



# Claremont Primary School

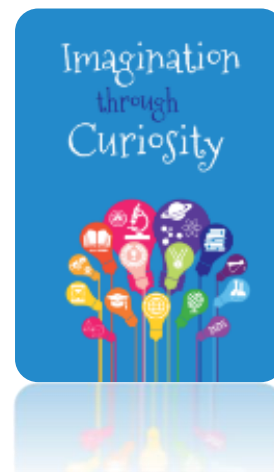
*Be confident, be curious, be creative*

Newsletter 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024



WELCOME BACK

TERM 5 HAS BEGUN!



I hope everyone has had a good break, sharing time with each other, friends and family.

The term has started well and we have had some sunshine, although it is still chilly!

To name a few events this week: Saplings and Acorns have been to the woods; there has been a girls' tag rugby tournament; boys' and girls' football matches; year 6 have been to Safety in Action and we have had a visitor speak to parents about a smoother/ less stressful school run.



## Exciting news!

We would like to share that Miss Edmonds and her partner Dan have become engaged. An exciting proposal on The Orient Express!

I know you will be delighted and together we congratulate them and wish them all the very best for the future.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### Tempest Photography

During the Easter break, I read a number of articles in the media about Tempest Photography and an incident that took place in one of the schools they work at, where it appeared that pupils with SEND were excluded from group photographs and images of those pupils had been digitally removed. My initial reaction was one of shock and alarm!

The following day, I received an email from Rob Tempest, the Managing Director. He was keen to address the incident head-on and relay the facts to his customers.

### Extract:

*Our photographer took multiple photographs of class groups, some including children with complex needs and others without. Subsequently, both sets of images were shared with the school and then with parents. This was a mistake.*

***Our Vision is to provide: a hub of educational excellence and innovation, supporting and valuing everyone***

*We should have sent through the version with all children present in the photograph, as per our company policy. Contrary to what has been reported in the press, at no point were any children digitally removed from a photograph. Tempest is an inclusive company and we absolutely do not have a policy to remove children from any photograph and would not do this unless under instruction from a school or parent for child protection reasons.*

*As a family business with a heritage spanning over 80 years in this industry, we are devastated by the upset this incident has caused. I want to reassure you of our unwavering commitment to rectify the situation and prevent future occurrences.*

*While our investigation revealed no malicious intent on the part of our team, we recognise the need to enhance our training and guidance for employees. As such, we are taking immediate steps to address any knowledge gaps among our staff:*

- Compulsory training in diversity, equality, and inclusivity, with a specific focus on accessibility and children with complex needs, will be implemented.*
- A diversity lead will be appointed to ensure adherence to best practices within our organisation.*
- Additional checks will be conducted on images before they are published or shared.*

On my return to school on Monday, I met with the Senior Leadership team to discuss our future with the company. I then met with Beccy Barr, our Vice chair of governors and SEND governor, who discussed the matter in detail with Chris Davidson, Chair of Governors who was working away.

Our discussions reflected on our experiences with them as well as the actions taken following this incident.

- We have employed Tempest Photography for over 15 years.
- The team that attends has built a positive working relationship with the staff and the children over that period. They have been at ease with the children whilst remaining completely professional.
- There has been no sight of exclusivity from any direct observations, any feedback or any subsequent reflections during or following any of their visits.
- The photos have been of good quality and a reasonable price for parents.
- There have never been any parental complaints about the people or process involved in the team that attend.
- The company deny that the incident took place in the way that it was portrayed in the media.
- The company have acknowledged a mistake by a staff member in procedure, and have taken direct action to ensure that no such incident would happen again.

I have also contacted other Headteachers in the locality and those that already had a contract with them are continuing to do so.

For those reasons, it has been agreed that we will continue to work with them. Photos for pupils in year R to 5 will take place as planned on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Everyone at Claremont remains committed to inclusivity and will continue to strive to ensure anyone associated with our practices is completely aligned to our visions and values. As with all of our decisions and practices, we will monitor this closely and review the situation to ensure that our children and families have the very best of experiences.

**Have a great weekend,  
from Mrs Roberts and the Claremont Team**





On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, Tempest Photographers will be in school to take the class photos for years R to 5.

Please ensure that your child comes to school on this day in their full school uniform including jumper/cardigan, tie where applicable and black school shoes.

Over the Easter weekend, four boys from Linden class—Charlie, Sage, Louis, and Josh—proudly represented the West Kent U10s football team at the Holland Easter Open football tournament. Among 32 teams from across Europe, their team got to the finals and won the 3rd place trophy!



Theo, in year 3, decided to do a fundraiser for The Cystic Fibrosis Trust. He decided to wear different costumes on his adventures to raise awareness and show that you can be whatever you want to be when you grow up. He's raised about £445 or over £500 if you include giftaid.

*Our Vision is to provide: a hub of educational excellence and innovation, supporting and valuing everyone*



## Mr Hume and Miss Oliver are running the London Marathon

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024, both Mr Hume and Miss Oliver will be running the London Marathon on behalf of the Stroke Association and WellChild.

Please visit their donation pages on JustGiving by clicking the link or scanning the QR with your phone if you would like to donate. All donations are greatly received and appreciated.

They have been updating their JustGiving pages with regularly on how the training has gone. You can also track their progress and send 'Belief Boosters' on Sunday if you wish by downloading the TCS London Marathon app from the App Store or Google Play.



<https://www.justgiving.com/page/oliver-hume-1700748342123>

**START TIME:** 10:26 - 10:30

**Bib Number:** 42471

Mr Hume is running for the Stroke Association again on behalf of his Grandad, Poppa and Nanny who all suffered strokes of differing degrees and seriousness.



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hannah-oliver18>

**START TIME:** 11:17-11:21

**Bib Number:** 26809

Miss Oliver is running for WellChild to support children and young people with complex health needs to be cared for at home instead of hospital.





# Girls Tag Rugby Festival

On Tuesday, 20 girls from across Y4-6 visited Tonbridge Juddians to take part in an inclusive tag rugby festival.

When the girls arrived, they were quickly into the swing of things playing rugby-themed games of tag, chase, grab and run.

This all led towards the girls playing tag rugby matches against other schools. As we had two teams taking part, we named our sides the Claremont Lions and the Claremont Tigers. All the girls demonstrated terrific enthusiasm towards the sport, with many having never played it before, quickly picking up the rules.

Whilst waiting for fixtures, the Juddians coaches put on different activities including some wrestling style games. The final activity they took part in was tackling a tackle bag. Needless to say, this was the highlight for many of the girls!

We hope that this has inspired some of the girls to take part.

For more details, please click the link to Tonbridge Juddians website.

[Tonbridge Juddians RFC TJs MINIS Info \(tjrfc.co.uk\)](http://tonbridgejuddiansrfc.co.uk/tjrfc.co.uk)



*Our Vision is to provide: a hub of educational excellence and innovation, supporting and valuing everyone*

# WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO JOIN THEIR OWN ROCK BAND?



Book now online

Visit [www.irockschool.com/enrol](http://www.irockschool.com/enrol)

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Bookings are now open for your child to join their own rock and pop band at school! Enrolling is straightforward, and iRock offers a **first lesson money-back guarantee!**

Discover the benefits of band lessons: not only are they fun, but they also play a significant role in enhancing children's life skills. Lessons focus on boosting confidence, supporting well-being, developing social skills, and even improving academic performance.

## How it works:

- Children don't need music experience to join, and all of the instruments are provided by iRock.
- Your child can choose from drums, keyboard, electric guitar, or vocals (subject to availability). They'll play the same instrument every week and join their bandmates in 30-minute weekly lessons.
- Lessons are held during the school day and are led by one of our experienced band coaches, who will guide your child through every session. *Some sessions may take place straight after school.*
- Lessons are available from Reception to Year 6, with children grouped by age. Children can choose their band name and learn their favourite songs.
- Band sessions build towards a concert at the end of each term, providing a great way to showcase just how far they have come.
- Children in Years 2, 4, and 6 will be enrolled in a Group Performance qualification by RSL.
- Access the iRock parent portal to view your child's band memories, song choices, manage your subscription and much more!

You can subscribe to iRock through our monthly subscription plan, which spans 11 months with no payment required in August. We offer full flexibility, allowing parents to cancel their subscription at any time. By subscribing, you're guaranteed a minimum of 33 lessons throughout a full academic year.

For availability and cost please visit: [www.irockschool.com/enrol](http://www.irockschool.com/enrol) and search for your school. For any help please call 0330 174 2655. Please note places are subject to availability.

Kind regards,

Joshua Franklin  
Founder  
iRock School of Music

Proudly supporting



“ My daughter is so excited when it's iRock day at school! She loves playing in the band

Google Review



*Our Vision is to provide: a hub of educational excellence and innovation, supporting and valuing everyone*



# Holiday Club

## May 2024



Newton Lang Childcare

**Action packed multi-activity programs within a safe, supportive and fun environment. Every day is filled with a wide range of inclusive activities suitable for all abilities and interests for children aged 4-11.**

Spaces are limited for this club so please book now

*Just some of things we have planned:*

Outdoor classroom, football, outdoor games, scooters, arts & crafts, slime, picnic, lego challenge, water challenge etc.



Where	The Lodge, Claremont School, Banner Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5EA
When	Tuesday 27 May 2024 to Monday 3 June 2024
Time	8 am to 6 pm - Full day, short day, hourly morning, afternoon and hourly sessions available.

**Our setting is Ofsted registered, our staff are Enhanced DBS checked and we have paediatric first aiders on site. Our staff are qualified, enthusiastic, and passionate. Contact us now for more information: [newtonlangcc@gmail.com](mailto:newtonlangcc@gmail.com) or call Natalie 0778 881 8108**

If you are looking to secure a place at the Holiday Club, please see the form attached to this newsletter.

***Our Vision is to provide: a hub of educational excellence and innovation, supporting and valuing everyone***