



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

Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Curry



14<sup>th</sup> December 2017



Dear Parents

We are enjoying the festive period and the children are almost at the end of term. Firstly, can I say thank you to all parents for supporting the school and their children this Autumn Term. It has been a busy one, but successful and the children have been wonderful. Here are some updates for you.

#### Important information regarding road closures

I had a meeting with the Environment Agency and Bam Nuttall yesterday regarding coastal defence work which will be starting in January. The harbour walls in Cockwood are going to be strengthened and heightened and there is significant work going on next year along the stretch of road from Exeter Road through to School Hill. This section of road is going to be closed from January to June next year. This will have a significant impact on us all. There will be diversions in place through Dawlish Warren and we need to try to maintain the informal one way system around the school. We will all need to be vigilant when dropping children to school and picking up, and this will impact on your access to Cockwood for a sustained period of time. Please consider your route to school and be thoughtful and safe where you park. We do not want additional cars and parked vehicles near the entrance of the school.

I know this will be an inconvenience for parents who come in from this direction and the Environment Agency is aware of this.

When I receive further information I will let you know.

#### Multi Academy Trust information

Our Chair of the Governing Body, Nick Tallamy has sent a letter to all parents via email regarding the school progressing to join a local trust. This is an important stage for the school, so please have a look at this and there will be a consultation period after Christmas where all local stakeholders including parents will be invited to ask questions and find out more information.

#### Staff changes

We say goodbye to Mrs Hawkins who has been our Clerk to Governors for some time. She has been a real asset to our school and we wish her the very best of luck in her new role.

We welcome Caroline Wright to the team and we look forward to working with her in the future. Thank you to Brigitte for supporting Caroline in the transition period - this is very much appreciated.

### Dartmoor Christmas Tree Competition

We were watching the Facebook page avidly and can I say another huge well done to everyone for ensuring that we received over 1100 votes for our amazing tree. I haven't had confirmation yet from Dartmoor Christmas Trees but as we received the most votes and are the smallest school in the competition then I think we have won again. I look forward to talking to staff and pupils in the new year to see how we can spend the winning money.

### Tempest Photos

The PFA received £239.99 commission from the sale of the school photos this year, which will go straight back into supporting events and resources for the children.

### PFA

*From the PFA Team*

*The Christmas Fayre was a tremendous success again this year with a fabulous £1042 being raised! Thank you to everyone who supported us by helping with the preparations and on the day but not forgetting parents, grandparents, family members and friends who came along and enabled us to achieve this figure. In addition £168 was generously donated after the amazing Christmas Show on Monday. Merry Christmas from the PFA.*

In the last newsletter I mentioned about the charity bingo held at the Langstone Cliff Hotel. Cockwood received a huge sum from the raffle, but we also receive a share from the tickets next week. If you would like a fun night out and are able to attend, it is next Wednesday evening. This is a monthly event and is a great fund raiser for local charities. It is also an enjoyable night out, so if you are interested have a word with one of the PFA members at the school or Mrs Jago in the office.

### 50:50 winners for December

£50 prize - Neil Tindal

£20 prize - Elizabeth Price-Holden

£20 - Louise Attwood

If you haven't yet collected your winnings, pop into the office.

If you would like a chocolate or Christmas pudding please let Mrs Jago know in the office so we can order them in for tomorrow.

### Harbourside Chocolate

What a fantastic product! The children designed the packaging, worked on the ingredients and made some important decisions regarding the new product we are making as part of our enterprise project. We have moved from chutney to chocolate, using Willie's Cacao chocolate as the basis for our own bars. The stall was sold out, so we clearly have a super product there. We raised £322.20 in chocolate sales and a huge thank you must go to Jane Hirst for helping to produce the super wrapping using the children's designs.

### Christmas bags

If you have not collected your child's Christmas bag, please see Mrs Jago in the office. They are £2.50. We have raised £191.50 so far for school funds.

### Cosens Institute

Thank you to the Cosens Institute for donating £100 to the school. We are going to use this to buy playground equipment in the new year.



### Cross country

Our talented runners took part in a cross country competition recently, against other schools in the area. It was a fantastic event and we are very proud of our talented athletes. We took a relatively small team in comparison to some of the other bigger schools and the team came 4<sup>th</sup> overall. Some of the team were medal winners and did incredibly well. In some of the races there were nearly 44 runners, with pupils running against children in their age group, so a huge well done to the following children in particular.

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Isla Llewellyn-Mayne

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Emily Frewin

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Ollie Clifton, Annabel Wright, Freddie Cox

Well done Isla on also being the first girl back in the Exeter Santa Run, she was interviewed by Devon Life.

### Christmas Production

What an amazing event and we are so proud! Thank you for all of the positive and lovely feedback regarding the show. A DVD will be available but it needs to be edited etc. so it will be ready in January. Once again well done to the children, staff and Laura Buttrees in particular for putting such a brilliant show together.



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#### Christmas Craft Day

Thank you to Mary who came in to work with the children on Christmas craft activities recently. Mary is a friend of the school who donated the resources and worked with every class. The children produced some lovely craft items so thank you to Mary.

#### Final Reminder

Christmas Carol service tomorrow is non-uniform with a Christmas jumper if possible. All children must have sensible shoes and a waterproof coat.

From the Staff Team, we wish you all a lovely restful and festive Christmas break with your families. We will see you back at school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely

*L Curry*  
Lorraine Curry

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