



COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Issue 9

Friday 13th November 2020

A

ATTENDANCE

Whole School Target is 97%

| | EYFS | YEAR 1 | YEAR 2 | YEAR 3 | YEAR 4 | YEAR 5 | YEAR 6 |
|--------------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Attendance % | 95% | 94% | 95% | 98% | 93% | 98% | 95% |

From Friday 6th November to Thursday 12th November inclusive

Whole School Attendance: 95%



Attendance Superstars For This Week: 3A and 5PE 99%

Hello Everyone,

Although the first week of national lockdown is coming to a close, we've had an especially busy week in school. This week, the children will have noticed that adults are wearing masks much more in the school buildings as we respond to national guidelines from government.

Wednesday was an emotional day for us. Mr Willetts explained the significance of Remembrance Day during the morning's assembly and then at 11:00am the names of those associated with the school who lost their lives in World War 1 were read out. The Head Boy and Head Girl laid a wreath at the memorial, which is outside of Year 6. I was impressed with the children's behaviour across the school as they showed respect to those who lost their lives. There are some photos of the day on Twitter and on the website.

Today it is Children in Need! Thank you so much for the money raised, which will be greatly appreciated by the charity. This afternoon we have had a fun packed time with a competition between EYFS/KS1 and KS2 staff. I am sure the children will be able to tell you who the winners are - when this newsletter went to press, it was still undecided! All children have had a hot chocolate and biscuit with the winning phase also having a prize from Toby's treats.

Next Monday, it's Anti-bullying Day. We're asking staff and children to wear odd socks in recognition of this important issue. There will be lessons and assemblies on bullying throughout the week.

Have a relaxing weekend, *Miss Lacey*.

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

Mon 16th Anti bullying day—odd socks

Mon 30th Nursery Photos

December 2020

Tue 15th EYFS & KS1 Xmas Showcase 10am.
KS2 Xmas Showcase 1:45pm

Wed 16th Christmas Dinner

Thu 17th KS2 Xmas Showcase 10am. EYFS and
KS1 Xmas Showcase 1:45pm (changed)

Teacher Training Days:

Thursday 1st April 2021

Friday 28th May 2021

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

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

k.lacey@cotridge.bham.sch.uk



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 1:45pm (changed from 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

The children have been busy creating lovely Christmas cards, which, this year, is going to be our main Winter fundraiser as we are unable to hold our usual Christmas fair. Therefore, we will be asking for orders and payments by next Friday 20th November. The cards and order details will be going out on Monday. If you would like to get in touch with or even join the PTA, please contact us at cotteridgepta@gmail.com.



Anti-Bullying Day

Monday 16th November is Anti-Bullying Day. We are asking all children and staff to come to school wearing odd socks to help raise awareness and to celebrate what makes us all unique. The children will also be watching an assembly on bullying and will be talking about this important subject in their PSHE lessons.



Ex Cathedra Story Making Competition. Let's Make A Story...

Ex Cathedra are running a story making competition to help bring singing play to sick children in hospital and have asked schools to take part. If your child would like to write a story, then please visit <https://excathedra.co.uk/education-participation/singing-medicine/lets-make-a-story/> and watch the short video, depending on whether your child is in KS1 or KS2, for details. Entry is open to children in Year 1 and 2 (Group A), 3 and 4 (Group B) and 5 and 6 (Group C). Children can write a fictional word story (no more than 500 words in length), picture story or a combination of both. Please send your entries in to school no later than Friday 20th November so they can be judged and submitted by 27th November. Please note, parental permission is required, so if your child brings in a piece of writing, this will be treated as confirmation that you consent for your child to take part. We are really looking forward to reading all of the lovely stories that our children will come up with!



Parking

We know it is difficult with lockdown and more local residents being at home, but please can we remind our parents to be really considerate when parking in the local streets. We have had numerous complaints made to the school this week about the way in which some parents are parking.



Parent Governor vacancy

An email went out this week requesting nominations for a new Parent Governor. If you would like to stand for election, please may we remind you that the closing date for applications is Monday 23rd November. If you would like a printed version of the application form, please telephone the school office who can arrange for one to be sent to you via your child.

Christmas Cards and Last Day Of Term

This year, we will have to do things a little differently with regards Christmas cards. Children can bring in Christmas cards between 1st and 15th December only for children in their Year Group. Each class will have their own small post box for the children to post their cards into. The cards will then be quarantined for 2 days and will be given out during the last day of term – Friday 18th December. You will also recall that normally we would close for the Christmas holidays at 1:30pm. However, as the children have already missed so much school this year, we felt it would not be appropriate to finish early this time so, on Friday 18th December, school will be closing at the normal time. Afterschool Club will also be available as normal on this day.



Punctuality

Some children are arriving late to school REGULARLY. We understand that occasionally things happen which are out of your control, but some are being quite persistent with their lateness. Any amount of time missed in the classroom is detrimental to their progress, and especially now that the children have already missed so much time from school due to the lockdown. Please can all Parents/ Carers ensure that their children arrive to school on time every day. Also, some children are regularly being picked up late from school. Please can you also ensure that you are also on time to collect your child at the end of each day.

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 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>