



Cockwood Primary School
Cofton Hill
Cockwood
EXETER
Devon. EX6 8RB

Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Curry



13th December 2016

Dear Parents

We are in our final week of term and the children are getting excited about Christmas. We still have some events to look forward to in school, so here are a few reminders.

Christmas Lunch

This will be on Thursday. The menu has been emailed to you, but if you have not picked this up, the meal will be Christmas Dinner only on Thursday. There will be no jacket potatoes or sandwiches. There will be a vegetarian roast for those children who do not want a traditional turkey lunch. Pudding is Christmas Pudding or a Happy Face Snowman Log (icecream). The menu this Wednesday will be the usual Thursday menu: pizza, bean and pasta casserole as well as jacket potatoes and sandwiches.

Thank you to the PFA for supplying the crackers and drinks for the children.

The Polar Express

There are some tickets available for the Polar Express film event this Wednesday. Your golden ticket will cost £3.50, and children need to arrive at the village hall for 5:00pm, where they will all receive a hot chocolate and a homemade cookie in addition to their surprise gift.

Carol Service

This will take place on Friday. Year 6 parents and governors are welcome to attend. The service should start at around 10:30am. All children will be walking to the church, so please ensure that they have a warm waterproof coat and sensible footwear. **Children can wear non-uniform on this day with their Christmas jumpers.**

Christmas Performance

We enjoyed a super whole school performance last week at the Langstone Cliff Hotel. Well done to everyone involved. Christmas DVDs are now in school if you have ordered one. Please see Mrs Jago.





Carol singing at Sainsburys

Our choir will be singing after school on Wednesday 14th December. Please support them if you are in the area.

The School Council

This is a summary by Sam Clifton, describing the Council's achievements this term.

What have we done this year?

The first trip we had was going to the Eden Project for a fairtrade conference. We met two people from Ghana and they told us about life there. We did some work on shops and learnt about the time and effort it takes to produce the chocolate that we love. We learnt about tea and our favourite workshop was when we were given some fairtrade money and given a list of things that people in Ghana have limited supplies of.

We had a meeting with our governor Mrs McGrath, where we looked at writing a new prospectus.

We interviewed the candidates who wanted to be the Class 2 teacher. There was definitely a stand out person for the job. We've had two assemblies about our Eden trip and deciding what charities the school should support.

Our Head Boy and Girl have the key to the children's suggestion box to see how the pupils feel we can improve the school. Recently we had a fairtrade café and a Christmas Fayre, where we made amazing amounts of money and it was a big success. We had a quiz and cake stall and we made £68.70 from this.



Dartmoor Christmas Trees

Thank you to everyone who voted for our decorated tree. We had over 1100 votes and won the competition. The children are enthusiastically offering suggestions on how we can spend the £250 prize money!

Two of our council members wrote to Mr John Clatworthy and asked for some funding for the Eden Project trip, which we gratefully accepted.

We will have lots more to accomplish this year. We lead our meetings once a week and we are a very responsible council.

Create Art Club

Please return slips and monies for this club if your child is interested in attending in January.

Exeter Trip Class 1

Pupils in Class 1 enjoyed a super day visiting the Exeter Christmas market (to get some tips for their own farmers' market in the summer) and the synagogue. It was a great day and the children were incredibly well behaved. Thank you to the governors who helped support the visit.



Non-pupil day

We have a non-pupil day on Wednesday 4th January. Pupils return to school on Thursday 5th January.

Please take the time to read the contribution by Roger Hirst, one of our governors below.

Have a super Christmas break and we look forward to seeing the children in the New Year. Thank you for attending our many events and supporting the school. Can I also say a huge thank you to the PFA for providing some brilliant treats and events for the children and supporting the school with their fundraising. A special thanks to Emma and Jodie Butler, but to all the PFA - thank you!

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Curry



Pupil Premium Funding

- What is Pupil Premium and why is this so important to our school?

Pupil Premium is extra funding given to the school to help children in any year group who are entitled to Free School Meals to help them to reach their potential.

The amount of funding given to the school is £1320 per year per child. In 2015-16 progress of pupils at Cockwood Primary School who received Pupil Premium exceeded the national average.

- Does £1320 for my child really allow the school to help my child?

The individual funding of £1320 makes a difference to the school and at the moment the school is receiving £15120 in total Pupil Premium payments from the government. This really does enable the school to help your child.

- How does Cockwood Primary School spend the Pupil Premium funding to benefit my child?

Cockwood Primary School spends the Pupil Premium funding in many different ways to help children to suit their individual needs, including:

1. To subsidise holiday clubs, trips and after school clubs
2. Additional teaching aids including i-pads
3. To provide additional 1:1 support for pupils or group support within groups in Maths and Literacy if required.
4. Additional teacher time to support pupils who require additional reinforcement
5. Extra Teaching Assistant support as required
6. Thrive for social and emotional support

- My child is in either Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and already receives Universal Infant Free School Meals so can the school receive the Pupil Premium for them?

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals but for the school to receive Pupil Premium funding to help your child's education you will need to complete an application form to see if you are entitled to Free School Meals. The school is happy to help you complete this form and it should take less than 5 minutes.

- How do I know if my child is entitled to Pupil Premium?

Any children whose parents receive any of the following are entitled to Free School Meals and the school will receive the Pupil Premium funding.

1. Income Support
2. Income-based job seekers allowance
3. Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
4. Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
5. The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
6. Child Tax Credit (provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
7. Working Tax Credit run on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

If you think your child might be eligible please enquire via Sue Jago in the office.

Finally on behalf of all the Governors at Cockwood Primary School we would like to wish you and your children a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in 2017!