

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tuesday 29th November, 2022

Let the festivities begin...

Halloween and Bonfire Night marked the start of a busy half term and we were very impressed with the range of amazing entries to our half-term reading challenge. Thank you to all the families who supported the PFA Halloween Disco, it is a super time for the children to dress up and enjoy the festivities in a safe environment. Our thanks also goes to the Jeffery family who hosted the event at Cofton. It is really important we all support the PFA events as this raises much needed funds to help pay for trips and resources to support learning. We appreciate things are difficult for lots of families in the current financial crisis, the PFA subsidise and support the school so we can take part in all the amazing opportunities that enhance your child's educational experience. We are not holding a Christmas Fair this year but we are doing a Grand Raffle and tombola. Tickets will be sent home shortly and if you are able to sell a few to family and friends, every penny counts. The raffle will take place after the Christmas Show at The Langstone Cliff Hotel on Thursday 8th December.

It was great to see so many of you at our coffee morning last Tuesday; we will continue to hold these each half term as it is a super way for parents, carers, governors, staff and Year 6 to get together for informal conversations about school related issues. Please keep an eye out for our next one in the New Year.

On Tuesday 15th November, we welcomed Class 3 families into school for lunch with their children. We had super feedback and lots of clean plates! Next term we will offer Class 2 parents and carers the chance to come and join us, date to be confirmed.

AUTUMN HALF TERM READING CHALLENGE



UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

Reading Workshop, **ALL** parents and carers welcome. Childcare will be provided. (approx. 40min)

Come and find out:

- how we assess your child in reading
- what can you do to help at home

TUESDAY 6TH DECMEBR

Year 5 Play-leader training on-site

THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS SHOW 4.30pm

At The Langstone Cliff Hotel

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Christingle at Cofton Church

Drop at church 9am – children will walk back to school

(we are not doing our usual carol service this year but instead we have been invited to take part in the Cofton Christingle service)

Foundation and Year 6 parents only

FRIDAY 16TH DECMEBER

Christmas jumper day.

Christmas dinner.

LAST DAY OF TERM

WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY

First day of term

THE CHOIR SING AT EXETER CATHEDRAL

Well done to Nate, Rebecca, Jasmine, Finley, Gianna, Rosie, Kleo, Faye and Miss Buttree who performed at Exeter Cathedral at the Teacher Rock Youth Choir event on Friday night. They sang in front of an audience of 500 people and delivered an excellent version of 'Somewhere Only We Know'. It was wonderful to see them join in with choirs from across Devon and perform 'Running Up That Hill', 'Fireflies' and 'When You Believe'.

Thank you to everyone who battled the traffic and the Christmas market to get their children there, your support is very much appreciated. It was a fabulous opportunity and thanks goes to Miss Buttree for getting us involved in this project.



BRING AND BUY BOOK SALE

We were delighted that so many of you attended the School Council Bring and Buy book sale held in Class 2 last week. It was such a wonderful way to ensure every child has access to a wide range of books from different authors and a variety of genres. Thank you to everyone who donated books and those that were left over at the end of the sale were all donated to local charity shops. Once children had swapped books the rest were sold for 10p each and the School Council raised £45.00, which they are going to donate to a worthy cause in the New Year.



CLASS 1 GRAND FINALE

Class 1 invited parents and carers to a Grand Finale to showcase their amazing Anderson Shelters they have been building as part of their WW2 topic. Pupils had to build their shelters so they could withstand water, weight and fit a Lego character; they all enjoyed testing and evaluating their builds and sharing their finished design.



READING

Across the school we are working hard to promote a love of books and reading. Alongside our Bring and Buy Book Sale, the children are trying to read at home five times a week to get a 'reading reward' on Fridays, this will continue until the end of term. We are continuing with our reading buddies within class and across the school. All staff are reading high-quality texts to the children to expose them to a range of authors and stories. In Class 3, they are really enjoying bringing in their favourite books and sharing with their friends.

Please try and attend our Reading Workshop in Class 1 after school tomorrow, we will provide childcare for children and we will aim to be finished by 4.15pm. Reading is the one thing everyone can do to support their child's learning journey and we want to give you the tools to help you, help your child.



SPORTING FIXTURES

Over the last few weeks, Year 3 & 4 and Year 5 & 6 have taken part in football tournaments against other local schools. We have also had a team attend a rugby event where they worked really well together as a team. Thank you to everyone taking part for their enthusiasm and great sportsmanship.



CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL

Year 6 and half of Year 5 have been enjoying weekly Forest School sessions at Methley Meadow this half term. They have embraced a range of forest craft activities including making apple fritters over the camp fire, carving wood to create wooden pendants, Nordic weaving and archery. The rest of Class 1 will have their Forest School sessions after February half term. Gin will be joining us through January to do some outdoor learning with our youngest children which will take place on the school site.



POWDERHAM CASTLE MYRIAD ENSEMBLE

A few weeks ago, Miss Buttree took a group of children to Powderham Castle for a musical performance by the London Myriad Ensemble. The ensemble included musicians playing the flute, oboe, bassoon and clarinet. The children listened to a range of musical pieces from The Pink Panther to Gershwin. They were able to find out about the musicians and their instruments and experience what it is like to be a composer. It was a super afternoon, in a spectacular location.



FINALLY

As the festive season is now upon us and the weeks begin to get busier and busier, please make time to appreciate each other and enjoy the wonder of this special time of year. We cannot wait to share our Christmas show with you and really look forward to the excitement building over the coming weeks.

We appreciate your continued support and as always our door is open if you need anything.

Alison Roper