

# MAY NEWSLETTER



COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

## And breathe...

It has been a very busy few weeks with KS2 SATs, the Class 3 trip to Paignton Zoo, the Geography field trip to Dawlish Warren, the choir performing at the Devon County show and Year 6 post-SAT's day out. Both pupils and staff alike are ready for a week's rest!

The Summer Term is always hectic and we still have lots organised to inspire and engage the children as we approach the end of the academic year. Class 1 are currently working on their 'Enterprise Project' and they plan to hold a summer fete on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, after school, to sell their wonderful products. Class 2 have a Science trip to the countryside park to work with a ranger to explore their locality and a Folk Music day planned. Year 3 and 4 children have been invited to 'camp out' with other pupils from across the Trust at Kenn School at the end of June, we are taking a group of children to Wimbledon to watch the tennis championships early in July and we also have sport's day to fit in!

A lot of the wonderful opportunities we provide are only made possible by the financial support and contributions we receive from the PFA, they help towards coaches, swimming and annually provide money for each child to facilitate class trips. The PFA are always looking for new people to come and get involved, to bring ideas, offer support at events or just volunteer to bake a cake or sell raffle tickets. Let's remember we are all here with one aim- to provide the best primary education and experiences we can for each and every child in the school. We all have a part to play and when school budgets are being squeezed we rely heavily on the excellent work the PFA does to ensure we do not have to limit the experiences we offer our pupils. Please come along to an informal meeting at Hope Church, after school on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 3.30pm**. We will provide childcare, come and have a cup of tea and see how you can do your bit to help our PFA. We will be discussing how we can raise funds for our new library back at Cockwood- what can you do to help?

## YEAR 6 SATS

We are incredibly proud of how well our current Year 6 coped with their recent SAT's exams, they all remained positive, focused and had a really mature approach to, what for some, find a challenging week.

Thank you to the staff who came and helped with SATs breakfast each morning as this really helped to get the children in the right mind space for the task ahead.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MON 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY- FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE

HALF TERM

TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Mindfulness Sessions with

Helen Wilson

WEDNESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

PFA meeting 3.30pm

THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Class 2 Science visit to the  
Countryside Park

MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Week beginning 12/6

Phonics Screening check

WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE

Class 2 Folk Music Day

THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE

Year 3 and 4 overnight camping  
at Kenn School

THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Choir sing for Hope Friends at  
Hope Church

THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Summer fete- 3.30-5pm

THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Wimbledon trip for Year 5/6

WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Year 6 and staff show at  
Langstone Cliff Hotel

## CHOIR SING AT THE DEVON COUNTY SHOW



The choir delighted crowds at the Devon County Show last Thursday, they performed for 30 minutes on the Radio Exe stage songs from Elton John 'Our Song', Coldplay 'Yellow' and an Abba medley.

It was such a super experience for the children and we really appreciated being invited to perform.

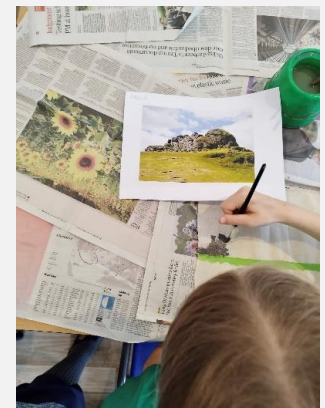
## YEAR 6 TRIP TO THE COUNTY SHOW

Year 6 had a fabulous post-SATS treat and went to the Devon County Show on Friday. They explored lots of the stands and met lots of animals!



## AMAZING ART ACROSS THE SCHOOL

This half term there has been a super range of artwork created in each class and the children are really enjoying experiencing art in all its forms. Class 1 have been fashion designers, Class 2 have been exploring cloth, acrylic paint and needlework to create images of Dartmoor and Class 3 have been experimenting with watercolour. Super work everyone!



## COCKWOOD SCARECROW

Our Cockwood scarecrow looked magnificent at the Devon County Show last week. Many of you went to visit him and we were delighted to be awarded two prizes of second and third place rosettes.

The scarecrow has now been donated to Farmwise and is making his way to a farm somewhere across Devon to scare those pesky crows!



## CLASS 3 TRIP TO PAIGNTON ZOO

This week Class 3 had a fantastic day at Paignton Zoo! They saw lots of animals and had a super workshop with Matt, the 'Zoo teacher', who taught them all about tigers, carnivores and the zoo's conservation and breeding program. The children were enthusiastic to find animals that are 'endangered' as they explored the zoo. This super trip has inspired the children to further their learning within our class topic of, 'Creatures Great and Small'. A big thank you to the PFA who contributed £500 towards this wonderful trip.



## DAWLISH WARREN GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

Pupils from Year 1- 6 thoroughly enjoyed a morning of Geography at Dawlish Warren a few weeks ago. It was fantastic to get the children out into the local environment doing 'hands on' Geography. They were using a range of skills from map reading, using compasses, creating field sketches and locating both human and physical features of the area. Thank you to Mrs Brewer for organising such a lovely morning.



## ATTENDANCE

Our attendance has improved slightly, overall for the year we are at 95.3% attendance, compared to 95.1% last month, which is encouraging. Please let us all work together to continue this positive trend. Remember we are unable to authorise absence unless it is exceptional circumstances.

## FINALLY...

*As this half term draws to a close, I thought I would give you an update on the building work at Cockwood School. There has been a few hiccups, as you would expect with an old building, however, the builders are working flat out and they have started to make progress on the new rooms upstairs. The staircase has been taken out of Class 2 and already the additional space looks amazing. We are now thinking ahead and trying to imagine what life will be like when we are back at school, we are working with the children to decide how we want our new library to look and how we want the non-fiction books zoned. This is all very exciting!*

*It just leaves me to say thank you for your on-going support, staff are all working flat out to ensure the learning has not been disrupted by the move and we appreciate it has not been without its logistical challenges, but the children and staff have been amazing and taken each day in their stride and for that I am incredibly grateful.*

*Have a lovely half term, the forecast looks promising and we will see you Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Don't forget Year 1 have Forest school first day back.*

*Alison Roper*

