

Issue 23 • Summer 2024

THE ARROW

STRAIGHT TO THE HEART OF CLAREMONT SCHOOL

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE!

CLAREMONT

By Joseph C-S, 8S

BBC
YOUNG REPORTER
Claremont is an official
BBC Young
Reporter School!

Claremont has a new principal – Mr Dickie – who was headteacher at the Senior School for almost six years before taking up the role this term. The Arrow was given an exclusive interview with Mr Dickie, who outlined recent successes by students and staff, including our A-Level results being among the strongest in Sussex!

Mr Dickie said: "In the simplest terms, I want people out there, when asked which is the best school around here, to say 'Claremont'! I want people to know how successful the school already is, academically, in the performing arts, with sports and our international connections. My vision for Claremont is to become the best school in the region. Our A-Level results were outstanding, we outperformed both Cranbrook and Battle Abbey School, and this is something we're very proud of." As part of the International Schools Partnership (ISP), Claremont is connected to more than 80,000 students and 80 schools in 22 countries! **Mr Dickie added:** "As principal, the challenge will be, how can we get better. We can always improve, and I'll be working to grow the school and make it the best it can be."



Celebrating our new Claremont Principal, Mr Dickie!

Claremont has once again earned Eco-Schools status - with distinction - and become a Planet Hero School through the Just One Tree campaign meaning more than 1100 trees have been planted in Claremont's Just One Tree forest!



Claremont Principal Mr Dickie!

The Big Interview!

**By Indigo, 3WH, Oliver &
Faraz Z, 4B, Joe M &
Ryleigh, 4A, Harriet, Raya &
Aven, 6P, Erin, Joseph C-S &
Tristan M, 8S**

The Arrow reporters interviewed our new Claremont Principal, Mr Dickie! Principal Mr Dickie spoke of his vision for the future of the Nursery, Prep and Senior Schools, and the challenges that have set him up for the role.

Ryleigh: What is the difference between being headteacher at the Senior School and being our new principal?

Mr Dickie: Wow, that's a really good question. The main difference is that when I was headmaster, I was responsible for everyone in the Senior School in Bodiam. Now as principal, I am responsible for every part of the school, from Nursery through Prep to Senior School, and not just students and teachers. I look after the ground team, the caterers, the medical staff, the admin and finance teams, and that means everybody!

Harriet: How long were you headteacher and how does it feel to become our principal?

Mr Dickie: I was headteacher at Claremont Senior School (CSS) for five and a half years. I took the post in 2018, and becoming principal just feels like a huge honour. I love Claremont. I've worked here as a teacher, headteacher and now as principal, for 11 years. All four of my children have been educated here, and it's been a brilliant school for them. I'm very privileged and lucky to be your new principal.

Joseph C-S: Did you ever see yourself becoming principal when you joined the school?

Mr Dickie: That's a tough question! I have to say no. I've never had a 'big plan' in my career. A lot of politicians will say they want to be Prime Minister, but my focus was setting up the Sixth Form and making it become the success it is today. I set up the houses: Bodiam, Scotney, Pevensey and Camber and concentrated on safeguarding and making our vision for the sixth form come to life. I would say I wanted to run the senior school but never envisioned more than that.

Joe M: Is it daunting to take on your new role?

Mr Dickie: It is a little bit daunting, if I'm honest, but in an exciting way. It's a big job where lots of people rely on me and I keep everyone safe and driving Claremont into the future, but doing it means I can make a difference. I can create the best possible environment for everyone to learn and work, helping students get the best possible results with the best possible facilities and support.

Tristan: What challenges have you overcome as headteacher before becoming principal? And how do you think those challenges will help you in your new role?

Mr Dickie: When I was headteacher, the challenge was to improve our academic results, and we did! Our A-Level results were among the strongest in Sussex, and were better than Cranbrook and Battle Abbey School. Another challenge was dealing with the impact of Covid. I'm very proud of how the school as a whole dealt with it. The biggest challenges at any time are how to give the best opportunities to students and staff. At Claremont, we do lots of things really well, but we can always

get better.

Aven: What is your vision for the future of Claremont?

Mr Dickie: I want people everywhere, when asked, to say that Claremont is the best school around, not just in the county but across the country. I'm keen to develop our facilities, especially in sport and across the full academic spectrum. I also see us developing closer relationships with other ISP schools. We're connected to 84 schools around the world with more than 80,000 students! We can exchange ideas and find out about what they're doing well too. There are four main pillars I'll be looking at: learning in the best possible way we can, sport development, performing arts and international opportunities.

Tristan: Which site do you intend to primarily be based at? Or will you work equally across the two sites at the Senior and Prep schools?

Mr Dickie: I hope to spend equal amounts in both. I'll be teaching at CSS until September this year, but after that, I'll be spending half the week in each part of the school.

Faraz: What are the main challenges ahead that you can see for us at the Prep School?

Mr Dickie: It's difficult to say! We want to continue growing the school, and so there will be challenges with that. We want to get some new facilities, particularly the sports hall and a new astro for the Prep School.

Oliver: Are you a strict principal?

Mr Dickie: That's an excellent question, but I'm not sure I can answer it! You'll need to talk to the students here but I hope they'd say I'm firm but fair. I'm strict when I see people not being kind to each other. One of the good things about being young is you can make mistakes, and normally it's ok so you can learn from them.

Indigo: Do you intend to further improve the school to become as eco-friendly as possible?

Mr Dickie: This is an area where the Prep School is far ahead of the Senior School, and I'm hoping CSS will catch up! It's vitally important for your futures, so yes, it's very important we become as eco-friendly as possible.

Raya: What are your favourite hobbies outside school?

Mr Dickie: My number one favourite hobby is Aston Villa F.C! I've been a fan since I was four years old. I also play cricket and co-captain my cricket club with Mr Sutherland! I taught Mr Sutherland A level history! I also have two dogs, Magpie and Otter. We have a family tradition of naming our pets by other animal's names! We used to have a cat called Bear and a rabbit called Barry (though not an animal, but you get the idea!). I also love cooking.

Tristan: What do you hope your legacy will be?

Mr Dickie: That's a really tough question. I hope as principal I make this school even better, and it continues as a happy, kind, successful school for all students and all staff.

Mr Dickie asked our reporters what they would do if they became principal. **Harriet said:** "I'd make sure everyone was ok." **Joseph C-S said:** "I play tennis, and a singular tennis court would make a big difference." **Tristan M said:** "More opportunities for clubs at breaktime would be good." **Faraz said:** "More staff to help younger students who might have problems with their learning."

Raya said: "Taking care of all the students is the most important."

Thank you for speaking to The Arrow, Mr Dickie!

Journey to the Stars



*Science comes spectacularly alive at Claremont!
& OUT OF THIS WORLD! Science spectacular at Claremont! & Orbiting-Earth with the Observatory Science Centre!*

By Joseph C-S, 8S

Just before the Easter Holidays, the Observatory Science Centre visited Claremont with their inflatable planetarium to show us our solar system. The Observatory team set up a large air-inflated dome and a projector that displayed a scaled version of the solar system. They also shared fascinating knowledge about space exploration, explaining what it takes to send probes to Mars and describing the diverse atmospheres and surfaces of various planets.

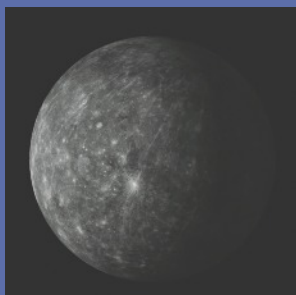
By the end of our session in the planetarium, I think everyone had learned something new. We gained a true perspective on the size of the solar system and got to understand how different planets' atmospheres influence their surfaces. Most people agreed that more events like this would be a great thing to add to our school activities. The planetarium visit was made possible by funding from Claremont Family & Friends (CFF).

Fun Facts about Space!

By Faraz, 4B & Harriet, 6P

1. Space is infinite!
2. We could survive 1 millisecond on the sun!
3. The moon is lemon shaped!
4. On the planet Mercury, a day is twice as long as a year on Earth!
5. Uranus spins sideways!
6. Saturn's rings are 90% made of water!
7. There are more than 100 billion stars in the universe!
8. Venus is the hottest planet!

Super Space By Tristan M & Joseph C-S, 8S



Mercury is the planet closest to the sun.



Venus is the same size as the earth but it spins the opposite way.



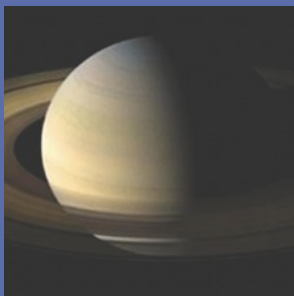
Earth is the planet that we all live on in the 'Goldilocks zone' the place in our solar system where organisms can live and thrive.



Mars 'the red planet' is the fourth planet from the sun, it may be viewed as earth's neighbour but it is actually 53% smaller.



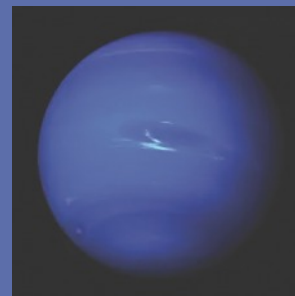
Jupiter is the biggest planet in the solar system and is the first of the 4 gas planets.



Saturn is one of the few planets in our solar system with rings but it is the only one with visible rings.



Uranus is a very cold and windy world. This ice giant is surrounded by 27 small moons.



Neptune is a very cold planet, and it appears blue because methane in the atmosphere takes in red light, reflecting blue back into space.

Sowing Our Future!



CFF chair Mr Page-Matkin with the seeds that will transform into a meadow & Ready to plant wildflowers! & Many hands make light work of planting wildflower seeds! & Claremont's Eco Warriors, Student Council and The Arrow reporters stomp seeds into the soil

By Erin, 8S

Throughout this term, a new meadow has been emerging in the school grounds! Led by Chair of Claremont Family & Friends (CFF) Mr Page-Matkin, our meadow began to grow within a week of sowing!

Members of the Eco Warriors, the Student Council and The Arrow newspaper helped with this huge project that could change the ecological future of our school.

We scattered eight kilos of wildflower seeds, then we trampled on them to make sure they didn't get eaten by birds. Not only this, it also helped the seeds to germinate!

This meadow will have huge benefits for health and wellbeing as well as environmentally. It doesn't require fertilisers or pesticides. Or the fact that it can withstand any weather! Or even the fact that it improves biodiversity! There are more than 47 different varieties of wildflowers, and there will be more flowers than the whole population of Hastings! To add on to all that, Mr Page-Matkin has mixed rare wild orchids among the seeds, so if they grow, our meadow will become a site of scientific interest!

Meadows provide many wellbeing benefits for everyone with their therapeutic properties. It's likely that the quality of natural spaces such as ours, may have a greater impact on

human health and wellbeing than simple engagement with or access to such spaces as they can reduce stress.

Additionally, the meadow will require very little maintenance; these flowers do not need to be watered, fertilised or treated with pesticides. On the contrary, the objective is to let them live freely, and so the flowers and their small associated ecosystems will establish themselves. The mixture of plants, including daisies and sunflowers, is designed to attract butterflies, pollinating insects and small invertebrates or vertebrate fauna. This mixture will provide predatory insects with food and water. The roots of these plants promote the micro fauna, soil aeration and the decomposition of organic matter.

Head of Geography and Eco Lead, Mrs Akrasi said: "We're keen to protect and enhance our biodiversity at Claremont and this is one of the ways we're doing it."

CFF chairman Mr Page-Matkin said: "The wildflower meadow will inspire us all to think more about how we look after and enhance our biodiversity, and will bring to attention just how much has been lost. I really hope its presence in this prominent position by the top car park will motivate others to think about sustainability, and even to consider planting their own meadows elsewhere."

The reduced maintenance and fertilisation associated with a meadow has been found to save an estimated 1.36 tonnes CO₂-e per hectare per year when compared with a grass lawn! Surface reflectance will increase by more than 25%, contributing to a reduced urban heat island effect, with the meadow more likely to tolerate an intensified drought regime. Research has found terrestrial invertebrate biomass will be 25 times higher in the meadow than a traditional lawn, with bat activity expected over the CFF meadow to be up to three times higher than over the remaining banks and lawns.

Our Wildflower Seeds include: Spotted Orchid, Early Purple Orchid, Green-winged Orchid, White Yarrow, Large Green Basil, Mixed California Poppy, Mixed Double Barbeau Cornflower, Red Poppy, Queen of May Chrysanthemum, Aegean Wallflower, Silvercup Mont Blanc Lavatera, Red Flax, Blue Perennial Flax, Pixie Delight Dwarf Lupin, Mixed Simple Sweet William, Calendula Pacific Beauty, Mixed Thlaspi Umbellata, Vipers Bugloss, Borage, Cornflower, Godetia, Garden Cosmos, Yellow Cosmos, Californian Poppy, Sunflower, Farewell to Spring, Black Eyed Susan and Common Zinnia.

A Bright Hope

By Aven, 6P

Have you noticed that the grass next to the jubilee garden is all gone? That's because we are growing a new wildflower meadow! Did you know there are going to be 67 different flower breeds, and the flowers will stay in bloom until winter. I asked some of the students who helped sow the seeds, what they think of the initiative.

Q: What do you think of the wildflower garden?

Erin, 8S: "I think that it will bring a bright future to Claremont and possibly interest scientists, which could really improve our school. It will help the CO₂ problem in the atmosphere."



Q: What do you think of the bees that will live in the garden?

Oliver, 4B: "I think that the bees will be a good thing for Claremont! I think the bees will love their new home!"



Q: What do you think about all the different flowers?

Harriet, 6P: "The bees will come to make honey for us in the beehive and so we can eat honey on toast. That means that we don't have to spend so much money. It would also be good because the bees will like the flowers."

New School Pond!



Claremont's Eco Warriors and The Arrow reporters head to the new pond to check on developments!

By Aven, 6P

The Claremont Eco Warriors decided to create a wildlife pond. When it is up and running, students will be able to study animal and aquatic life. This will be useful for science lessons, and we can watch how it can change over time.

To let the pond thrive with life to its maximum, we will let it fill naturally with rainwater. So far, it hasn't filled up very much yet, and it probably won't until after the summer despite all the rain we've had! The pond will support wildlife such as frogs, newts, pond snails

and damselflies. The pond is sited next to Forest School, also close to the orchard. Now we will have the wildflower meadow, pond and orchard to look at and discover new things.

Time for some fun facts!

- The UK has 3 million garden ponds!
- 70% of UK ponds have been lost.
- Water features were an ancient status symbol.
- Ponds are under threat from exotic species, such as Canadian Pondweed and Water Fern!

Fascinating Creatures Around the Pond...

By Ryleigh, Joe M, 4A, & Indigo, 3WH

Ponds may look murky, but they are filled with life! Discover what you might find in or around our new pond.

1. Leech
2. Great Diving Beetle
3. Caddisflies
4. Great Pond Snail & Ram's Horn Snail
5. Dragonflies & Damselflies
6. Pond Skater
7. Water Flea
8. Crane Flies
9. Great Crested Newt



Our Eco Code

By Raya, 6P

We spelled 'Claremont' in an acrostic poem to tell people to protect our planet. We did this as part of our 2024 Green Flag application.

Head of Geography and Eco Lead, Mrs Akraasi said: "We brainstormed environmental words and adjectives on large pieces of paper starting with each letter of CLAREMONT. Then started to write the poem together to form our new Eco Code."

Community together,
Learning to love our environment and
Actively protecting our future.
Respecting each other and our world,
Everybody playing their part. Appreciating the
Moment.
Opening our hearts to help,
Nurturing wonder and
Trusting our choices.



**EARTH DAY
2024**



PLANET VS PLASTICS: Learning about Earth Day 2024!

By Aven & Harriet, 6P

What is Earth Day? Earth Day is an event that celebrates protecting our planet and the environment. Head of Geography, Mrs Akraasi, led an assembly on April 22nd about plastic pollution, which was the theme of this year's event.

Mrs Akraasi said: "The Big Plastic Count found that the UK throws away 1.7 billion pieces of plastic each week - around 90 billion items every year! That's more plastic per person than every other country except the USA."

We learned that the average human adult has a credit card-sized amount of plastic inside them. Just a note: it doesn't mean people go around deliberately eating plastic!

More than 500 billion plastic bags - one million bags per minute - were produced worldwide last year. Even after plastics disintegrate, they remain as microplastics, minute particles permeating every niche of life on the planet. As plastic breaks down, they release chemicals that damage the environment, our ecosystems and our health.

We also learned that there is plastic in clothes - acrylic, polyester and nylon - and it breaks down when we wash them. 500,000 tons of these microfibers are deposited in oceans every year from our washing machines.

EARTHDAY.ORG said: "We are unwavering in our commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040." What can we do? We can avoid plastic, buy second hand clothes and buy refill products in the Eco Shop, open every Tuesday by the chapel.

Fun Facts about our Planet Earth

- Earth is the third closest planet to The Sun (It's getting hot in here ...).
- It is the only planet we have found that contains life (wow, the universe is quiet!).
- Earth is 4.543 billion years old (a grandpa for sure!).
- Earth's surface is mainly water (I should learn how to swim ...).
- Earth rotates at around 1000 miles an hour! Hold onto your hats!
- Earth's atmosphere is made of gases that help us to breathe.
- Earth isn't perfectly round (it's not flat though!).
- The Earth is made of four layers: the inner core, the outer core, the mantle and the crust (just like a cake!).
- The earth spins on its axis (like a ballerina).

Swim Champions!



Bertie racing for gold!



Elsie in action!

By Harriet, 6P

Swimming champions Bertie, 6C, and Elsie, 6E, told The Arrow about their amazing training schedules and determination to become Olympians!

Bertie said: "We train on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, and then at 5.30am on Wednesday and Friday mornings! We then have a long session on Saturdays for 2.5 hours, including swimming and land-based strengthening exercises. Each swim is for an hour other than Saturday, which is 90 minutes. I was originally inspired by watching my brother Stanley! Losing a race is hard because you have to get into the right headspace to do

the next race."

Elsie said: "I love the feeling of being fit and doing lots of exercise."

Both students started swimming at age four with Sean's Swim School, and their aim is to swim at the Olympics!

Elsie added: "Getting through training when I'm tired can be hard, especially the early mornings. My favourite stroke is back stroke as I love the flow of the stroke in the water."

Bertie said: "Adam Peaty swims breast stroke and he's my favourite swimmer. It's also my fastest stroke."



Will SuperStan defeat the Candy Man?

The Amazing Adventures of SuperStan!

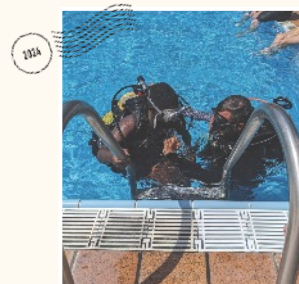
The Arrow's Faraz, 4B, reports on this perfect Pre-Prep performance ...

A young boy named Stanley dreams of being a superhero and saving his city from the evil bogeyman. No one thinks he'll be able to do it because he is so clumsy! Stanley also really likes the candy king but (spoiler alert!) the city doesn't know that the candy king is actually the bogeyman in disguise ... He gives the citizens candy in the form of hypnosis bubble gum to manipulate and control them.

Stanley finds out that his grandma and her friends were superheroes back in their younger days, and this gives him superpowers, but he must wear his dad's super-anti-gravity pants to save the city! The press wants answers from the mayor about what is going on, but the mayor is held hostage by the candy king and his evil plans!

There was a good cast of characters and I really enjoyed the performance. Bravo Pre-Prep!

Postcards from Year 8 leavers' trip!



Learning scuba diving during the amazing Year 8 Leavers' Trip to Spain



Sea kayaking adventures during the incredible Year 8 Leavers' Trip



Superstar Mathletes!

By Joe M, 4P

This term, Claremont students triumphed in worldwide Mathletics!

In Mathletics, if you get 1000 points a week, you level up. There are seven different levels but there are five levels in each one. You can only get one level a week, so you have to wait 35 weeks to become a Legend. The next levels to aim for after Legend are the bonus awards such as Cool Legend and Super Legend.

Freddie L said: "It feels good to get the award because you get the recognition for doing this work. It felt like a huge success to get my gold

medal, and I was the third in the world to get Legend status."

Head of Maths, Mrs Edmunds said: "With the new Mathletics platform, there are many awards now and the final award is the Legend award. Joe M was the third person globally (out of all ages) to achieve Legend status. Freddie L also got a gold medal."

Mathletics sent an email saying: "This is incredible, these students have achieved certificates virtually every week since the new certification system was launched. This is a fantastic achievement."



Mathletes Joe and Freddie show off their medals!



The awards were: Legend – Joe M, Gold – Freddie L, Silver – Ocean Blue, Toby W, Bronze – Melanie C, Noah B, Wristbands – Jayden B, Herbie P-M



Spotlight on...

Mrs Edmunds & Mr Richardson!



Three cheers for Deputy Head Academic, Mrs Edmunds!



Arrow reporter Erin gets the scoop on Mr Richardson leaving

This term, we say goodbye to two amazing teachers at our school, Deputy Head Academic, Mrs Edmunds and Head of Science, Mr Richardson. We are very sad to see them go, but wish them every success in their new projects!

Arrow reporters Ryleigh, 4A, Harriet, Aven & Raya, 6P, Faraz & Oliver B, 4B, Indigo, 3WH, and Joe M, 4A, said goodbye to long-serving, and much-loved, Deputy Head Academic, Mrs Edmunds...

Lovely Mrs Edmunds is leaving to go and live her future, so we interviewed her about this new path. We will really miss her, her amazing skills and everything she's done for us. Our beloved teacher has been with Claremont for 21 years as it has grown and changed, but as she waves goodbye to our school, we wish her the best of luck!

Mrs Edmunds said: "I'm very sad to be leaving. There have been so many favourite moments at Claremont, such as the sports days in a team with Mr Catt then Mr Sutherland. I've also loved the Dobson Cross Country as everyone knows I love sport, being a runner and a rugby player in the past. The snow days we used to have before the Pre-Prep building was built, sledging down the slope on gym mats. I've enjoyed the concerts and performances through the years, and I've had lots of laughs!

"I haven't fully decided what I'll do next, but I'm probably going to do tutoring, home-schooling and alternative provisions with children who aren't in schools for some reason. There have been a few difficult moments. The hardest was during Covid, getting together a balanced timetable that would work with everybody at home, and helping people to become confident in using Google Suite!

"I've been really happy here, so I hope to carry on being happy and having a positive impact on other children so it's just going to be a different type of teaching.

"My advice to students is always to enjoy learning for the sake of it and have a go at everything. Don't pigeonhole yourselves too young, you're being given these fantastic opportunities so make the most of them! Oh, and as always, read lots and visit the theatre whenever you get an opportunity!

Arrow reporter, Erin, 8S, spoke to Head of Science, Mr Richardson, about his departure.

Mr Richardson, who has been here since 2021, said: "I'm starting a new job much closer to home. Every morning, I drive one hour to get to Claremont and then back again, which means I drive two hours every day! Also, my daughter is starting school near where I live and I'd like to be able to pick her up."

Erin asked what the science teacher is doing next, and whether Mr Richardson might come back to Claremont. Mr Richardson replied: "I'll be teaching science at a secondary school at GCSE level. I will have to see what opportunities come up, and see how it goes at the new school!

"I will definitely miss Claremont. The students have been fantastic. They've always been enthusiastic, they've loved learning and have a huge passion for science. The Science Fair and all the amazing trips have been great, but it has mostly been the everyday experiences that I'm going to miss. "I'm really looking forward to spending more time with my two daughters. I'm also looking forward to teaching GCSE again. It'll be interesting to see the difference between what it's like to teach GCSE versus prep level."

Erin asked what Mr Richardson's favourite memories of Claremont were, and he replied: "One of my favourite memories was actually one of my first. Mrs Ackerley invited me to come to the European Day of Languages celebrations. Once I got there, I had lots of fun at the French bakery. It was brilliant and very different! I also loved all of the science fairs, I always thought of them as brilliant, 'organised chaos'! I'd like to thank staff, parents and students for being so welcoming and kind during my time here, I'll miss them all."

Good luck!

Sports Day Sunshine!

The weather on sports day was tremendous! The sun was shining, and everyone enjoyed being outside in our amazing grounds!

By Oliver R, 4B, Joe M, 4P & Leonardo R, 6P

The three Claremont houses, Sparta, Athens and Corinth battled it out on the athletics fields to win the most points. In an historic result, Sparta and Athens drew first place, which has never happened before in Claremont history! Pupils competed in lots of different events, such as the long jump, high jump, javelin, cricket ball-throwing, 1500m, 800m, 600m, 300m, 200m, 100m and 75m races.

Organiser, PE teacher Mr Brownbill, said: "The sun came out on Sports Day, thank goodness! It was fantastic to see great athletes compete for their houses, but also it's about the effort made by every student to take part."

Head of Prep Sport, Mr Catt, said: "This is my favourite day of the year alongside the Dobson Cross Country. It's great to see everyone compete with lots of healthy competition!"

Headteacher Mr Bunker added: "It was fantastic to see our house colours with the new uniform evident with many students wearing it. Claremont has so many high achievers, and Sports Day is a celebration of this with great competition. We celebrate our academic achievements a lot, and so it is wonderful to do this for our sportspeople and athletes as they demonstrate their skills."



Congratulations to Mr Catt & Mr Brownbill for a great day!



Great achievements on the day!



Celebrating success on Sports Day!



Corinth, Sparta & Athens go head-to-head!



Pure concentration on Sports Day



Going for gold at Sports Day!

Caring Abby!

Claremont's Abby Kirsopp has won a Care in the Community Award for her work in the Nursery!

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) has given tickets to outstanding members of the community who have been nominated for their amazing care.

Pre-Prep Enrichment Lead, Mrs Burton, said: "It is with great pride that we can announce that one of our long-standing members of staff has been recognised for this Care in the Community award. Abby Kirsopp was nominated for her incredible care within Claremont Nursery of a very special little boy who has some complex needs."

Head Teacher Mr Bunker said: "Abby is a kind and compassionate individual who always goes above and beyond for all the children in her care, so this recognition is highly deserved".

Mrs Burton added: "As a whole school community, we're very proud of Abby! Her commitment and nurturing approach embodies the whole Claremont approach to caring for our children, and we are extremely grateful to have her in our staff community."



Claremont's award-winning Abby!