



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

Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Curry



29th October 2018

Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half term break. It is rather chilly now, so it is good to see the children wrapped up with coats and hats now the temperatures have lowered. Could I remind you to label clearly all items.

Reading Rewards

We met as a teaching staff to explore how best to continue with reading rewards and targets for the children. Our AR system is fantastic and has been widely recognised as a super way to move children's reading on. We have spoken to the children about rewards for reaching targets and we have made some changes to how we are going to operate from now on.

What I must continue to stress to all parents is that there is no substitute for reading daily at home and it is vital that all children get this support. Ten minutes a day, planned into the evening or morning routine will help every child continue to move forward. As part of our home school agreement, all parents have signed to say that you will support this with your child and we want to continue to reward pupils who work hard in this area.

So from our discussions we are going to do the following:

- Children will still receive targets (which are individual to each child) and there will be a continued expectation that they will meet them (Classes 1 and 2)
- Class 1 will continue to have a reading party or similar event for meeting targets but individual children can choose house points if they prefer
- Class 2 will have a different reward for gaining their targets which will be determined each term. This may be golden time for example or house points.
- Class 3 will set up their own reading reward system which will be focussed on weekly reading at home rather than monthly or termly
- Members of staff will give up their lunchtimes to help supervise pupils who wish to read for some of their break time
- We will offer a reading club for pupils from Year 1 upwards where children can use the opportunity to read and any staff members available will support them. This is for reading only - and will not be used for anything else. Parents will also be able to join this session and read with their child but we are not able to supervise younger siblings as this will be a focussed reading session and we will need some quiet time for this to work. This will run on a Monday until 4:00pm in Class 1, beginning on Monday next week. No children can be left unattended in the playground and school staff will be supporting reading in the class and not supervising outside.

- We will introduce a new Headteacher Award as we want to recognise the children who go above and beyond in each class. This will be termly.
- We are introducing more reading time in the afternoons for Class 2.

Reading is a vital skill and it is important that you talk to your child about what they are reading. We will make available some parent resources to help you with questioning in the coming days.

Parent Consultations

Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent Consultation meetings before the holiday. If you were not able to attend, could you please contact your child's teacher to make a further appointment, or discuss progress over the phone, so that you have an update.

Tempest photos

Please return your orders this week if you would like a school photo of your child.

Harvest Celebration

This was a lovely event in the church once again, and the children performed brilliantly with some super singing and readings. St Petrock's have written to us to thank you for the donations of cash and food.



Macmillan Coffee morning

A lovely event was organised in the village hall by local residents and it was wonderful to see some of our older children helping with the stalls and meeting local people. They were a real credit to the school so well done.



Well done to the PFA for all of the hard work this term. I know Stephanie Harris and Claire Lowton who have taken over the reins this year so a huge thank you from all of us! The Halloween Disco was a great success and we look forward to the events this term - to include a film night and Christmas Fayre.

Forest Schools

Just a reminder re Forest Schools dates.

Classes 1 are going to enjoy Forest School activities this term, so just a reminder that your child needs to come into school on the scheduled Mondays in outdoor clothing, have a waterproof coat and sensible footwear. Just a reminder of the dates:

Class 2: 17th Sept, 1st, 15th, 29th October, 5th Nov

Class 1: 12th, 19th, 26th Nov, 3rd, 10th Dec

Class 3: Spring Term

Class 2 have had a super time enjoying their sessions. We will reschedule the session missed before half term.



Virtual Reality Workshop

Pupils in Class 1 and 2 enjoyed a fantastic workshop using virtual reality headsets. This was a unique experience enjoyed by all!

Playleader training

Well done to our Year 5 pupils who have started their play leader training. Millie and Ollie are supporting the group and we look forward to seeing them develop as the year progresses.



And just another reminder re dates this term:

Christmas performance (whole school)

This will take place at the Langstone Cliff Hotel at 4:15pm on Monday 17th December.

Theatre Alibi - Table Mates

Theatre Alibi are visiting the school on Tuesday 30th November to perform their new play entitled *Table Manners*.

Class 1 Assembly for parents

This will take place on Thursday 1st November at 9:15am in the village hall.

Friday 14th December

Christmas jumper day - fundraising

Christmas dinner

Thursday 20th December

Carol service

This is for Year 6 parents only at the church on Friday 21st December.

We look forward to an exciting term ahead!

Please also read the safeguarding addition to the newsletter from Glynis Buckle (Safeguarding Governor and Chair of the Resources Committee).

Lorraine Curry
Headteacher

Keeping Children Safe in School is Everyone's Business

In September 2018 the Department of Education published an update to its statutory guidance for schools and colleges and defined safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children as

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

All staff and governors at Cockwood Primary School fully recognise that they have a moral and statutory duty to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children who attend the school. We take our responsibility very seriously and are committed to

- Providing the safest possible learning and working environment for children at Cockwood.
- Promoting a culture and ethos where children, staff and visitors will feel confident about sharing any concerns which they may have about their own safety or the well-being of others.

How do we do this?

- Encouraging pupils to tell us if something is wrong and ensuring that children know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty. All members of staff are trained to listen and allow children to speak freely. They are trained to remain calm and not to over react. They will reassure the child but in no circumstances judge the child or ask investigative questions.
- Staff are trained to
 - **Recognise** neglect, emotional, physical and sexual abuse
 - **Reassure** by listening in a non-judgemental way
 - **Respond** appropriately and calmly
 - **Record** the events in line with the safeguarding policy
 - **Report** without delay to the designated safeguarding lead (Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Watts or Mrs Roper all of whom have additional training in child protection)
- Having an up to date Child Protection and Safeguarding policy which aims to define individual and organisational roles and responsibilities for safeguarding and which is regularly reviewed at each and every Full Governing Board Meeting.
- Ensuring the suitability of all our staff and volunteers to work with children by carrying out all necessary checks and clearances to enable them to work with children and full adherence to Safer Recruiting Guidelines.
- Working in partnership with parents and carers by sharing any concerns we may have about your child **unless** to do so may place a child at increased risk of harm.

- Working with parents and carers positively, openly and honestly and ensuring that all parents and carers are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy. We respect parents' rights to privacy and confidentiality and will not share sensitive information unless we have permission or it is necessary to do so in order to safeguard a child from harm.
- Sharing information with appropriate agencies to enable us to work together when there are concerns about a child's welfare. We will always ensure that our concerns are discussed with the parents or carers first **unless** we have reason to believe that this is not in the child's best interests or a child is at significant risk or in immediate danger.

Day - to - Day Safeguarding

There are many ways that we can work together on a daily basis to ensure the safety of our children at Cockwood

- Ensuring that the school holds at least 2 up to date emergency contact telephone numbers
- Notifying a member of staff if there are any changes (temporary or permanent) to home life that may have an impact on your child
- Ensuring that staff are aware of any temporary, permanent or ad hoc changes to your child's 'pick-up' arrangements
- Responsible and considerate parking. Many thanks to parents who do park at the bottom of School Hill and Cofton Hill.
- Internet safety and diligent use of social media. Again many thanks to parents for not posting photographs of school events or activities on Facebook (or similar)

Child protection is everyone's responsibility and everyone who comes into contact with our children has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action. Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of ensuring the welfare and safety of children. No-one should assume that someone else will pass on information which they think may be critical to keeping a child safe. We recognise that child protection is a very sensitive issue and it raises many questions and a range of strong emotions. We will do everything we can support our children and you can be assured that any action we take will be in the best interests of your child.

If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child, please speak to one of the Designated Members of Staff shown below

Safeguarding Contacts:

Lorraine Curry (Head Teacher)

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Gill Watts (Class 3)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Alison Roper (Class 1)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

(If you cannot find any of the people named, please tell someone in the office so they can inform the designated person for safeguarding)