



COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Issue 14

Friday 18th December 2020

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ATTENDANCE

Whole School Target is 97%

	EYFS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Attendance %	97%	95%	97%	97%	95%	97%	95%

AUTUMN TERM ATTENDANCE

Whole School Attendance: 96%



Attendance Superstars For This Term: RD 98%

Seasons' Greetings – A Message from Mr Willetts

2020 has been... interesting, to say the least! As I write this, I find myself thinking back to the year and what we have endured and achieved! Throughout that time, we were proud to remain open every day for those families and children who needed us the most. Whilst this time would never fully substitute for the time that our children missed in education, we hope that everyone recognised the sense of normality we tried to achieve throughout this period in order to ensure children could access a high quality of education.

I think it's important to pause and reflect about what we have learned and how we have grown. We tend to do this at this time of year anyway. However, I am certain that the past months have taught us unforgettable lessons and in many ways, will enable schools to become even better places in the future.

This time last year, it would have been incomprehensible to most school leaders that lessons would be taught remotely and children could learn at home through the use of technology. The technology of course did exist, however all of us have had to adapt swiftly to learn to teach and live within a digital world. We are proud of what we achieved when our 3 bubbles closed and the way in which the children interacted with their teachers.

Technology also meant that we were able to share our delightful Christmas Showcases with our families all around the world this year. We had family members log in from as far afield as New Zealand and Mauritius and all over the United Kingdom. I know that this was a magical moment for many people and we are so proud to have been able to facilitate that to happen. Where there is a will there's a way!

I think that most powerfully of all, this past year has reaffirmed to me just how crucial a positive and open relationship between home and school really is. Throughout this whole crisis, we have tried to ensure that parents and carers have been well informed and supported. We have genuinely appreciated the feedback and also the overwhelming comments of thanks that we have received for what we have done to ensure that our children have been able to return to their learning safely and for the extensive efforts we are making to ensure that they can all 'catch-up' if required. Despite the challenges we have all faced, our children have still been able to achieve some wonderful things. In case you don't already, please take the time to follow us on Twitter to see all of the latest information. As a final thought, it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge that together, whilst we have not yet overcome the test we face in the wider world, as a trinity of staff, parents and children, we are able to achieve absolutely anything to allow our children to succeed, something that all at Cotteridge Primary wholeheartedly believe.

For now, and on behalf of us all here at Cotteridge Primary, I want to wish you a peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year! Stay safe and healthy! We look forward to welcoming all of our children back to school on Monday 4th January 2021. *Jason Willetts*



Follow Cotteridge Primary School on Twitter where we will share and celebrate children's achievements, successes, events and school updates.

Positive Covid-19 Cases Over Christmas

As part of the recent Government announcement, School Leaders were informed that they needed to be available “on call” for the first six days of the holiday. We have a responsibility to support Public Health with contact tracing for positive cases where a child or member of staff has spent any time in school in the 48 hours before the onset of symptoms. This means that once we have broken up today, the 18th December, and a child displays symptoms this Saturday or Sunday, it is important that you inform us. We then have a duty to contact any identified close contacts and instruct them to self-isolate for 10 days.

Please use the form on our website if your child receives a positive test result and they displayed symptoms on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December. If your child tests positive, but symptoms did not begin until Monday 21st December, you do not need to notify school but the household must isolate for 10 days from the first sign of symptoms.

You can find the online reporting form at: www.cotteridgeprimary.co.uk > Parents > Covid 19 Information and Home Learning > Covid 19 School Contact Forms > then click on the option for reporting a positive test result.

Return to School in January

With the relaxed rules for all tiers over the Christmas period, from 22nd to 27th December, to enable families to enjoy a Christmas which is as close to normal as possible, there is likely to be a spike in cases in January. To avoid the potential significant impact on learning, it is very important that no child returns to school if they are displaying any Covid related symptoms, or are unwell in any way. A test should be arranged if they display any of these symptoms:

- A new, continuous cough
- A high temperature, specifically over 37.8 degrees
- A loss of taste and/or smell
- Birmingham City Council website states that “children may also display gastrointestinal symptoms”

There are other symptoms linked to coronavirus but these are the most prevalent ones. If you have any doubt at all, then please keep your child at home and arrange for them to be tested. If they then receive a negative result they can return to school when they are well enough.

School PTA

We can now reveal that we made £162 from our Christmas Bingo, which puts our total fundraising income for the year at £1,126 since September! This is just incredible considering the lack of face to face events, so thank you so much for your support. If you have any suggestions for PTA spends or fundraising next year, please get in touch at Cotteridgepta@gmail.com

We hope the children enjoyed the Panto and we wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year! See you in January x

House Points Competition

We are pleased to say that Cadbury House won last week's House Points Competition and enjoyed an extra playtime as their reward. Well done to all children in Cadbury House!



School Money Payments

Please could all parents log in to their School Money accounts over the Christmas Holiday to see if they owe any dinner money or wrap around care fees. If you do, please can you ensure that this is cleared before Monday 4th January 2021. Thank you.



You are never alone!

We want you to know that we are still here for everyone in our school community. If you are struggling in any way, be it with school work, behaviour or providing food for your family, please feel free to contact us at school on **0121 464 2865** or email us on:

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z.burnett@cotridge.bham.sch.uk or
k.lacey@cotridge.bham.sch.uk