



Cleveland Road Primary School

Cleveland Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1EW

Website: www.clevelandroadpri.uk

Telephone: 020 8478 3601 (Line 1 to report an absence)

Weekly message

Welcome back to all our pupils, families and staff and a very warm welcome to all the new staff and pupils who have joined us at the start of this new school year. It has been a great pleasure to welcome back all our children and to see how well they have settled into new school routines.

All the children had Stunning Starts to the new school year, based around the books they will be reading this term: some found themselves entering a magical, snowy land; some explored the wonders of nature; some were even given toys to play with. You can read all about these Stunning Starts in the first two editions of the newsletter.

As a school, we are incredibly fortunate to have the ongoing support of such a wonderful community and it was wonderful to see you all at our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings this week. Thank you very much to all those parents who attended. If you were unable to attend, you can now access the information you missed by visiting the school website's curriculum pages.

Have a great weekend.



On Friday 25th of September, we will be holding our annual Macmillan coffee morning in our dining hall from 9.00 am. Please come and join us for some tea, coffee and cake.

On this day, we are also going to wear as much GREEN as we can to support Macmillan – a contribution of £1 would be greatly appreciated. Macmillan has been supporting families with cancer for more than a century. If you would like to find out more about the wonderful work that Macmillan does, click the link below:
<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/about-us>

Diary Dates

Wednesday 23rd September – Friday 25th September – Year 5 and 6 children to Fairplay House.

Monday 28th September

Before- and after-school clubs begin this week – *details to follow*

Monday 28th September

Flu vaccinations – *details to follow*

Thursday 1st October

Celebrating Cleveland Day – *details to follow*

Monday 5th October

Maths Parent Workshop for parents of children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (9-10a.m. in lower hall)

Monday 12th October

Maths Parent Workshop for parents of children in Years 1 and 2 (9-10a.m. in lower hall)

Wednesday 21st October

Parent-Teacher Meetings, 1.45pm-7.00pm

Article of the Week

Taken from the Convention on the Rights of the Child – Article 2

You have the right to protection against discrimination. This means that nobody can treat you badly because of your colour, sex or religion, if you speak another language, have a disability, or are rich or poor.

Healthy Snacks

The start of the new school year is the perfect time to start new and healthy habits. For both children and adults (especially teachers!) having a healthy snack during playtime is obviously something to be encouraged since it gives Why not try making your own apple crisps by slicing crisp apples such as Granny Smith or Braeburn into wafer thin.

Allergy update

As some of you may be aware, there has been a new allergy framework introduced under Benedict's law, that helps keep children safe from food allergies. This means that as a school we are aware of different allergies and have allergy action plans in place to prevent this happening. If your child has an allergy, please come and speak with the school office.

Book Fair

The book fair will be at Cleveland from **Thursday 8th October until Wednesday 14th October** it's packed with exciting new titles, colourful journals, and fun stationery for children of all ages! The fair is in the **dining hall**, and both **cash and card payments** are welcome. It's a fantastic opportunity to encourage a love of reading and support our school at the same time—every purchase helps earn rewards for new books for our classrooms.

Come along and find your next great read!

Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer at our school, please come to the school office and collect an application pack. These will be available until **Friday 9th October**.

Mobile Phones

We kindly ask parents and carers not to use mobile phones while in the playground. This helps us to maintain a safe and attentive environment for all the children.

Parking

Just a friendly reminder when dropping off and collecting your children, please be mindful not to block or park across residents' driveways. We need to make sure we keep the driveways clear, allowing residents to enter and leave their property without any disruption.

Secondary School Admissions

If your child is in Year 6, you now need to apply for a place at your preferred secondary school. All applications need to be completed online. The deadline for completion is

31st October 2026.

Further details about this process and how to complete the application can be found on the Redbridge website, here:

[Apply to start secondary school](#)

Calling All Young Writers: Enter the BBC 500 Words Challenge 2026!

Do you have a brilliant imagination, a funny story to tell, or an exciting adventure waiting to be written? Then the **BBC 500 Words Challenge 2026** is the perfect opportunity for you!

The BBC's famous story-writing competition encourages children to create an original piece of fiction in **500 words or fewer**. There are no limits to where your imagination can take you. You could write about a magical world, an unexpected journey, a mysterious creature, or even a talking piece of toast!

Taking part is a fantastic way to:

- Develop your creative writing skills
- Build confidence as a storyteller
- Let your imagination shine
- Share your ideas with a national audience
- Have the chance to win exciting prizes and recognition

Whether you already love writing stories or are keen to have a go for the first time, this competition is open to everyone. The judges are looking for creativity, imagination, and a story that captures the reader's attention.

Important Dates

Competition opens: Tuesday 29 September 2026 at 08:00

Competition closes: Friday 6 November 2026 at 21:00

Gruffalo Day

Last Friday, we stepped into the deep, dark wood for a very special Gruffalo Day, celebrating the release of *Gruffalo Granny*!

It was a fantastic day filled with creativity, laughter, messy fun and, of course, a little bit of Gruffalo magic! Every year group took part in a range of exciting activities inspired by the much-loved Gruffalo stories.

Our children got stuck into messy play, created delicious-looking Gruffalo crumbles, and showed off their artistic talents with some fantastic dioramas of the deep, dark wood. There was also plenty of tasty fun, with children decorating Gruffalo biscuits and even enjoying some very special Owl ice cream!

The highlight of the day was our special Gruffalo assembly. Some of our teachers took to the stage to act out the original *Gruffalo* story, much to the delight of the children. There were plenty of giggles as the familiar characters came to life – but the biggest surprise was still to come...

The Gruffalo himself made a surprise appearance!

The excitement in the hall was incredible as the children spotted our very special visitor. There were huge smiles, lots of waving and plenty of excitement as everyone got to see the Gruffalo up close.

A huge thank you to all the staff who helped make the day so memorable. From messy paws to tasty treats, creative woodland scenes and a very special surprise visitor, Gruffalo Day was a wonderful celebration of books, imagination and the joy of reading.

We hope everyone went home with a little bit of Gruffalo magic!



Commendations: *Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.*



Thought for the Fortnight
grow.'

'Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to



"We decorated our biscuits like monsters. Mine was like the Gruffalo!" - Malak 2A

"The snake was my favourite character in the assembly" - Eliza 2A

"The cookies were delicious" Bhuvit 2A

Ayyat 1SB - 'I loved making the Gruffalo granny soup'

Mustafa 1B - 'I decorated biscuits, they tasted delicious'

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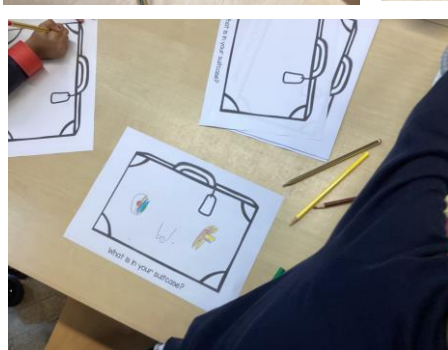
Year 1

Last week, Year 1 embarked on their very first English learning journey by reading the beautiful story of Alma and How She Got Her Name. Through this heartwarming tale, the children explored the importance of names and identity.

For our stunning start, the children took part in a range of exciting activities inspired by the different members of Alma's family. They created unique artwork for Grandad José, painted beautiful jasmine flowers for Grandma Sophia, prepared for a World Tour inspired by Great Grandma Esperanza, made lucky red friendship bands for Great Aunt Pura and designed colourful posters celebrating themselves, just like Grandma Candela.

The children were thoroughly engaged in each activity and can't wait to learn more about Alma and her fascinating family.

We can't wait to see where this wonderful English journey takes us as we continue to explore Alma's story.

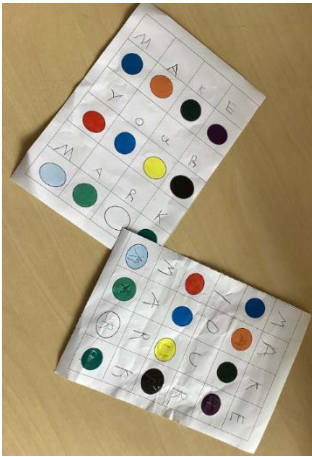


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Year 2

On Monday, Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic Stunning Start to their new novel, *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. The children took part in a carousel of exciting activities, moving from class to class and exploring creativity in lots of different ways. They enjoyed a dot explorative movement activity, where they used their imaginations to move like different animals, completed a scavenger hunt around the playground to find lettered dots and uncover a phrase from the text, created Kandinsky-inspired artwork, and designed their own pictures beginning with a simple dot. It was a wonderful day full of creativity, movement and imagination!



"I liked the drawing part and when we used pastels." **Arya, 2GA**

"I loved our scavenger hunt!" **Navid, 2GA**

"I had fun moving around the school and our activities." **Qasim, 2GA**

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Year 2

International Dot Day!

Year 2 had a fantastic time celebrating International Dot Day! The children came to school dressed in dots of all different sizes and colours, creating a wonderfully colourful classroom. As part of our Art learning on pointillism, the children used paint to blend and layer dots together to create their own artwork. Our day also linked beautifully with our English book, *The Dot*, which inspired us to think about creativity, confidence and having a go. The children had a blast and thoroughly enjoyed our very dotty day!



"The colours are mixing!" Mehnaj 2E

"We are celebrating dotty day because we are reading the book, *The Dot*." Gurtejvir 2S

"I have dots everywhere!" Ayaan 2E

"My mum helped me paint dots on my face!" Shabbir 2KA

Year 3

Year 3 have had a truly stunning start to the year, stepping into a magical world of fairytales through a wonderful carousel of creative activities.

The children moved around a series of stations, each offering a different way to explore and bring fairytales to life. In an enchanted forest den, they used their imaginations to create and write their own subverted fairytales, putting their own twists on familiar stories. At another station, they made fairytale puppets using wooden spoons, creating their own characters and bringing them to life.

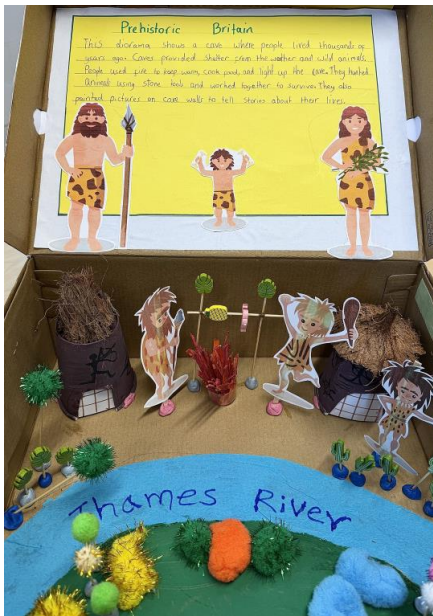
The children also enjoyed being creative in the kitchen, making delicious gingerbread cookies, while another station saw them painting beautiful fairytale scenes, capturing the wonder of the stories they had been exploring.

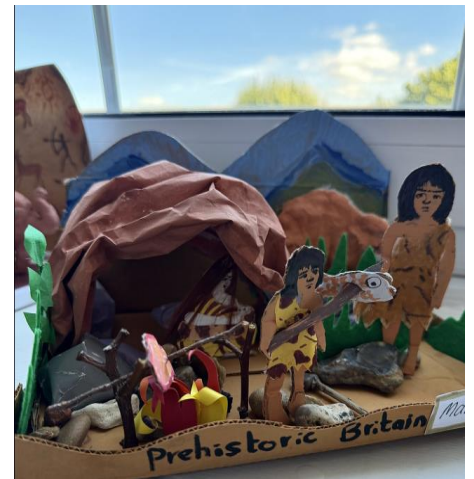
To balance the creativity and excitement, the children also had the opportunity to settle down for story time with traditional fairytales. This provided a wonderfully calm and soothing moment, allowing everyone to relax, listen and enjoy.

As part of their homework, the children also created outstanding Stone Age dioramas, showcasing their creativity and growing understanding of life during this fascinating period.

Their detailed scenes brought Stone Age settlements to life, featuring homes, tools, people and aspects of everyday life. The children carefully selected materials and added imaginative details to make their models both authentic and engaging.

Lastly, Amir has shown a fantastic attitude towards Science this week. He asked lots of thoughtful questions about Animals Including Humans and was always keen to find out more. He made excellent links to his learning from Years 1 and 2 and used his wider knowledge to deepen his understanding. Amir enjoyed sharing facts, making connections between different topics, and explaining his ideas clearly. He is looking forward to working as a Biologist this term.





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'I really enjoyed making gingerbread cookies and reading the fairytales. My favourite story was snow white.' **Damir**

'My favourite part was creating my own fairytale puppet to keep and hear my teacher read fairytale stories.' **Mellin**

'I loved the different activities that we completed, they were all interesting and involved different fairytale activities.'
Saanvi

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Year 4

The Wardrobe Has Opened ...

Hold onto your winter coats, because Year 4 has officially stepped through the wardrobe doors and crossed the threshold into the magical, snowy world of Narnia! This term, our cross-curricular learning is completely inspired by C.S. Lewis's timeless, spellbinding classic, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. We kicked off the term with the most spectacular, jaw-dropping Stunning Start, and the enthusiasm in the classrooms is absolutely electric!

To launch our new topic, our hall underwent a secret, magical transformation into a winter wonderland. As the children walked through the hall, they didn't just see books, musical instruments, cloak rooms—they discovered a mysterious Christmas cave tucked away in the corner.

With bated breath, our brave learners pushed past layers of heavy, soft "fur coats" to find themselves standing in a forest at midnight! They felt the crunch of "snow" beneath their feet and caught a glimpse of a single, iconic lamppost glowing softly through the mist. The children have been buzzing with pure excitement all week, stepping straight into the shoes of Lucy, Edmund, Susan, and Peter. We have already had some fantastic, high-energy classroom discussions.

This classic text is an absolute treasure trove for our primary English curriculum. Over the coming weeks, our young authors will sharpen their pencils and explore a wide range of writing genres, pushing their imaginations and vocabulary to the absolute limit.

Thank you so much for your incredible, continued support in making learning so immersive and magical for our Year 4 learners. Keep an eye out for updates on our Fabulous Finish event towards the end of the term!





"I liked the Santa and the sword, and all the teachers dressing up as the White Witch and Mr Tumnus. I thought it would be a normal day but it was a surprise" Ibrahim, 4C

"It was really fun and it kind of matched the book. Mr Tumnus was really scared so it was really accurate" Sofia, 4c

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Year 4 – Gruffalo Day

Into the Deep Dark Wood: Year 4's Spectacular Gruffalo

A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood... and ran straight into Year 4! Year 4 learners across the UK have been celebrating the magical world of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler for Gruffalo Day, and our classrooms have completely transformed into mini woodlands. The learners brought their absolute best imagination and creativity to life by building jaw-dropping 3D Gruffalo dioramas—and the results are simply magnificent! Our main mission for Gruffalo Day was to recreate an iconic scene from the book using a humble shoebox. The classrooms fell into a focused, creative hum as our young designers measured, cut, painted, and glued their own mini-forests.

Our young designers didn't just build ordinary forests—they brought the magical world to life, using a spectacular range of sparkling crafts to design the deep dark wood, its clever animals, and the legendary Gruffalo himself! Glittering canopies, shimmering creature eyes, and magical metallic textures turned our shoebox dioramas into absolute masterpieces that practically glowed in the dark.

The classrooms were a hive of absolute joy as the children mixed natural textures with eye-catching craft materials. Here is a look at the brilliant techniques they used to capture the setting and characters. The Gruffalo in All His Glory- Capturing a monster requires serious craft skills! The children used glossy, sparkling gems for his eyes, textured felt for his turned-out toes, and brilliant purple glitter card to cut out the sharp, pointy prickles all over his back. While the classrooms were covered in a delightful layer of sparkles, our Year 4 learners were practising incredible, high-level skills- Fine Motor Precision, and Material Selection.

As any parent knows, crafting with glitter and sequins can turn a room into a sparkling explosion in seconds! The absolute highlight of the day was seeing how responsibly our Year 4 learners worked together. Armed with dustpans, brushes, and recycling bins, the children teamed up to tackle the mess. Within minutes, the classrooms were spotless and ready for the next lesson. We were incredibly proud of their fantastic teamwork and mature attitudes—they are true tidying superstars!





"Today I could make more friends and have trust. We learnt our craftsmanship. A very fun opportunity." Helen, 4C

"I enjoyed the Gruffalo assembly because it make me laugh a lot!" Rayan, 4C

"We read the Gruffalo in school today, it is an amazing book with lots of animals. Year four made dioramas in class to celebrate the book." Ahmed, 4S

"I really enjoyed the Gruffalo Granny we read in class and made dioramas for it." Hafsa, 4S

"I enjoyed watching the play in assembly, it was really funny." Max, 4F

"I created a diorama with my friends and included all the characters, especially the Gruffalo granny!" Menaal, 4F

"I am sure that the Gruffalo was a man." Arham 4N

"What an amazing show, our teachers are great actors." Hethvik 4N

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Year 5

This week in Science, Year 5 have been investigating what makes something a “living thing”. To begin, the children were given images of a range of different things and had to organise them into three categories: alive, dead and never alive. They then had to justify their choices, leading to some interesting discussions about what it actually means to be alive.

The children went on to explore the seven characteristics of living things, known as MRS GREN, and discussed what we would expect to see if something is alive.

They then set up an investigation using four different types of seeds: fresh tomato seeds, pumpkin seeds, flaxseeds and basil seeds. They made predictions about whether the seeds are alive and will observe them over time, looking for signs of germination and growth.

We also explored dormancy and discovered that a seed can be alive even when it appears not to be doing anything! The children enjoyed thinking about how we can use evidence and observations to work out whether something is alive.

Year 6

Year 6 were introduced to their new text, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick. They were transported to a Paris train station and explored a 1930s-inspired toy shop, discovering toys from the past.

The children then enjoyed a hands-on toy-making workshop, creating their own toys and bringing Hugo's world to life through creativity and imagination.



The toy making workshop was really fun. I enjoyed making my spring toy- **Ilyas 6B**

I liked how the wooden toys moved- especially the one that you spin. I also liked the steam train set up- it looked like a station – **Izabelle 6B**

I am enjoying the book, and I really like the character Hugo because he seems to be doing good work at the station, but nobody knows about him or appreciates him- **Affan 6B**

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Commendations

Commendations are awarded, each week, to children who have demonstrated the 5Cs in all aspects of school life.

		Week Beginning 7 rd September 2026		Week Beginning 14 th September 2026	
Year	Class	Teacher Commendation	Peer Commendation	Teacher Commendation	Peer Commendation
R	RY				
	RN				
	RA				
	RB				
1	1B	Yacub	Faryal	Hamza	Esraa
	1Z	Zayan	Inaaya	Abdullah	Ayla
	1SB	Merrick	Dua	Aliza Sizdah	Aiya Sim-Benani
	1RB	Manan	Rubab	Mrithula	Yasmina
2	2KA	Mikail	Kavya	Bhuvit	Mehjabin
	2E	Adhveek	Inaaya	Yashmeet	Aroosh
	2GA	Navid	Arba	Arya	Sidra
	2S	Whole Class	Saadhana	Maryam	Ibrahim
3	3C	Varnika	Aariz	Jasmin	Arohi
	3A	Devansh	Amaani	Ayub	Mellina
	3S	Gavin Jot	Niazbeena	Niazbeena	Salaar
	3RS	Haneen	Isaac	Sayeda	Amy
4	4C	Hayyan	Helen	Morium	Husain
	4N	Rania	Muhammad	Abiha	Ibrahim
	4F	Zakariyya	Ashar	Aayan Habib	Amaya
	4S	Dylan	Eliza	Gianni	Hafsa
5	5G	Aayan	Inaaya	Yuliyen	Nawfal
	5PR	Zaria	Khadeerah	Aila	Amelia
	5J	Nuh	Tvarita	Azlan	Noah

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	5WR	Gurnoor	Yousuf	Safwana	Salwa
6	6B	Ria	Amaya	Ilyas	Affan
	6K	Ayeza	Mustafa	Afsa	Nahil
	6H	Izaan	Eesa	Manikanta	Hania
	6S	Halima	Adam I.	Ariz	Asra

Citizen of the Week

Many congratulations to our *Citizens of the Week*. These children have demonstrated, throughout the week, the qualities of a great citizen – considerate, caring, concern for others, generosity of spirit. These children go the extra mile to support other children and adults in class and in all aspects of school life. We are enormously proud of them.

Week Beginning 7 th September 2026		Week Beginning 14 th September 2026	
Year	Name	Year	Name
Year 1	Mustafa Bukhari	Year 2	Zainab Hassan
Year 5	Farooq Dilawar	Year 3	Saira Ahmad
Year 6	Umaimah Mahmood	Year 4	Arwa Malik

Commendations: Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.

Attendance Awards

Every Monday we celebrate the class with the best attendance. This class is awarded the coveted attendance trophy, which they keep in their class all week. You can help your child's class win this trophy, simply by ensuring they are in school, on time, each and every day!

	Week Beginning 7 th September 2026	Week Beginning 14 th September 2026
Reception, Year 1 & Year 2	2E – 99.3%	2GA – 99%
Year 3 & Year 5	5J – 100%	5J – 97.6%
Year 4 & Year 6	4S – 97.6%	4C – 100%

Reading Awards

Reading at home is an essential part of the children's reading lives – children who read widely and often, for pleasure, in their own time, so better in all areas of learning.

Week Beginning 14 th September 2026		
Amutha	5G	Sapphire
Ayla	5G	Ruby
Mateo	5G	Ruby
Eesa	5G	Amethyst
Yusuf	4F	Emerald
Mehojabeen	4F	Sapphire

Science Awards

Well done to the children who have been nominated for a Science Award due to their exceptional work and efforts in Science.

Week Beginning 14 th September 2026		
Year	Name	
Year 1	Aydin Edung-Osman	This week, the Science Award goes to Aydin in 1B! He has shown great enthusiasm and impressive prior knowledge while learning about seasonal changes. He makes insightful contributions in class and is already confidently using scientific vocabulary. Aydin is super excited about our upcoming observations and investigations and is eager to discover more about how animals, plants and humans are affected by seasonal changes. Keep up the curiosity and passion, young scientist!
Year 4	Ibrahim Mahamoud	Ibrahim has made excellent contributions in Science. He is fascinated by paleontology but also shows a love of Science and understanding of its interconnectivity to History, through archaeology, and its links to literature too. Ibrahim inspires others with his thirst for knowledge and inquisitive nature. Wonderful!
Year 5	Eesa Ahsin	For showing fantastic Year 5 scientific knowledge and curiosity this week! You have asked thoughtful questions, made careful observations, and used your Working Scientifically skills to make predictions, record results and explain your ideas like a real scientist. Well done!
Year 6	Zaviyar Awais	For completing his science holiday homework task on Charles Darwin to a high standard. Zaviyar demonstrated excellent research skills and presented his findings clearly and thoughtfully. He was then able to apply the knowledge he had gained during class discussions about our big question and when creating his mind map. Well done!

Commendations: *Commendations are awarded to pupils who demonstrate the 5Cs consistently.*
