



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

Headteacher: Mrs Lorraine Curry



Newsletter

10th September 2020

Dear Parents

We have welcomed our children back to the school after such a long period away, and it is wonderful to see so many smiling faces. Our new Reception children have settled so well! Well done to Harry, Amelie, Bella-Rose, Abram, Oliver, Jacob, Kieran, Sophia, Ernest, Amelia, Heath, Darcie, Primrose, Sonaix and Lily Mae. Welcome back Mr Fenton - we have missed you! We also welcome Mr Keast back on a Friday who will deliver the PE sessions with each class and also have Mrs Henry, who will support Class 3 on Thursdays and PE sessions on Fridays.

School has been incredibly busy this week. We have routines and key practices that we are following with regard to Covid-19 and each day we are learning the best way to approach keeping the class bubbles separate in the school, how to organise lunchtimes and ensure that regular hand washing is taking place. You will appreciate that this is a challenge for us, when we have 93 pupils on a small site, where some children have not been to school for several months. However, I can say that I am very proud of the children who have been superb and a huge well done needs to go to the staff too, who are busy throughout the day looking after the children so well. I am putting some updates onto the school website, so for ease of reference, there is a Covid-19 bookmark on there for you. Here you can access the school risk assessment, parent updates and useful links. If you do have concerns, please do contact me at school.

Please take a moment to look at the bullet points below where I have added some useful reminders and requests regarding school procedures at the moment:

- If you are collecting more than one child in different classes, please drop both/all children to school at the earliest time for your family group and collect at the latest time. Please try to ensure social distancing when waiting to collect your child where possible.
- Please avoid parking near the school. We ask all parents to park at the bottom of the hill by the Ship Inn or on Kenbury Crescent. This is essential in keeping our children safe.

- We have installed an additional sink in school to support hand washing for the children. Please help us by ensuring that your child washes hands before they come to school and also when they get home.
- PE for all children will be on a Monday and a Friday. Mr Keast is back with us and has already told me how amazing the children are! Pupils should keep their kit in school for the half term and I am so pleased to see the drawstring bags, as this is so much easier for us when space is an issue.
- We are trialling Class 1 going to the hall over the lunchtime period, as this will again free up pressure on the playground space and allow all of the children more time to play outside.
- Could we ask only one adult collects your child at the end of the day where possible, to help us reduce congestion at key times.
- Just a reminder to all parents who are using the community bus, to ensure that your child has a sealed bag/container to keep their mask in when they arrive at school.
- We are hoping Forest School will begin this term. We are just making arrangements with transport to see if this can go ahead.
- Clubs will not run as they would normally this term. We will look at our capacity within the staff team to see if this is a possibility as the term progresses, and they may be gradually faded in if possible.
- Pupils can choose hot meals or bring a packed lunch. They can decide on the day and then choose their option in the morning.
- Just a reminder that all children need a waterproof coat at school as we are spending as much time as possible outside.
- Staff are cleaning shared areas throughout the day, especially toilets and sinks. The children are washing hands before entering the school from play, before lunch and at other key times.
- If your child is absent, please contact the school before 9:00am to let us know.
- Bikeability begins for Year 6 on Monday.
- Dance lessons will be led once again by our amazing dance teacher Katie from Step Up and Dance - beginning on Monday for Classes 1 and 3. Due to current restrictions we are operating half class sessions to ensure we have space. Sessions will be outside or in the hall.

All schools are provided with guidance from the DFE to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. It has been a challenging time and we want all children to be back with us here at school. If your child has any symptoms or is feeling unwell then you may be unsure of what to do. Please contact us directly but also read the information below. This may change, but at the moment this is what we need to follow.

If your child becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, a high temperature or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell they must be sent home and not be in school. Please refer to the NHS website if you need further guidance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

All children demonstrating symptoms must get a test. This can be booked online, although I am aware that the capacity for testing has been reduced in recent weeks due to increased demand. You must aim to get a test completed within the first 5 days of when symptoms begin to show.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

It is very important that you make school aware if your child is unwell.

Pupils must isolate for 10 days from the onset of when symptoms develop and other members of the household should self-isolate for a period of 14 days.

If a test is negative and your child no longer has symptoms similar to Covid-19, then they can stop self-isolating and return to school. They could still have another virus, such as cold or flu - in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of the household can stop self-isolating.

If your child tests positive, they should self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than the cough or sense of smell. This is because these two symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10 day period starts from the day they first become ill. If your child still has a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until this goes back to normal. Other members of the household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

It is vital that you inform school if your child, or someone in your household tests positive.

If a child or member of staff tests positive for Covid-19, then their class

bubble would need to self-isolate for 14 days. Household members of the children/staff who may be sent home to self-isolate do not need to self-isolate unless their family member develops symptoms and then they should get tested. At this point, members of the household would need to self-isolate for 14 days or a negative test result comes back.

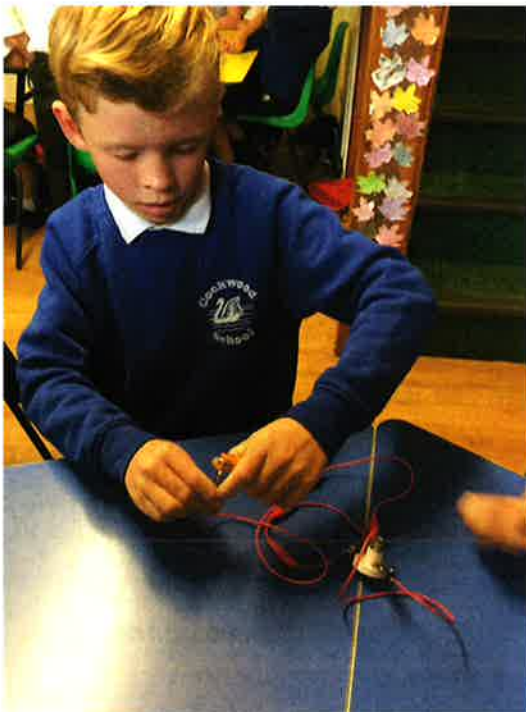
The school will work with the health protection team and take advice on how to manage the situation, should a positive test occur.

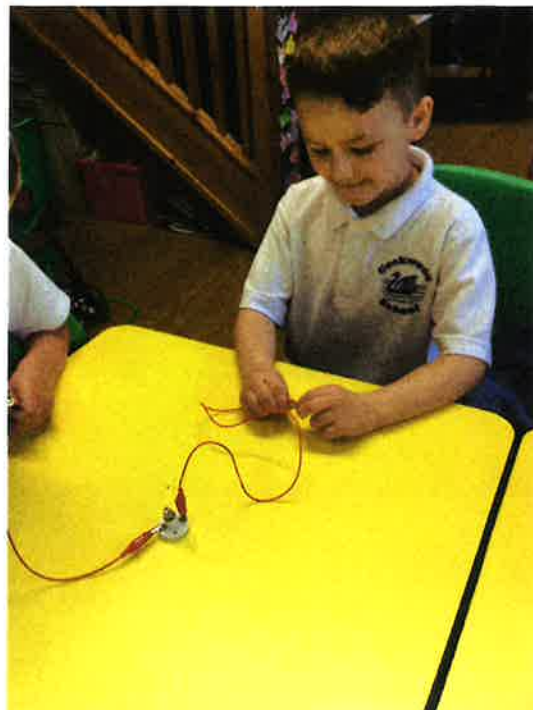
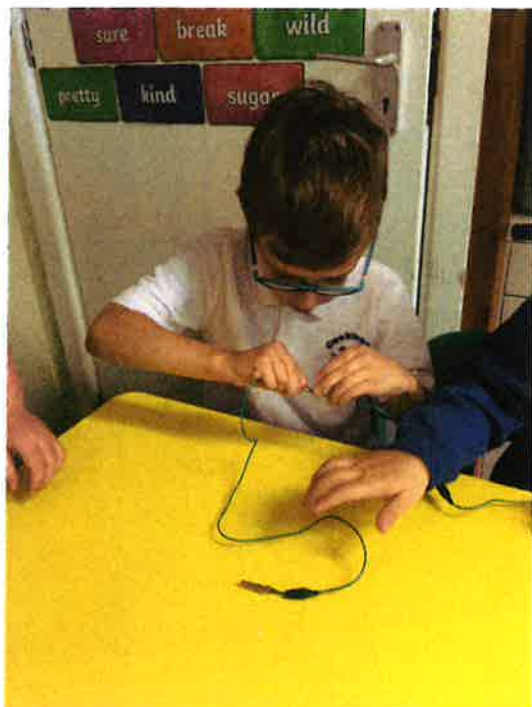
If the guidance changes then we of course will update you.

We have loved seeing the children this week, who have been smiling, polite and fun! The staff team are very proud of how they have settled and we look forward to a brilliant term! It may not be 'normal' but we are going to work hard to ensure the children enjoy their time at school, are safe and are making up for lost time by focussing on the objectives missed last term. We will work at the pace the children set, build in additional PSHE sessions, outdoor learning, PE and provide time for talking/reflection.

Here are some of the highlights in Science this week.

Can you make the bulb light up?





Jayne, our lovely kitchen manager is leaving us soon, so thank you for all of your hard work providing super meals for the children. We have a vacancy so if you are interested, please see the advert attached, provided by Norse, our catering company.

Have a lovely weekend and well done everyone on a first week back at school! Do get in touch if you have any worries or concerns.

Kind regards

Lorraine Curry



Norse Careers

we're *hiring...*

Kitchen Manager – Cockwood Primary School

Your role will be to take on the day-to-day management of the on-site kitchen team, ensuring the catering service delivered is maintained to contractual standards. We promote using locally sourced foods to deliver healthy meals, and you will drive the delivery of the service in line with this.

You will play an active role in recruiting and training new members of staff in the kitchen and maintaining the good relationship we have with the school.

25 Hours Per Week, 09:00 AM - 14:00 PM, Mon - Fri
£18,547.36 (Pro-Rata)



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