacher: Kayley Allcoat

8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

# **Welcome Back**

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

We are so pleased to welcome you back after the lovely Summer break we have just enjoyed. The weather has been great and we have seen many of you out and about enjoying the freedom and sunshine.

The John Clifford School staff have enjoyed two days of INSET, focusing whole school training on safeguarding, cyber security and first aid. We have spent time reflecting on the John Clifford Promises and what these mean for us as a staff and for us as a wider community. We have also spent some time thinking about what this term looks like as we recruit for a new Headteacher to hopefully start in January. The Local Governing Body are very busy with the recruitment drive to ensure that they are able to select the best person to lead our school going forward. In the meantime, we will continue to provide beyond expectation experiences and education for our children. Arrangements for Headship this term are as follows:

- Mrs Kayley Allcoat Monday and Tuesday
  Kayley.allcoat@johnclifford.school
- Mrs Janine Waring Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Janine.waring@johnclifford.school

We have some new staff here at JCS and we know that you will support their transition into school. Miss Daniel celebrated her wedding during the break and returns as Mrs Olivia Edmond. Congratulations to her.

It is going to be a busy term with lots to achieve and remember. To help, the planner attached should support with scheduling. Obviously, this is subject to change, but any changes should come to you well in advance where this information is available to us.





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Here are a few little reminders to keep us all safe and help to maximise school time with the children that I trust you will support us with:

## <u>Access</u>

Thank you for bringing your children to school each day and on time. The gates are supervised and close each morning at 8:50am. Please be prompt when departing so that all staff can get into school to support the progress of the children.

If you have a bike or scooter, these need to be secured in time for gate closure at 8:50am. If you arrive past this time, we cannot guarantee storage and you may have to take bicycles and scooters home.

Bikes, scooters and electric scooters must not be ridden on the playground and all must be dismounted at the gate. Electric bikes and scooters are not permitted in the school building.

Smoking and vaping are not permitted on the school site. Please refrain from smoking and vaping by the gates or under the classroom windows as this carries into the building and is harmful to the children and staff.

# <u>Footpath</u>

The footpath between the playground (down the steps) and Foundation Stage (path along the field) is out of bounds at the beginning and end of the day as this section of the school is unsupervised. We would hate for there to be an accident, and nobody know you are hurt. The chickens, the ducks, and the bees also like their peace at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

#### Communication Diary

Thank you also for signing the Home School Agreement in the Communication Diary and for recording your home reading in there. We are aiming for at least three reads per week and the





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benefits of this are highlighted in the Communication Diary. Please look out for the passwords for TTRockstars and Numbots and encourage the engagement with these platforms.

## **Drinks and Snacks**

In the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One (Honeysuckle, Snapdragons, Lavender and Rosemary) all children have access to free fruit as a snack at playtime. If you wish for your children to bring a snack during the school day, it must be a healthy one and one that does not contain nuts. Chocolate, crisps and croissants are not considered healthy and they're packaging cannot be recycled. Please stick with the cheaper and healthier options and only bring water, rather than sugary drinks in plastic water bottles.

### Involvement with the School

We also welcome expressions of interest to the Local Governing Body. The governors are an excellent group of volunteers who guide and challenge strategy and growth. If you would like to know more then please contact <a href="mailto:karen.long@johnclifford.school">karen.long@johnclifford.school</a> and she will be able to give you some more information.

We have Reading Mornings each week and we encourage you to come into school for the first 10 minutes of the day to read with your child in their classroom. The children love this.

In addition to joining in Reading Mornings with your child in Years 1-6 you, or your family members can also become a Reading Volunteer to help other children. This is a super opportunity to get into school, read with children on a one to basis and really make a difference. Please email <a href="mailto:office@johnclifford.school">office@johnclifford.school</a> if you would like to understand more about this opportunity.

Once again, from all the staff at John Clifford School, we wish you an excellent Autumn Term and hope that you will keep in touch to support us in making your child's education and school experience the best it can be.





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Kind regards,

Janine Waring

Headteacher

Kayley Allcoat

Acting Headteacher

