

APRIL NEWSLETTER



COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

30th April 2021

Dear Parents

What a difference the sunshine makes. The children are back from their Easter break, working hard and enjoying socialising with their friends.

We are focusing on ensuring that time is used effectively, basing lessons on key performance indicators and consolidating on prior learning after our periods of disruption this year.

Alongside this we are building in some lovely experiences for the children as we start to have more freedom in school. It has been wonderful to see Class 1 having saxophone lessons as a whole group with a visiting music teacher. Class 1 have also been enjoying Forest School experiences on a Monday afternoon, where they have been building dens, making insect hotels, learning about habitats and drinking hot chocolate round the camp fire.

Miss Murray has been providing some fantastic dance sessions for our pupils in Class 2 and 3, and we are promoting whole school daily skipping, to ensure we build fitness and fun into every day.

Kate in the kitchen is providing some super meals and there is soon to be a themed day so watch out for this information. We need to support the onsite kitchen where we can as this is an important feature of our school and one which we want to continue to keep for years to come.

As I walk through the school I see enthusiastic children, eager to show what they have been doing and positive about their achievements. As a staff we were proud to reward the children who stood out last term with Effort, Platinum and Always Club awards.

We also plan to organise a whole school treat/visit where regulations allow; enrichment of the curriculum is very important to us and we are hoping to continue to provide some super opportunities beyond the classroom.

We value your support as always and look forward to the term ahead.

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS

I started the last newsletter with this feature and unfortunately I feel the need to do this again.

We still have a significant number of cars coming up to the school - parking, dropping off pupils and collecting at the end of the day. We all agree to this statement:

Always put the safety of our children and other road users first, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times and only drive up to the school in very exceptional circumstances.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY 4TH MAY

Class 1 workshop with Western Power

MONDAY 10TH MAY

Virtual Parent Consultations

TUESDAY 11TH MAY

Virtual Parent Consultations

WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY

International Nurses Day visitor

THURSDAY 20TH MAY

M and M Productions – the Wizard of Oz

WEEK BEGINNIG MONDAY 31ST MAY

Half term

MONDAY 7TH JUNE

Pupils return to school



Can I once again appeal to **all** parents to support the whole school community by parking away from the school site.

Can I also remind parents to ensure that they keep their children with them when they walk up and down the hill. If your child is one of our older pupils who walk down on their own, please remind them that they must behave sensibly, safely and with consideration for the residents. Thank you for your support in this.

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

From **Monday** we will revert back to the **normal start times** in the mornings for all children. We will not have a staggered drop-off in the morning, and **all pupils will need to arrive at school between 8:40am and 8:55am**. As this period in the morning is naturally more staggered and parents do not wait outside the school, we will revert to our normal school day times. This will mean that the gates close at 8:55am and if your child arrives after this they will be marked as late in the register.

We have seen a number of pupils arriving very late to school where they are missing key elements of their Literacy lesson, so to make this clearer for all parents, the day will start at 8:55am. The register takes place and the first lesson begins by 9:00am. I am sure that you will agree that time is precious and therefore all children will need to be in school alongside their peers and ready to learn.

The end of the day timings remain the same: Class 1 with a 3:15pm collection, Class 2 with a 3:20pm collection and Class 3 being at 3:30pm. Any questions or concerns do get in touch with me.

MEETING NICK BUTTER

Class 1 and 2 pupils were lucky enough to meet Nick Butter, an endurance runner, who is running 2 marathons per day around the coast of the UK. The children waited to see him run past on his journey and he kindly stopped to talk to them and take photos. The children cheering him on really helped him on his run that day and we were so pleased to meet him. He is raising money for the 196 Foundation if you would like to support him. It is a truly remarkable achievement as he runs 2 marathons every day. The link below provides more information about his challenge and who he is. The children were incredibly excited and many commented afterwards that they were inspired and want to get fitter. Thank you to Mark Crowe for linking us with Nick on the day of his run through Cockwood.

<https://www.nickbutter.com/run-britain>

MORE NEWS



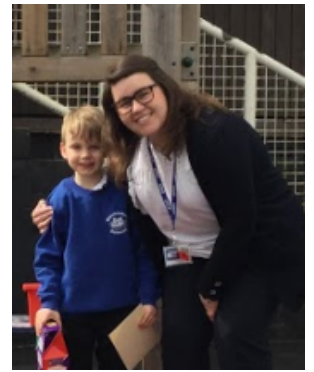
HOME TESTING FOR ADULTS

Everyone in Devon over the age of 16 years old can now get free rapid lateral flow device (LFD) COVID-19 tests, and should be using them twice a week.

These tests are important to do regularly because they detect people who are carrying coronavirus but don't have any symptoms, so could be spreading it unknowingly. They are quick and easy, and the results are usually back within an hour.

Public Health England are working hard to make sure it is convenient to access symptom-free testing at a range of locations across Devon. You can:

- be tested at one of their many [community testing sites](#)
- collect home test kits from any of their [community testing sites](#)
- collect home test kits from [NHS testing locations and pharmacies that are part of the Pharmacy Collect Scheme](#)
- have [home test kits from the NHS delivered to your home](#)



AWARD WINNERS

Well done to these amazing children for being our Spring Term award winners:

Reading: Logan, Charlie T, Thomas

Writing: Evie G, Faye, Ernie

Maths: Brooke, Barclay, Oliver

Platinum Award: Quinlan, Albie, Cerys

Always Club: Sophia, Reuben K, Leo

Well done to Exe House who won the house trophy this term.

We award effort prizes in Reading, Writing and Maths. We also recognise outstanding progress and achievement with our Platinum Award



50 50 RESULTS FOR APRIL

£50 prize to Mrs Liz Price-Holden

£20 prize to Mr Adrian Jordan

£10 prize to Mrs Sarah Bentley

BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION

Thank you to all parents who responded to the email regarding whether a breakfast or after school club would be useful. We are exploring the viability of setting up a breakfast club in the first instance. There will be further information coming to you over the weeks ahead, to see what your requirement would be. In order for us to provide any additional wrap around care, there must be enough interest, as there will be significant additional costs to the school. It is important that we start slowly to see what is needed and whether this can potentially work. I can see that this provision would really support some parents so we will consider these next steps carefully.



PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Please send in parent consultation requests via email to the school office. In case you missed it, we emailed a letter regarding these yesterday.

AND FINALLY

Online safety is incredibly important. We support the children in school during PSHE lessons but we also need parents to help in keeping children safe. We will provide parents with more information in our next newsletter about the National Online Safety programme we offer parents to engage with. Please read the Parent Guides we have emailed with this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Lorraine Curry



Always Club Winners are selected because they always do their best, help others, complete their tasks well, complete homework and always do the right thing. They receive a special treat and become part of the prestigious Always Club whilst they are at the school.

