



# COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 19

Friday 4th February 2022

Class	Turt	Dolph	1EB	1SB	2JP	2PE	3A	3B	4C	4T	5H	5S	6A	6P	Whole School
Attendance %	88.3	90.6	94.3	90.0	94.7	97.7	95.3	94.0	77.0	84.9	81.2	97.9	94.0	89.2	90.6

From Friday 28th January to Thursday 3rd February 2022 inclusive

Target: 97%

January can often be a very challenging month at the best of times : the days are often grey and cold and the evening descends on us far too quickly, covering us in hours of darkness. I have been heartened throughout this last month, by the spirit of our community. Despite the ongoing challenges of Covid-19, our children and staff have worked together to ensure that our spirit of integrity, respect and compassion permeates our actions.

Teachers and support staff have been valiant in their attempts to minimise disruptions to learning; likewise staff across all levels of the school work hard day in and day out to ensure our site remains safe, clean and welcoming. Children's attendance has been affected by the Omicron variant, that has swept the country. It is now certainly getting back to our usual good levels. Let's not underestimate the importance of attendance. Children learn best when they are here at school with us and we know that achievement, progress and final outcomes are affected greatly by poor attendance and poor punctuality.

Our enrichment opportunities such as Lego, Musical Theatre, Boxercise, Little Kickers, Chess, German and music tuition have continued to take place on a weekly basis and it is great to see so many children making the most of all of the opportunities on offer.

At half term we will be saying a temporary goodbye to Miss Bloomer who is leaving us to begin her maternity leave. Whilst she is away, the class will be taught by Miss Islam who will be joining us until the Summer break. I trust that you will make her very welcome as she works with the children, Mr Patchett and Mrs Barrett in 1EB.

Talking of babies, I don't think I ever updated you about Miss O'Brien and her baby—I apologise! Just before Christmas, Miss O'Brien gave birth to a lovely, baby girl called Agnes. Both mother and baby are now thriving!

Have a lovely weekend!

Jason Willetts.

## Diary Dates 2022

### February 2022

- Mon 7 Final 5H Swimming Lesson and Parents' Evening
- Wed 9 Parents' Evening
- Fri 11 Reception and Yr6 Height and Weight—School Nurses
- Mon 14 4T Start Swimming Lessons
- Fri 18 Last Day—Half Term
- Mon 28 All Children Return to School—Spring Term 2

### March 2022

- Thur 3 Yr4 Trip Botanical Gardens
- Wed 9 Yr5 Trip Commandery Centre, Worcestershire
- Thur 10 Yr2 Trip Twycross Zoo
- Mon 18 Yr5 Trip Open Centre, Derby

### April 2022

- Mon 4 Yr3 Trip Open Centre, Derby and Yr1 Trip West Midlands' Safari Park
- Fri 8 Last Day—Easter Holiday
- Tue 26 All Children Return to School—Summer Term 1

### Teacher Training Days:

- Monday 25th April 2022
- Monday 6th June 2022
- Friday 22nd July 2022 school closed for Queen's Jubilee additional bank holiday for schools

## Parents' Evenings

Reminder: All appointments next week are by phone and not Teams. Teachers will ring you at your allotted time. The call will be from a withheld number, so please answer.



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

Achieving Excellence

Inspiring Dreams

## Absences From School

Please can we remind parents/carers that they MUST contact the school office if their child is absent from school. You can call us on 0121 464 2865 and select option 1 to leave a message on the absence line. Please do this before 9am on the first day of absence. Parents/carers must then continue to contact school every morning with an update until their child's return. The exception to this is if they are isolating due to Covid, in which case you will only need to inform us on their first day of absence. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



## Sickness Bug

As if we all haven't got enough to cope with at the moment (Covid), now we seem to have the beginnings of a sickness bug in school. If your child is sick please keep them at home until at least 48 hours after their last episode of sickness. Please see the message above about contacting school in the event of a child's absence.



## Netball

Netball Player of the Week: Chloe 4T!



## Meet The Staff

- **Name:** Ms N Drinkwater
- **Role in School:** Specialist Teacher for Modern Foreign Languages
- **Years at Cotteridge:** 8
- **Hobbies:** Travel, walking and cycling
- **Favourite Book:** I'm currently reading Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel—it's about Henry VIII, brilliant but very long
- **Any Pets?:** A giant African land snail named Mog
- **Favourite Place Ever Visited:** The Picos de Europa mountain range in northern Spain, it's incredibly beautiful!



## Forest School Volunteers Wanted

Can you volunteer to support Years 1 and 2 at Forest School? Volunteers are needed on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays afternoons (doesn't need to be every week).

No skills or experience necessary - but you do need to enjoy being outdoors.

You get to have fun in the park for a couple of hours. Also, if you are interested in learning more, there are opportunities to gain a forest school qualification. If you would be interested in this volunteering opportunity, please email: [info@cotteridgepark.org.uk](mailto:info@cotteridgepark.org.uk).



## Year 6 and Reception Height and Weight Measurements

This is a reminder that the School Nurse Team are planning on attending school next Friday 11th February to measure the heights and weights of the children in Reception and Year 6. If you do not want your child's height and weight measured, please contact us in the office so we can give a list of 'opt outs' to the nurses when they arrive. Thank You.



## Food Bank

We are still running our Food Bank to support our families. With so many families isolating last week, more parcels than ever have gone out. As a result, we are now running very low on stock. Please could we ask for any donations of non perishable food items, drinks, toiletries and household goods, so we can continue to support our families as much as possible.

Thank You very much to those who have sent something in already, as always, we have been amazed by your generosity!

