

COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Issue 16

Friday 11th January 2019

A

TTENDANCE

Whole school target is 97%

	EYFS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Attendance %	98%	93%	96%	95%	97%	92%	97%

Whole School Attendance w/c
7th January 2019

96%

Attendance superstars
for this week

2S 98% / 4T 99%

It's been a busy week at school and I would like to commend all of our children for such a smooth and sensible return. Many seem to have grown up in just the two weeks that they have been away! Also, a warm welcome back to Miss O'Brien, our SENDCO, who has returned from a year's maternity leave. For the next few months, Miss O'Brien will be working three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday). It's a good time, at the start of a new year, for me to mention three useful reminders about our school expectations. First of all, a reminder that **school uniform** standards are not optional, this includes the need for proper school shoes and school sweatshirts. Mrs Tucker & Mrs Darby will always make respectful contact with parents of children not wearing school uniform, as it's non-negotiable for a school place at Cotteridge. Sometimes parents of children in Years 5&6 are unaware that children come to school in non uniform items, so for these, a phone call is particularly useful. Another reminder is about how seriously we view **safeguarding**. We have a statutory duty to refer all safeguarding concerns and will always do so. In order to raise the profile of our safeguarding in school, we are introducing a new regular feature to this newsletter entitled 'Safeguarding Update', which Mrs Burnett will use for regular communication. **Attendance** is another matter worthy of mention. Unfortunately, in 2018 there was a significant increase in the number of Cotteridge families who were fined by the Council for taking holiday in term time, or having general attendance of less than 90%. I am not allowed to authorise any holiday in term time and strongly urge parents not to make bookings in advance.

Reading continues to be a whole school priority and so I'm especially proud and excited to announce that all children in the Juniors are going to receive a personal gift next week. I don't believe there is another school in the land that is running such an incentive as the one we are going to introduce next week. Please read 'WE LOVE READING!!' for more information. Many thanks for your support as always, I wish all families a lovely weekend. Mr. Leonard

Diary Dates: January

- Mon 14 1P Parents' Reading Workshop (9.05am)
- Tue 15 Y6 Parents' SATS meeting (9.05am & 5pm)
Y6 Holdenby House Visit
- Wed 16 4J Class Assembly 9.05am
- Thu 17 1J Parents' Reading Workshop (9.05am)
- Mon 21 Y3 Egyptian Topic Museum Visit
- Wed 30 1P Class Assembly 9.15am

Term Dates 2018/19:

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th Jan - Friday 15th Feb

Half Term: Mon 18th - Fri 22nd Feb

Tuesday 26th Feb - Friday 12th April

Summer Term 2019

Monday 29th Apr - Friday 24th May

Half Term: Mon 27th - Fri 31st May

Monday 3rd June - Friday 19th July

Teacher Training Days

Monday 25th February 2019

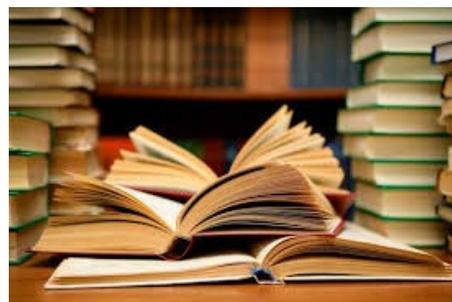
Monday 22nd July 2019

See the website for all dates

WE LOVE READING!!

Our whole school priority in 2019 continues to be encouraging reading for pleasure and also developing children's comprehension skills. The Accelerated Reader Programme continues to be hugely successful in doing this, as does Drop Everything And Read (DEAR). There is a sense of focus on reading as never before, with both children and staff always seeming to be talking about books and what they have read. This can only be a good thing and is at the heart of a quality primary school education! With this priority in mind we are delighted to announce two new initiatives to encourage children to explore books:

1. **Infant Library:** Children in the infants will now be able to access their library every morning during playtime. We are also going to extend after school opportunities so that the infant library will be open 3:15pm to 3:45pm on Mondays and Thursdays with immediate effect. Drop in and have a read!
2. A free gift for all children in the juniors!! Hopefully you are aware that we have a 'reading spine' running through the school. This means that half termly class novels are not left to chance or teachers' favourites, but instead are carefully selected and planned to ensure that children are exposed to a wide diet of high quality reading whilst at Cotteridge. If you look on your child's class page on the school website, you will see the book that their teacher will be reading with them this term. Often these books are the focus of much work and discussion during a half term. We are delighted to say that from now on we are going to issue each child with a personal copy of the book, **to keep!** This means that over their time in the Juniors, they will build up their own collection of quality texts, which hopefully they will cherish and value forever. During the half term when the book is being used in class, children will be encouraged to bring their personal copy into school every day, but after that the book is theirs.



ILL CHILDREN

If your child is ill, please notify our school by telephone or in person to the school office by 9 am on the first day of absence and on subsequent days if your child is still unwell.



PTA Update

£986 was raised from the Christmas Grotto and raffle. Thank you to everyone for your contribution.

Right of the Week:

Article 16 Chosen by Year 6 UNICEF ambassadors Taya 6PE and Abbie 6G. Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect the child's private, family and home life.



dads

Dads' Week will soon be here and we are delighted by the number of responses that we have received. As a school we want to make it absolutely clear that we truly appreciate working moms. Many of our moms have extremely high profile and demanding jobs in which they are successful, at the same time as raising wonderful children. In fact, most of the school governors, senior leaders and staff are successful working moms. Nevertheless it is a fact that 'dads' as a group, (whether working or not) sometimes feel less confident about coming into school and are under represented at school events. Of course we also acknowledge that many of you dads are in school regularly and give us great support in many ways. Hopefully as a community we have lots of different activities throughout the year to include everyone. The children are always at the heart of everything that we do, and last year it brought much joy to many children to have their dad or close male family member join them in school. We have arranged some really great workshops and are really looking forward to what should be a fantastic week. Hopefully we'll see you dads and friends there!

Safeguarding Update:

Cotteridge Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Children.



Check this page each week for safeguarding updates and our Early Help Offer.

- The Safeguarding policy is available on the school website and is updated annually .
- Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Debbie Kaya and Safeguarding Lead in School is Mrs Zoe Burnett.
- Please ensure that the school has your up to date mobile phone number.