

# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2022

## Half term already...

Well, where did the last seven weeks go? The first half of the Autumn Term has flown by and we are well and truly full of autumnal spirit!

Once again it has been a busy start to the year. There have been lots of wonderful learning opportunities for your children such as the Class 1 trip to Bovington Tank Museum to launch their topic on WW2; Class 2 have been to Forest School; Year 4, 5, and 6 visited the Farm Wise at Westpoint; we all went to Cofton Church for our Harvest celebration; M & M Productions performed Oliver Twist to the whole school and Year 6 completed Bikeability. We are always very grateful to the PFA who help to fund these events and pay towards the cost of tickets and travel for every child in the school over the academic year. It is very important we all support their work and events because without their financial contribution cost to families would be much more. We appreciate the difficulties faced by many in the current climate but if we can all support them in any way every little helps.

It has been lovely to see so many of you this week at our Parent Consultation meetings, of course our 'doors' are always open and if you want to discuss any aspect of your child's education please contact [admin@cockwoodschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@cockwoodschool.co.uk) and they will pass on your message to the relevant teacher. We are a partnership in your child's learning journey and we are always looking for ways to adapt and improve the quality of education we can offer; feedback is one way for us to move forward.

## WELCOME BACK

We are delighted to welcome back Mr Fenton to Class 2. Miss Godbeer will remain with us until Christmas to ensure there is a smooth transition for the children so as not to disrupt the learning.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Half term holiday- Mon-Fri

MONDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER

Non-pupil day

PFA Halloween Disco at Cofton

3-4.30pm £6.00 per child (to include food and a drink)

THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER

Class 1 Assembly –Village Hall 9.15am

WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Reading workshop after school, come and find out how to support your child when listening to them read.

FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

2pm Music in the Castle at Powderham Castle (letter to follow)

TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

We would like to invite Class 3 parents and carers to have lunch with their child, details will be sent out after half-term.

THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

School Council Bring and Buy Book sale after school. (details to follow)

THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Whole School Christmas Performance at The Langstone Cliff Hotel

THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christingle Service at Cofton Church

FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Christmas jumper day and last day of term.

### CLASS 1 COOKING WITH RATIONS

Following on from their visit to Bovington tank Museum, Class 1 were fascinated when they saw the amount of food people had to survive on during WW2. We were kindly donated some apples and we discussed how we could make them into something tasty using only rations. We found a recipe online for Apple Crumble, which the children followed. Here are a few photos of their expert cooking skills! The end product was really successful and the children took home individual portions to try with their families. Well done Class 1, a super effort.

### READING

We all know that reading is the key that unlocks **ALL** other learning and at Cockwood we have always aimed for every child to be immersed in books and leave us with a love of reading. Over the next few months we want to increase the importance of reading so that **EVERY** child is reading regularly with an adult at home, **EVERY** child is reading a wide range of texts and **EVERY** child is reading in all subjects. To support this we will be encouraging pupils to read with an adult 5 times a week, on a Friday morning we will check reading record books and a small reward will be given to those children making an effort to read at home. We will also be offering a workshop to discuss and demonstrate how to read effectively with your child – details will be sent out after half-term.

The School Council are planning to hold a 'Bring and Buy' book sale on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November and we will be looking for other ways to inspire and create a buzz around reading throughout our school. Please support us to support your child, reading is an essential priority and one in which we all have our part to play.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL AT COFTON CHURCH

We were delighted to come together for the Harvest Festival service at Cofton Church; the children were amazing and enjoyed sharing our Harvest songs with everyone. Our oldest pupils read beautifully the literary texts linked to Harvest and it was so wonderful to come together and take a moment to appreciate what we have and think about others less fortunate than ourselves.

In previous years we have only invited Foundation and Year 6 parents to this event but by limiting the number per family to one adult it meant that every child in the school had someone come to share this occasion. Thank you to those families who supported this. We have decided to avoid any confusion in the future we will issue tickets so everyone is very clear on how many can attend as the church is limited on space.

Many thanks for your donations for the food bank, they were gratefully received.



## GARDENING

We are delighted to welcome Sally Stoneman back into school as a volunteer helping us sort out our garden. For those of you who don't know Sally, she was our school cook for many years and has always had a strong link with both the school and the village. We welcome her expertise in gardening and our Year 1 children are working hard alongside Stanley in Year 6 to ensure our garden is bursting with flowers in the spring. So far they have planted snowdrops, tete-a-tete and crocus, along with some pansies for some winter colour.



## ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP

During October, Jonathan Taylor visited Cockwood, Kenton and Kenn Primary Schools to deliver online safety training to teachers, governors, and parents. Jonathan is a Social Media and Online Safety Consultant with over 23 years' experience in this field from his time served in the police force. Jonathan covered many interesting areas, including current problematic trends and apps, things to think about when using the internet, and also the positives that internet use can provide. The following considerations were particularly impactful:

**Think about your 'digital tattoo':** As soon as any individual has a device and begins to use it, information will start to be stored about that person (e.g. on their phone, on their games console, in search engines) This can never be erased, and could include posts you have 'liked', images you have searched, photos you have taken, etc. which could later be used by an organisation (e.g. university, prospective employer) to find out more about you. Try and create a positive 'brand' as soon as you start using devices in life, to create the profile and image that you would wish others to see.

**Teach your child healthy online practices:** From the age of around 10 help your child to start building up the skills they need to tackle the online world, from not making online friends who you don't know in real life, to turning off your GPS at home so that your location can't be tracked via your online activity. If you start passing on these sensible strategies to your child from a young age, after a few years of prompting you will have created a resilient individual, much more able to handle the challenging situations they will no doubt face online. If you leave this until they are already a teenager they are much less likely to take your advice on board.

**Get involved:** Don't bury your head or shelter your child from the realities of social media and the online world. Keep communicating with them, talking them through the issues so as to arm them to combat the challenges they will face.

Many thanks to those of you who were able to attend, and to Jonathan for his time. For further information please visit [onlinesafety4schools.co.uk](https://onlinesafety4schools.co.uk) for lots of useful information and resources. **Charlotte Wilkin, Governor**

## ATTENDANCE

Our current attendance for this term is 96.5%, there have been a few bugs going around and we must remember the importance of good hygiene, washing our hands and catching coughs and sneezes in a tissue. Please try and avoid taking your child out of school during term time as we can only authorise absence in exceptional cases and this may result in you being fined. Children are still catching up lost learning and we need to ensure they are here every day to make the most of their learning journey.

## YEAR 4,5,6 VISIT FARM WISE

Last week, Year 4,5 and 6 all went to the Farm Wise event at Westpoint, Exeter. They visited twelve different activity zones and enjoyed an interactive learning experience to 'touch, feel and smell' farming and understand how it links with food production and the environment within Devon. The children enjoyed a wide range of tasks including seeing how cows are milked; watching bees in a hive making honey; learning how to extract pumpkin juice; finding out how sausages are made and dissecting barn owl pellets to discover what they have been eating. This was a super learning opportunity and everyone came back really enthusiastic about what they had experienced throughout the day. Fabulous photos!



## TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk)

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3). Many thanks.

## TERM DATES FOR 2023/24

### Ivy Education Trust: 2023-24 Academic Year

	Sep-23					Oct-23					Nov-23				
Monday		4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Tuesday		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Wednesday		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Thursday		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
Sunday	3	10	17	24		8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	
	Dec-23					Jan-24					Feb-24				
Monday		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26
Tuesday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Wednesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Thursday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Sunday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
	Mar-24					Apr-24					May-24				
Monday		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27
Tuesday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28
Wednesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
Thursday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25	
Sunday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26	
	Jun-24					Jul-24					Aug-24				
Monday		3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26
Tuesday		4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Wednesday		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Thursday		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Friday		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Saturday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
Sunday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
key:	weekends					days outside Devon's school terms					Bank Holidays				
	Training days					Occasional days									
						Academy days									

### SEPTEMBER 50/50

1ST PRIZE £60- NICOLE BROOKS

2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE £25- JULIE BRISCOE

3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE- DEBBIE BARNES

### FINALLY....

*It leaves me just to wish you all a wonderful half term holiday, stay safe if you are out and about 'Trick or Treating', make sure you go with an adult and only visit the houses of people you know. Halloween can be a scary time for elderly people who live alone please be mindful of this. Don't forget we have a non-pupil day on Monday October 31<sup>st</sup>, so we will see you on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November.*

*Alison Roper*