

Clifford Holroyde Specialist SEN College



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Headteacher: Mr I Griffiths NPQH



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Dear Parents / Carers,

What a busy Spring term it has been at Clifford Holroyde! Can I take this opportunity to thank our fantastic staff for all their hard work and efforts during this busy and testing three months. When we re-started back in January, we did not foresee snow days or industrial action days that would disrupt our opening hours. Thanks to staff, pupils and families for their flexibility and understanding during these unexpected interruptions!

Clifford Holroyde has continued to receive help, challenge and support this term from ASMAT – All Saints Multi Academy Trust. The 'Trust Partnership Agreement' (TPA) has continued to benefit the school with support for internal processes, curriculum provision, ICT facilities and estates & financial management. This term we have received help with HR, budget planning, additional laptops, Wi-Fi upgrades through the Dfe 'Connect the Classroom' scheme and the installation of seven 65-inch interactive touchscreens to support classroom learning. With the increased amount of IT and the improvements in equipment, we have recently renewed our IT support company and increased the amount of on-site support. Over Easter we will be welcoming more work on site as the old server will be replaced as well as new Firewall installed.

ASMAT have been instrumental in providing other new projects in school, staff to run these projects and opportunities for our boys to develop. The Summer term will see the launch of two projects: ELSA – Emotional Literacy Support and SAFE - Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed. Our thanks go to ASMAT for including us in these projects and for their continued support.

We continue to wait for news from the Dfe School Rebuilding Programme and hope that next stages may be sooner rather than later. We have had lots of surveys and enquiries, but we still have no news yet on plans for refurbishment or rebuilding of our facilities. For details of the programme, see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-rebuilding-programme>

Staff have been really busy engaging in training and CPD including Team Teach de-escalation training, updated Safeguarding & Prevent training, Child Exploitation, DOE, Medical CPD and training on how to use interactive touchscreens. School Improvement Liverpool and our School Improvement Partner have also been providing lots of guidance, training and CPD for staff. This will continue next Term with staff training on Reading and Curriculum development.



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Thank you to those parents and families who were able to attend the Parents Afternoons in January / February. It was a great opportunity to sit down and discuss work, progress, attitude and targets for improvement. We will be in touch early next term to arrange a Summer Parents Afternoon. Key Stage 4 pupils have since begun external examinations in Entry Level and Functional Skills and preparing for GCSE examinations.

Key Stage 4 pupils have also embarked upon the 'Travel Training Badge of Excellence' which Key Stage 3 pupils will access in June / July. This scheme will help pupils' progression towards independence and increase general social mobility. Pupils have been preparing for next stages of their education by continuing to visit local colleges and have also had a Careers 'Employer Encounter' with Laing O'Rourke, the engineers building the EFC new stadium.

Reading continues to be a huge focus and focal point for the future. Spring reading tests have been completed using an online assessment tool and individual 'Literacy targets' have been updated for each pupil. Our Reading strategy is being closely monitored and plans will begin to unfold in Summer Term preparing staff and pupils for curriculum reading lessons in September.

We have recently been successful in our application for a mental health grant for bicycles, riding & storage equipment, sensory garden tools and planting supplies. I am hopeful that all pupils will be able to access these projects and experience the benefits of exploring "The Great Outdoors". If any parent, carer, family member, Governors or any other stakeholder would like to volunteer to help with these ventures, please get in touch with me.

We have welcomed a small number of new pupils this term and are full to capacity with 68 pupils on role. We continue to regularly receive dozens of applications for places at the school and have to turn them down as we are full. We have been allocated 10x new year 7 pupils for September 2023 and we are beginning to work with families to start the transition to Clifford Holroyde for those pupils.

I am really excited about the Summer term and look forward to a busy term full of learning opportunities for our boys including cycling trips, DOE, more offsite basketball fixtures, work in the sensory garden, museum visits and swimming lessons for our year 7 boys! Please can you ensure that your son is present every day and dressed in full school uniform.

Can I take this opportunity to wish all the boys and their parents / carers a very happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,



Mr I Griffiths
Headteacher



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