



# COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 3

Friday 25th September 2020

I have been so impressed with the children at Cotteridge this week, who continue to be curious to learn and be kind to each other without being the slightest bit distracted as restrictions of the world around them change again. As teachers, we feel privileged to be here to provide a sense of normality for your children every day so that they can learn amongst their friends.

Thank you for your continued co-operation with the wearing of face coverings for drop-off and collection at the beginning and end of the school day. Please could we remind you that it is one adult per family for these drop-offs and collections, to reduce the number of people on the playground at any one time. Today, each child will come home with a poster design sheet for a house competition we are running across school. Their task is to design a poster, thanking parents and carers for following our social distancing rules in the playground. The winners' posters will be displayed outside school.

School has been as busy as ever this week. Children in Key Stage 1 and 2 have been working hard to produce some lovely pieces of writing based on the texts they are reading in English. Year 2 have been planning and writing their own stories based on 'The Flower' while Year 4 have written some fantastic letters in response to their text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter.' Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring Stoneage artefacts as part of their topic and Year 1 hosted their very own teddy bear's picnic on Monday as part of their 'Where We Learn and Play' topic. A great time was had by all.

Looking ahead, we have a Reception parent Zoom meeting next Thursday 1st October. This will be on the teaching of early reading at Cotteridge. Reception parents should have been sent a link for this meeting which will start at 5pm. We hope to see you all virtually then!

Have a lovely weekend everybody, *Mrs Darby*

### **You are not 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:

[j.willetts@cotridge.bham.sch.uk](mailto:j.willetts@cotridge.bham.sch.uk)  
[z.burnett@cotridge.bham.sch.uk](mailto:z.burnett@cotridge.bham.sch.uk) or  
[k.lacey@cotridge.bham.sch.uk](mailto:k.lacey@cotridge.bham.sch.uk)

### **Dates for your diary**

- ◆ Thurs 1st Oct: Reception Parent Zoom meeting
- ◆ Fri 2nd Oct: House competition deadline
- ◆ w/c 12th Oct for 2 weeks: Parents' Evening
- ◆ Fri 16th Oct: Flu Vaccine
- ◆ Mon 30th Nov: Nursery photos

### **Teacher Training Days:**

- ◆ Monday 2nd November 2020
- ◆ Thursday 1st April 2021
- ◆ Friday 28th May 2021

### **Playground Pick Up**

**Please use the one way system. In through the carpark gate, out through the two pedestrian gates.**

**It is appreciated if all adults on the playground wear a mask.**

**Please follow social distancing guidelines, keeping 2m apart at all times.**

**Only one adult for each family – we are trying to keep adult numbers on the playground as low as possible.**

**Children in Year 6 can meet their parents in the infant playground. Please just let the teacher know.**

**Please don't let children play on the playground equipment at home time. This means extra cleaning for us and we're trying to keep the children's bubbles separate.**



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

### Food Bank

We are now running our food bank again to support families in our community who are currently in need.

If you would like to take advantage of our food bank and our community's generosity please get in touch with Mrs Burnett or Mrs Smith and they can ensure that you are supported. Please do not feel ashamed to ask for help - these are unprecedented times and we are all here to help!

A donation box will be placed by the exit gates each day for any donations of non perishable foods and toiletries.

The food bank was a huge success before we broke up and during the summer holidays—thank you everyone!



### Parents' Evening

#### Autumn 2020

Due to the current restrictions around Covid-19 we've had to be inventive with how we conduct this year's Parents' Evenings. This year, instead of Parents/

Carers selecting a day and time to attend school to see their child's class teacher, you will instead be able to select a day and time for your child's class teacher to call you. Your 10 minute telephone appointment slots will be bookable by you on the Teachers 2 Parents website. You should have had your text message from us asking you to book your appointment. If not, please contact us.



Don't forget  
parents  
evening!

### Guidance for families on Covid-19 and illness.

If your child or someone in your household has any **one** of the following:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

it is important that you do not attend school and stay at home. You should arrange for a coronavirus test and tell the school the test results. Please let the school know the reason for your child's absence.

To book a test call 111 or 119 or go online by searching: NHS get a coronavirus test.

Our local test centre is at the University of Birmingham or a test can be posted to your home address.

If you are unsure what to do, please call either Mrs Burnett or Miss Lacey on 0121 464 2865.

Until we have the results of the test, your child(ren) will be unable to return to school.

Please note, if you have more than one child at school, even if only one child is displaying symptoms, all children must remain off school until the child displaying symptoms has received a negative test result. Alternatively, the child with symptoms may quarantine for 10 days whilst the rest of the household should quarantine for 14 days.

Children should not return to school if they feel unwell. This is even if they have had a negative test result.

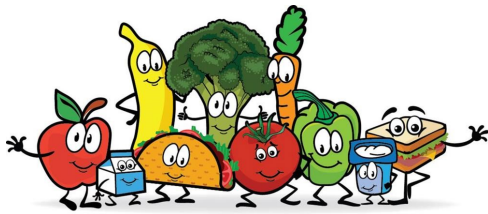
If your child has a fever, they should not return to school until their temperature has been normal for 48 hours.

In the event of a positive test result, please call the school office and ask to speak to Mr Willetts or Miss Lacey as soon as you are able.

We understand this is a complicated situation, please feel free to discuss any questions with us.

### KS1 Free School Meals Taster

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October we are providing a school dinner food tasting opportunity for children in the infants who usually have a packed lunch. All children will have the opportunity to have a school dinner or even just part of a school dinner. (For example they might just like the look of the pudding.) **Children will not be placed under any pressure at all to eat the food;** the purpose of the exercise is purely to allow children to see what is on offer. It is your right to access a free school dinner if you choose and so it might be good for your children to see the amazing food that is now on offer. **Please still provide your child with a packed lunch on the day if you wish** so that they can revert to this if the school dinner does not appeal to them.



### Older Siblings Collecting Children From School

Please be aware that older siblings from Year 10 upwards only are able to collect children from school.

### Online Interactions

As children are becoming more confident using technology, recently there have been a couple of minor incidents and we would just like to remind you to check who your children are speaking to online and to remind them about stranger danger. We will also be doing this in school.



### Flu Vaccine

Our school immunisation team have confirmed that they will be coming into school on Friday 16th October 2020 to administer the flu vaccine to our Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children. Consent forms will be sent out next week. Please could you return your completed consent as soon as practicable, even if you are giving negative consent. Thank you.

### Head Boy and Head Girl

Today, we have appointed our first ever Head Boy and Head Girl! We had 15 applications from children in Year 6. After completing an application form and attending an interview, Olivia was selected as Head Girl and Cairo as Head Boy. Well done to both of you, you should be really proud of your achievement!



### Whole School Attendance

We have been really impressed with our school attendance for this term so far, despite the challenges we have faced recently. Here are our attendance figures from 3rd September to 24th September 2020:

RB—94%	RD—99%
1P—94%	1H—95%
2B—96%	2S—96%
3B—97%	3A—96%
4T—91%	4B—93%
5S—95%	5PE—94%
6H—95%	6A—95%



### Uniform Donations

If anyone has any spare Reception age ( ages 4-5 and 5-6) school uniform at home that they no longer want, but is in good condition, please could you consider donating it to school. We are especially in need of boys' trousers! Thank you!