

MARCH NEWSLETTER



COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday 28th, March, 2024

Happy Easter



It has been a very busy end to the Spring Term as you will see from the many events and photographs we have included in this newsletter. Pupils have had some wonderful opportunities during March including World Book Day, Gruffalo Day, Forest School, the Let's Dance Festival, the Powderham Castle Jazz Ensemble, Cross-country and a Year 5 and 6 football Impact Day.

We all loved the Class 2 assembly this week, finding out all about their topic, The Romans, and

it was super to go to Cofon Church and learn about the Easter story from our new vicar.

Alongside all of these events, pupils have been very busy in class. The Spring Term is always an important part of the school year, as Year 6 and Year 2 prepare for SATs and Year 4 work towards their Multiplication Check. Our youngest children are all making good progress in their phonics and we have been working closely with our Read, Write Inc. development partner to ensure we are delivering the best quality provision to support early reading.

Hopefully you were all able to join us for Parent's Consultations this week and it has given you a good insight into where your child currently sits on their learning journey. With one full term to go until the end of the academic year, it is crucial we keep the learning momentum going and keep focused on bringing out the best in each and every learner. Please ensure your child reads over the Easter holidays and staff will ensure they will bring home both a fiction and non-fiction book to share and enjoy with you over the two week break. Year 6 will also be supplied with two weeks Maths and Grammar homework which will keep them focused over the Easter holidays.

We have welcomed a new member of staff this month, Miss Pope, who will be based in Class 3 and we hope she settles very quickly into the Cockwood family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY 15TH APRIL

FIRST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

Forest School – Year 2 and 4 Class 2

TUE 16TH APRIL

Class 1 SWIMMING WEEK

Tuesday to Friday

TUESDAY 23RD MARCH

Class 2 SWIMMING WEEK

Tuesday to Friday

MONDAY 29TH APRIL

Class 2 Residential parent's meeting
3.35pm in Class 2 **CHANGE OF DATE**

WENESDAY 1ST MAY

Year 6 Turn the Tide project at Dawlish Library

FRIDAY 3RD MAY

PE Impact Day Year 3 and 4

MONDAY 13TH MAY

Year 6 SATS Week- details to follow

MONDAY 13TH MAY

Class 1 Residential parent's meeting
3.35pm in Class 1

FRIDAY 17TH MAY

Choir perform at the Devon County Show

LET'S DANCE FESTIVAL AT ASHBURTON

We were very proud of pupils from Class 1 who represented the school at the 'Let's Dance Festival' held at South Dartmoor Community College last week. The festival was organised as part of the primary sports partnership and invited both primary and secondary schools to participate.

Pupils worked alongside Mrs Wenman to create our routine called, 'Time Warp'. Our performance included a range of different dance styles from different periods in history. Our routine started with a homage to Pride and Prejudice, followed by an uplifting 1950's jive sequence. The dance then moved into the 'swinging 60s', with a little bit of Austin Powers thrown in, before stepping into modern day and a street dance to 'Feeling Hot, Hot , Hot'. Finally they all came together to do the 'Time Warp'.

Thank you to the staff who put together all the costumes and transported pupils to the venue. Thank you also to parents who came and supported the children on a very wet, dark and soggy evening- it was very much appreciated.

It was a wonderful evening and we hope to share the official photos and video with you shortly on the website.



SCIENCE CLUB

Pupils have really enjoyed various activities at Science Club over the Spring Term. It has been great seeing everyone really engage with practical science and their enthusiasm has been FANTASTIC!



FOREST SCHOOL YEAR 3

Year 3 had a great time at Forest School with Gin. They stencilled mandalas onto fabric, made clay mandalas, built campfires and cooked popcorn. They all had time to explore Methley Meadow, and enjoyed the freedom of playing outdoors.



CLASS 1 AND 2 RESIDENTIALS

We are delighted that both Class 1 and Class 2 have residential planned for the Summer Term. They both look to be very exciting and offer wider opportunities for our pupils to explore beyond our local community. Class 2 will be going to Hooke Court in West Dorset, where they will take part in various workshops including team building, kite making, a camp fire, fossil hunting and practical outdoor Science. Class 1 will be staying at the Youth Hostel in Earls Court, they will be visiting Windsor Castle, Wembley Stadium, Frameless, Legoland and seeing The Lion King. Don't forget we have parents' meetings for both residential where we will answer your questions and give you the final itinerary, the kit list and all the additional information you may need. If you have any personal concerns regarding either trip please get in touch via the school office. The Class 2 meeting has been pushed back a week to **MONDAY 29th APRIL at 3.40pm** and Class 1 is **MONDAY 13th MAY at 3.40pm**.

CROSS-COUNTRY AT STOVER

We were very proud of Otto, Wilbur and Callum, who took part in the 3K cross-country run this week around the grounds of Stover School. They completed a 4 week training programme to give them the stamina to take part and we hope to build on this with a running club after Easter.



EASTER SERVICE AT COFTON CHURCH



Thank you to everyone who came and joined us for our Easter Service yesterday at Cofton Church. It was a lovely service and great to meet Vicar Linda, who has been newly appointed to the Parish.

FOREST SCHOOL AND DANCE- SUMMER TERM

FYI- Monday 15th April (first day back) Year 3 and Class 3 will have Dance with Mrs Wenman.

Year 2 and 4 (Class 2) will be going to their second week of Forest School- please dress appropriately. We will put a reminder on X(Twitter), Instagram and Facebook on Sunday 14th April.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

Don't forget you can follow us on Instagram @cockwoodprimary X (formerly Twitter) @CockwoodPrimary and Facebook- search for Cockwood Primary School – look for our logo. The website is constantly updated and there is lots of useful information regarding our curriculum, diary dates and interesting posts about each class. If you haven't already downloaded the Tapestry app please do so, if you are having any issues come and ask for help.



<https://www.cockwood-primary.devon.sch.uk/>

YEAR 5/6 FOOTBALL IMPACT DAY



Well done to our Year 5/6 pupils who attended the football Impact Day last week at Starcross School. They practised a range of skills and techniques, alongside playing some games in a round robin. Their teamwork and sportsmanship was praised and their behaviour was excellent.

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance so far this year is still at 95.8%, the same as last month. This equates to 405 days of lost learning so far this year, which when divided by all the pupils means each child has been out of school 4.7 days- so almost a whole week! We need to work together to improve, if you are considering taking your child out of school during term time please ring the office and make an appointment to come in and talk to us.

Hopefully you received your child's attendance letter yesterday, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to get in touch after Easter. There has been a nasty virus and cough going through the classes and hopefully after the two week Easter break it will give everyone the chance to rest and come back to school in full health.

Our Attendance Improvement Officer is visiting the school in May and she will be looking at individual cases in detail and looking for ways we can work to improve attendance for all pupils.

WORLD BOOK DAY



We all enjoyed World Book Day, we welcomed the Dawlish Mayor, Cllr. Rosie Dawson, alongside Cllr. Martin Wrigley, who donated a range of books based on inspirational women, just in time for International Women's Day. Staff worked hard to ensure the new library was open and ready for use and every child spent a bit of time exploring our new space, learning how to scan their library books so they can borrow them and also how to return them. New librarians were appointed from Class 1 and they will work on a rota every morning to help pupils choose books and keep the library tidy.

Each class took part in lots of reading related activities including: a QR code treasure hunt, a book cover quiz, the masked reader challenge and lots of paired and shared reading time.



CLASS 3 GRUFFALO DAY



Class 3 enjoyed their outing to The Pavilions in Teignmouth with pupils from across the Trust primary schools watching a special screening of The Gruffalo. Within class this week they have been exploring the story further and doing lots of Gruffalo linked activities.

CLASS 2 ASSEMBLY



Class 2 entertained parents, pupils and staff this week with their class assembly. They presented a very special edition of Gogglebox with an unusual 'Roman twist'! The children performed clips from various, well-known programmes to show-case what they have been learning in school this term. There were clips from the BBC News, The Apprentice, This Morning, National Geographic and Time Team.

Alongside the wonderful drama and fantastic range of facts, pupils portrayed a battle in dance and sang a song about Boudica.

Every child had their chance to shine; the amount of lines some of them learnt was incredible and we were all very proud of this super assembly. Thank you to the Class 2 team for putting it together.

POWDERHAM JAZZ ENSEMBLE



Last Friday, Miss Buttree and Ms Winsor took a group of children from Class 2 to listen to a Jazz Ensemble at Powderham Castle. The children were enthralled by the group from the Wells Cathedral School lead by Mr Leaker; they learnt about groove, beat and improvisation. A fabulous afternoon and a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience live music in a fabulous setting.

Miss Buttree has signed us up for future musical events at the castle and we will take a different set of children next term.

ALWAYS CLUB- VUE CINEMA TREAT



Our 6 lucky Always Club Winners enjoyed a morning at The Vue in Exeter, watching the new Paw Patrol Movie. They were treated to popcorn and sweets and had a FAB time. Thank you to Ms Winsor and Miss Brown for taking them.

Who will be joining the Always Club this term?



50/50 CLUB

DECEMBER WINNERS

- 1st- £50 Neil Tindal
- 2nd -£25 Wayne Butler
- 3rd- £10 Mrs Hatherley

JANUARY WINNERS

- 1st- £50 Danielle Graham
- 2nd- £25 Neil Tindal
- 3rd- £10 Roy Barnes

If you would like to join our 50/50 lottery, to help raise funds for the school, please contact the school office. It is £2 a month to be in the draw. You can sign up for 6 or 12 months at a time.

RESULTS OF PARENTS SURVEY- AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Thank you to those parents that completed the survey with regards to running our own paid after- school provision from September 2024. We had 9 parents (12 children) interested in attending.

We will take on-board this feedback and look to see what we can offer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3.30pm-5.45pm. If you missed the survey but think you may also be interested in childcare for any of these three days please contact admin@cockwoodschool.co.uk so we can add you to the list.

TRUST MUSIC EVENT



Class 2 represented the school at the Ivy Education Trust music event at Newton Abbot College, they performed their own composition called, 'It's All About the View'. They worked with Pat and Elfyn from Sonopera over two afternoons to compose their own song, including the lyrics. It was a super event and we were very appreciative of parents coming to support in the audience and collect their children from Newton Abbot.

FINALLY...

It is quite incredible when you see everything we have done, in one month, in front of you in black and white! It never ceases to amaze me how lucky we are to have such a wonderful school community, from parents who have picked up their children from Ashburton or Newton Abbot, to staff who have given up their own time to make these things happen and, most importantly, the children for learning the lines, singing the songs, rehearsing dance routines, for being enthusiastic and willing to give things a go- on top of the normal day to day learning. We want all of our pupils to want to come to school and make the most of everything we can offer and this month EVERY child has had the chance to take part in an event. Well done, I am so proud of each and every one of you. Enjoy the Easter break and whatever your plans I hope the weather is kind and you get to enjoy some quality time with your family and friends over this long Bank Holiday weekend.

We will look forward to seeing you all on Monday 15th April.

Alison Roper

