



# COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 8

Friday 6th November 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 %	96%	94%	97%	97%	96%	98%	93%

From Friday 23rd October to Thursday 5th November inclusive

Whole School Attendance: 96%



Attendance Superstars For This Week: 2B 100%

I hope that you are keeping well and staying safe during these challenging times and that you all had a good half term. The children have come back very well this week despite uncertainty in our world surrounding Lockdown. Can I assure you that we will continue to do the very best that we can to reduce the risks associated with Covid so that we give all of our school community, the children, the staff and the parents the best chance of staying healthy. We have tightened up a few internal procedures in school but these are solely with regard to staff and will have no direct impact on the children.

Unfortunately, due to the Lockdown I have very, very reluctantly had to cancel Forest School sessions at the Park and postpone our Diversity Week. Diversity Week was beginning to take shape and I was so excited about the plans but for it to have the maximum impact, the sessions, talks and workshops need to be held face to face and not virtually. At this time there is no way I could justify having so many people into our school during a 'Lockdown' week. The plans are simply now on hold and hopefully in the next week or so we will announce the date for a new Diversity week in 2021.

Next week, we have a Remembrance event on Wednesday and a fun day planned for Children In Need on Friday. More details of the Children In Need event can be found elsewhere on this newsletter.

We can get through this together. Let's all follow the rules, help each other and show kindness and compassion even though we are all feeling the strain at times. The strength of our community needs to continue to shine! *Jason Willetts*

### 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:

[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)

### 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.

### Diary Dates

#### November 2020

Fri 13th Children In Need  
 Mon 30th Nursery Photos  
 w/c 30th Diversity Week—POSTPONED

#### December 2020

Wed 16th Christmas Dinner

#### Teacher Training Days:

Thursday 1st April 2021  
 Friday 28th May 2021



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

## Christmas Showcases

This year we will be unable to do any form of Nativity play or performances, as we usually do, because the 3 Wise Men face a travel ban, the shepherds have been furloughed and the Inn Keeper is shut because of Lockdown 2.0.

Therefore as a result we will be doing Christmas Showcases where each class will perform via Zoom for 5 minutes, singing Christmas songs etc. Parents will get Zoom invites so that they can watch the classes perform from home. This way, at least we can still have some form of Christmas celebration this year.

There will be 2 performances for the children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 on Tuesday 15th December at 1:45pm and on Thursday 17th December at 10am.

Children in Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 2 will perform their showcases on Tuesday 15th December at 10am and then on Thursday 17th December at 1:30pm. Please note that the Nursery children will only be performing once, on the Tuesday morning.

Further details regarding Zoom logins for these Showcases will be sent out in the coming weeks.



## Guidance for families on Covid-19 and illness for children at school.

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. 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.**

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

Whilst children are isolating, they are able to access work online. Please head to our school website, under 'Parents' then 'Covid 19' for guidance.

**REMINDER: To report a child's absence due to Covid, please report this via the online form on our school website. There are two forms—one for reporting an absence due to displaying symptoms and awaiting a test/ test results and one for reporting an absence due to receiving a positive test result. This new system will enable parents and carers to contact school quickly. This means that you can contact us at any time with this information, including when school is closed.**

**When you submit a form, an alert will go to the senior leadership team who will seek advice and take the recommended actions.**

## School Video and Question and Answer Sessions for Prospective Parents

As we are unable to hold our open sessions for prospective Reception parents in the usual way this year, we have made a video about the school which is now on our website and we will be hosting several virtual question and answer sessions. These sessions will be held on Zoom, the link for which are also on our website. These question and answer sessions will be an opportunity for prospective parents to ask questions of members of our Senior Leadership Team and our Early Years Phase Leader.



## School PTA

We are very grateful to the school community for all of the used uniform donations. Unfortunately, Covid and another lockdown have again got in the way of our plans to sort through the items and to hold uniform sales.

Until further notice, could you please either hang on to any used items you wish to donate, or donate emblem-free items to Rubery Swap Shop. We hope to be able to resume sales soon. In other news, we made a whopping £290.50 for non-uniform day before half term, which is £100 more than we made in February!! That is fantastic and we could not be more grateful for your support of the PTA, so thank you very much! If you would like to get involved with the PTA, please contact us at [cotteridgepta@gmail.com](mailto:cotteridgepta@gmail.com).

## GBNFC Christmas Cooking Workshop

**forward steps**  
The best start for our children

**Christmas Cooking Via Zoom**

**5 weeks**  
**Tues 10th Nov - 8th December**  
**10.00 am - 11.30am**

**All food will be delivered to you FREE!**

You must have a child aged 2-5 years old that will join in with the cooking.

You will need basic cooking equipment, oven and a microwave.

For more info and to book please call **0121 464 4189**

The Springfield Project  
Believe in children Barnsley

## Children In Need Day—Friday 13th November

Next week is Children In Need day and to celebrate this and raise money for this good cause we are asking children to make a donation of at least 50p to wear their uniforms with a spotty accessory. This could be socks, tights, hairbands etc. Also in the afternoon, they will get a cup of hot chocolate and a biscuit whilst they watch, via Zoom, members of staff compete in funny competitive challenges on their behalf, to win treats kindly donated by Toby's Treats in Cotteridge.

Nursery children will get their Hot Chocolate in the morning and they will have a Children in Need themed session.

Unfortunately, this day does clash with the Year 3 visit from Portals from the Past. Therefore the Year 3 children will not watch the challenges but will have a Hot Chocolate and biscuit at some point in their day.

We will collect donations, as we did for our recent non-uniform day, in buckets as the children enter the school grounds on the morning of the 13th. It should be a fun day!



## The Cotteridge Code

Children will respect those working in our building by walking quietly in corridors and on stairs.

We will use the one way system around school in the junior building.

Whether on the playground or in classrooms, children will line up in register order.

In Key stage 2, when invited to do so by an adult, children will take their seat in the classroom.

**We will keep to our playtime playground whether that is the infant playground, junior playground or the social area.**

We are always friendly and show respect to others and their property.

We always listen carefully to others and follow instructions first time.

We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

**We will use our own stationery packs sensibly.**

We are always ready to learn, using our time wisely and working hard at all times.

We will not use bad language.

*Every child has the right to learn in a positive and supportive classroom with their learning not disrupted by others.*

## Preparing for home learning

In the event of a Year group bubble closing due to a positive case of Covid-19 and to begin home learning using BGFL365, we are asking parents with an Apple device to download the BGFL365 App which includes a camera icon. Children in Years 1,2 and 3 will complete any home learning in their Home Learning Book. Once logged in with your child's details (found in the front of home learning books) parents will then be able to take a photograph which will be automatically be uploaded into your child's individual file.

Parents with an Android device will need to type [login.bgfl365.uk](http://login.bgfl365.uk) into a web browser, log in using their child's details (in the front of their home learning book). Click on My Files, Upload Files, Choose Files and camera. The photo of your child's work will appear in the My Files folder for the teacher to give feedback.

## Home Learning Book

In September, all children brought home a Home Learning Book in the event of **self isolation** due to a family member or close contact testing positive or if they are **awaiting test results**.



If your child is absent for either of these reasons, please follow the link below to the Oak National Academy website. In each year group from Reception to Year 6 there are lessons that your child can complete into their Home Learning Book and bring into school to be marked by their teacher.

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/schedule-by-year>