



Cockwood Primary School  
Cofton Hill  
Cockwood  
EXETER  
Devon. EX6 8RB  
  
Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Curry



29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## Newsletter

Dear Parents,

This half term has flown by, especially with the addition of some snow days, an Ofsted inspection and a community celebration event. We have lovely news to feedback and there are some important reminders, so please do take the time to read the newsletter if you can. Please let us know if you are not receiving emails and text messages and that we have your up-to-date details. We are taking a number of calls asking for information re clubs, parent consultations etc. and this information has come home. If you feel you are not receiving this information please get in touch so we can ensure we have the right contact details.

### Ofsted visit

You will have all received the short inspection report with key findings and recommendations. Staff and governors were really proud of the report and felt that it was very fair. The school team have worked hard since the last good inspection and this was recognised in the report. We have already started work on our two target areas and we look forward to feeding progress back to you. Please see this comment from Glynis Buckle (Safeguarding Governor and Chair of the Resources Committee).

### *Ofsted Inspection February 20<sup>th</sup> 2018*

*Any type of inspection or audit can be daunting but somehow OFSTED seems all the more so. Less than half a day's notice means that there is very little preparation time which means that the OFSTED inspector sees you just the way you are (warts and all). Hopefully you will all have had an opportunity to read the outcome of our recent inspection and have seen that we do in fact have very few warts!*

*Having been interviewed by the inspector I felt that she was well prepared and had a good understanding of the context of our school and the values that we try to promote. The report comments on how the children enjoy coming to school and during our verbal feedback she commented on how well behaved the children were. The inspector was also particularly impressed with the number of parents and carers that had responded to the questionnaire. The 43 responses probably represent about two thirds of the families at Cockwood. It was also very pleasing to see recognition for the very high quality of teaching and leadership and the high aspirations that everyone has for the children.*

*The Governors would like to express their thanks and appreciation to all staff, parents, carers and children whose continual support and commitment (jointly and wholly) contributed to the outcome of the OFSTED inspection.*



### Parent consultations

Thank you to all parents who made appointments and met with class teachers. We hope that you find the 15 minute appointments informative and give you a clear picture of where your child is sitting academically and the targets they are currently working on. If you were not able to make an appointment, can I urge you to phone and speak to your child's teacher, so that you can get some up-to-date information on how your child is doing in school.

### Community Celebration Event

This was a real achievement for the school in so many ways. Thank you for supporting the event in the rain, and sharing the afternoon with residents, local people and the children. It was lovely to see the children confidently talking to visitors, serving them cream teas, reading with residents and describing how they designed their brilliant canvas with local artist KT Hemmings. The exhibition of their work was very impressive and I hope that you enjoyed having some time to enjoy it.

If you purchased any items of artwork they are being organised as we speak and if you would like to order any cards, canvases, mugs etc. do please contact the school office for a price list. Thank you again to all who supported this event, from the Big Lottery Fund to local businesses and hopefully we can build on this event in the future.



*On Friday 9th March the school held a celebration event to show off the school and the new playground equipment to the local community. Despite very heavy rain, the event was very well supported by the Mayor, local residents, councillors, parents and carers. We were all entertained by*



*all the children from each class doing some fabulous dancing in the playground. They then showed off their work and demonstrated some of the activities open to children at the school. The children ran a fair trade cafe providing free refreshments and a chance to warm up.*

Andy Lawrence – Governor

### Sport

We have had a very busy month of sport. Pupils across classes competed in a gym competition against other schools and we have seen some super results in the cross country competition this week. Well done to all of the children who took part and even with much smaller teams than other schools, we saw the Yr 5/6 pupils taking second place and the Year 3/4 taking 4<sup>th</sup>. Well done to Isla who came first in her race, Ollie who came third and Lucy came fourth, with the other team members scoring very highly in competitive races. Brilliant!



### Class 2 Assembly and Visit to Exeter

What a fantastic assembly by Class 2. The pupils really demonstrated their excellent knowledge of the Romans and it was so entertaining, with dancing, drama, comedy and storytelling. Well done to Class 2!

The children also enjoyed a day in Exeter, visiting RAMM and the cathedral, to further enhance their learning in school. A busy month for Class 2!





### Rotary Club Quiz

Class 1 pupils competed against other schools in the annual Rotary Quiz this month. This was a very exciting night and we were very proud of the pupils' achievements. It was fast and furious, and when the scores came in - all very tense! The children had the second highest score on the night, and were only a few marks behind the winning score, so well done and let's hope we can get the trophy back next year!

### Interhouse Science Competition

Children were asked to design their own rockets for our inter house competition, which were tested at the end of a fun and educational afternoon. It was super to see how older children supported younger pupils in their houses, and it was brilliant when it came to the testing! House points were added to teams for super designs and those which flew the furthest. Well done to Devon, Tristan and Isla Hawkins for designing excellent rockets, but a huge well done must go to all the children for a wonderful afternoon!



### Fire safety talks

We welcomed the fire service in to school who gave some informative workshops to pupils in Classes 1 and 2.

### Space Odyssey

The school enjoyed learning about different science topics with the visit of the Space Odyssey planetarium. This is a unique experience and we were so pleased to see each class enjoying this.

### PFA

Thank you to the PFA for financially supporting many of the day visits and residentials this term. This makes such a difference to all families. They also donated £962.75 for playground equipment for the children to use.

Chocolate Bingo is tonight at St. Mary's Church Hall, Dawlish Warren at 5.30pm, so we hope to see you there. Online sales of books has closed now but there will be some available on the door.

### **50:50 winners**

£50 first prize : Vicky Rochelle

£20 second prize : Zoe Clifton

If you are able to support the school and join the 50:50 club please complete the slip attached to the information at the end of this letter and return to the school office.

#### Clubs

Exeter Football Club is starting the second week after the holiday (Tuesdays) and Fizz Pop Science is also running on this day for 5 weeks. Create Club (art club) is continuing on a Wednesday. Please pay online for these clubs as they are external providers if your child would like to attend. Other club information will come out to you the first week back.

[www.exetercitycommunitytrust.co.uk](http://www.exetercitycommunitytrust.co.uk)

[www.thecreationstation.co.uk/Sharon-keirle](http://www.thecreationstation.co.uk/Sharon-keirle)

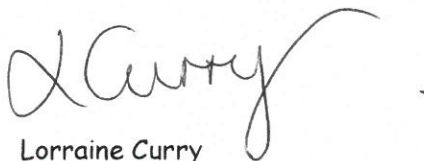
[www.fizzpopscience.co.uk](http://www.fizzpopscience.co.uk)

#### Swimming for Class 2

The final two sessions will be on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Pupils will need to be picked up from the pool on these afternoons at 3.15pm.

Have a lovely Easter and we look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April.  
Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Lorraine Curry

