

COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



15th May 2026

Message from the Headteacher

At Cotteridge Primary School, we believe that diversity is not something to be tolerated – it is something to be celebrated. Our differences make us stronger, richer and more vibrant as a school community, and next week we have a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate this.

World Diversity Day – Thursday 21st May

While this year isn't our bi-annual Diversity Week in May, we are marking World Diversity Day on Thursday 21st May with special activities throughout the week that celebrate the unique qualities, backgrounds and perspectives that each member of our school family brings.

What's Happening Next Week?

Monday: Anti-Racism Assembly and Celebrating Differences

We'll be having conversations about race and racism as part of being actively anti-racist. This assembly will help our children understand that:

- We celebrate the different ethnic groups in our school and the different identities or countries of origin within our school community – including staff and families
- Everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity
- Our differences are not just something to celebrate – we'll also be honest about the challenges, talking to pupils about the fact that racism sadly exists
- We all have a responsibility to stand up against discrimination and show respect for others

Friday 22nd May: "Dress to Express" Non-Uniform Day

This is where we really get to see the wonderful diversity of our school shine! We're inviting all staff and children to wear clothes that express who they are. This could be:

- Outfits from their home culture or heritage
- Colours that represent their personality
- Clothing that reflects their interests, hobbies or what makes them unique
- Traditional dress that has special meaning to their family

The key message is simple: be yourself, be proud, and celebrate what makes you special.

In our current world, it can sometimes feel like differences divide us. But at Cotteridge Primary School, we want our children to lead the way in showing how we should act. We talk openly about the different ethnic groups in our school and celebrate the different identities or countries of origin within our school community, because race is an important part of people's history and identity.

We teach our children that they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and the importance of respecting others, including those who are different (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices, or have different preferences or beliefs.

Our children learn every day that kindness, respect and understanding are not just words – they are actions. When they see their friends wearing clothes from different cultures, speaking different languages at home, or celebrating different traditions, they learn that our world is beautifully diverse and that this diversity enriches all of our lives.

How You Can Support at Home

- Talk to your child about what "Dress to Express" means to them
- Help them choose an outfit that genuinely represents who they are
- Share stories about your own family heritage, culture or traditions
- Discuss why it's important to respect and celebrate differences
- Talk with your children about the similarities and differences between people in an open, positive way

We're incredibly proud of the inclusive, respectful community we've built at Cotteridge Primary School. Next week's celebrations are just one example of how we live our values every single day.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us raise children who will make our world a kinder, more understanding place.

Have a great weekend

Jason Willetts



Dates For Your Diary



May

Mon 18th Sports Day attempt 1 **CANCELLED**

Fri 22nd Diversity Day - Dress to express

Mon 25th - Fri 29th HALF TERM

All children return to school Monday 1st June

June

Mon 1st Everyone return to school

Tues 2nd Class photos

Weds 3rd Yr6 Residential trip depart

Thurs 4th Reception trip to Wythall Transport Museum

Fri 5th Yr6 Residential trip return

EYFS and KS1 PTA discos

Mon 8th Book Fair week starts

Thurs 11th Yr5 and 6 RSE parents meeting 4 - 4:30pm

Fri 12th Yr6 trip to Symphony Hall - parents to collect at 7pm

PTA non uniform day

Mon 15th Sports Day Take 2

Yr6 catch up swimming week one. Selected students

Tues 16th New Reception Parents' meeting 4pm

Thurs 18th Fathers' Day activities day one

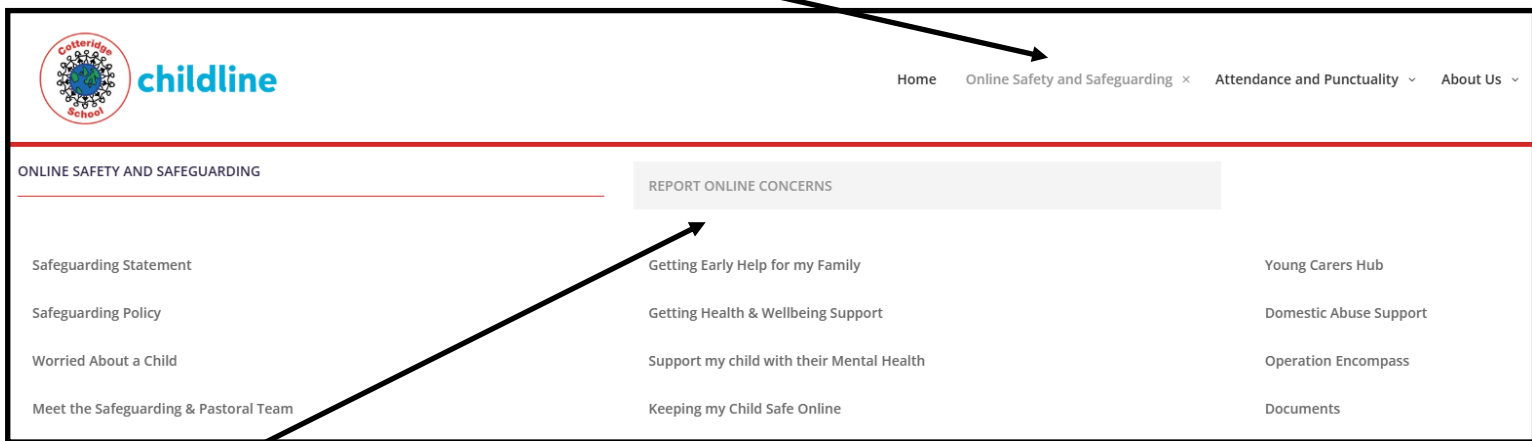
New Nursery Parents' meeting 4pm

Fri 19th Yr1 trip to Black Country Museum

School website insight

In response to our parental online safety questionnaire, our school website now directs you to websites if you need to report online abuse or concerns.

1. Click on the online safety tab



2. Click on report online concerns

3. Report using the relevant online reporting tool

Report Online Concerns



Report concerns or inappropriate online use about children at Cotteridge directly to the DSLs.

Attendance Matters



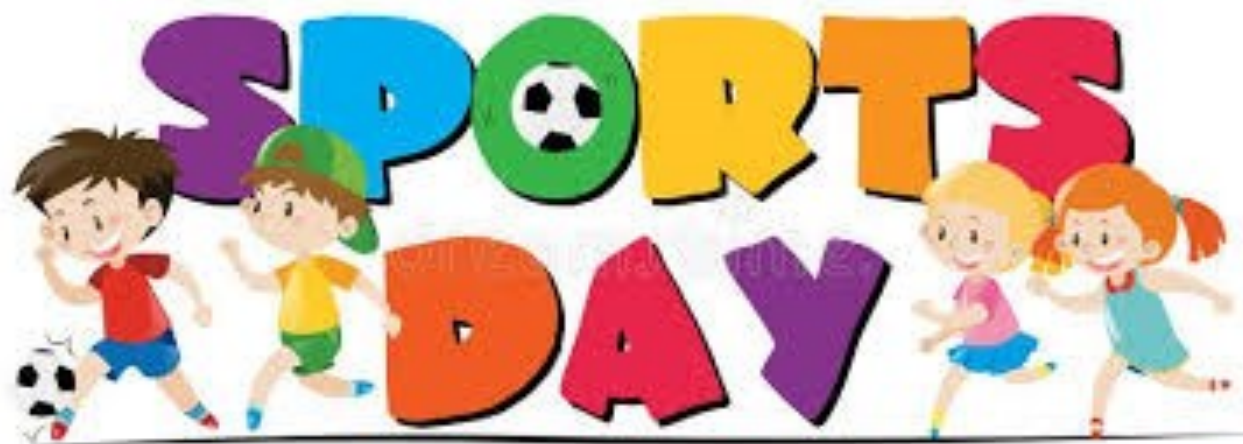
Friday 1st to Thursday 14th May 2026

Turtles	96.9
Dolphins	98.7
1BD	97.6
1BH	94.2
2N	97.8
2W	97.2
3B	99.1
3T	90.2
4A	98.0
4D	99.6
5N	97.6
5A	98.1
6S	98.2
6A	97.6



Whole School this
fortnight : 97.2%

TARGET : 96%



Monday 18th May

CANCELLED!

Due to the weather forecast.

This has been rescheduled for Monday 15th
June.

Diversity Day



Dress to Express!



Friday 22nd May



The idea of this is that the children can wear what they want to, in order to express themselves, their backgrounds, their culture or their personalities. Children might want to wear clothes which would usually be worn in their home countries, they might want to wear clothes which reflect their personality or their hobbies. Anything goes that day, and we want to celebrate the uniqueness of every child and the wonderful diversity we have at Cotteridge.

Diversity is a strength of our school, and

our differences should not be something we tolerate but something which we celebrate!!!



ARE YOU MISSING OUT ?



**FREE SCHOOL MEALS
ARE CHANGING FROM
SEPTEMBER 2026.**

CHECK YOUR CHILD'S
ENTITLEMENT NOW FOR
NEXT YEAR.

OVER 500,000
MORE CHILDREN WILL
BE ELIGIBLE.



AVAILABLE TO ALL FAMILIES
RECEIVING UNIVERSAL CREDIT.

Class Photos

On Tuesday 2nd June, our school photographers will be in school to take class photos and Year 6 graduation photos.

Please could all children be wearing the correct uniform on this day. If it is their birthday on that

Tuesday, please could they wear their own clothes on the Monday or Wednesday instead?

Thank you.



Mental Health Awareness Week

This week, we are recognising Mental Health Awareness Week and encouraging everyone to think about their wellbeing. Mental health can change day to day, so it's important we take small, positive steps to support ourselves and each other. Our children will continue to enjoy using *My Happy Minds*, helping them to better understand their feelings, build resilience, and feel comfortable asking for help when they need it.

♥ Supporting Your Child at Home

There are lots of small, simple things that can make a big difference to children's wellbeing:

Make time to talk each day – a simple check-in such as “What was your best part of the day?”

Listen without judgement – sometimes children just need to feel heard

Keep routines consistent – especially around bedtime and mornings

Encourage movement and fresh air – even a short walk can help

Create a calm space at home – for quiet time, reading, or relaxing

Praise effort rather than outcome – building confidence and resilience

🌈 Simple Strategies for Children

You might also want to remind your child of some simple ways to help themselves:

- Talk to a trusted adult
- Take slow, calm breaths
- Spend time outside or being active
- Take short breaks when feeling overwhelmed
- Name how they are feeling
- Show kindness to others



☎ Support and Guidance

If you or your child needs additional support, the following services are available:

Immediate help:

Emergency services: **999**

NHS: **111 (select option 2 for mental health support)**

Children and young people:

Childline: **0800 1111 (24/7)**

Text support (free & confidential):

Text **SHOUT to 85258**

Parents and carers:

YoungMinds Helpline: **0808 802 5544**

Local Birmingham support:

Forward Thinking Birmingham (0–25): **0300 300 0099**

Birmingham Healthy Minds: **0121 301 2525**

If you are worried about a child:

NSPCC Helpline: **0808 800 5000**



💬 We are here to listen, support and help ♥

If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact us.

May's Themed Dinner

If your child would like a themed dinner on this day, simply book a dinner as normal for Thursday 21st May.

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

THE FIFA WORLD GOVERNING BODY OF FOOTBALL WAS FOUNDED ON THIS DAY IN 1904. SO LET'S START THE COUNTDOWN TO THE FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 !!! 18 DAYS AND COUNTING !!!!!!!

JOIN US FOR SOME FOOTBALL FAVOURITES FROM OUR LOCAL FOOTBALL STADIUMS

COME ON ENGLAND

BAGGIES BALTI PIE
A SLICE OF HOME MADE CHICKEN OR QUORN (V) BALTI PIE

BIRMINGHAM CITY SMALL FRY
ST ANDREWS TRADITIONAL FISH AND CHIPS

THE PRINCE WILLIAM ASTON VILLA SMASH BURGER
HOME MADE CHEESY SMASHED BEEF OR QUORN (V) BURGER

THE OLD GOLD PUD
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS POPCORN ROCKY ROAD

ACCOMPANIMENTS
POMME NOISETTE FOOTBALLS, CHIPPED POTATOES, CORN AND PEAS, BAKED BEANS

ENJOY OUR SPECIAL MENU TO HAVE THE CHANCE OF WINNING A FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 PRIZE

THURSDAY 21ST MAY

COOMBS
CATERING PARTNERSHIP



Father's Day



Activities

Here is advanced warning of the dates and times of the Father's Day activities in case any dads/significant men in your child's life who would like to attend, need to book time off work. Each session will last approximately 45 minutes:

Thursday 18th June 2026

9.10am	Year 6 classes
10.05am	Year 4 classes
11.00am	Year 1 classes
2.00pm	Year 5 classes

Friday 19th June 2025

9.10am	Nursery and Year 3 classes
10.05am	Reception classes
2:00pm	Year 2 Classes

VOLUNTEER STEWARDS NEEDED

Help your school street stay safe and welcoming at the start and end of the school day

We need your help with:

- Putting out and putting away the cones that highlight the street being closed.
- Welcoming families on their way to school.
- Being a positive and welcoming person

Join our friendly team of parents

Just 45 mins a week - either 8.30-9.15 or 2.45 - 3.30pm.

!Free Breakfast/after school club spaces available for the times that you are a steward!



"Stewarding is a nice way to meet people and it's great to see children playing before the gates open"
S, a parent and steward

More information :

Email the school office enquiry@cotridge.bham.sch.uk or speak to a steward on the street!

Food Bank Donations

We are beginning to run out of some things in our food bank, so wanted to reach out to our wonderful school community to see if anyone would be willing to donate any of the following items:

- ⇒ Pasta
- ⇒ Pasta sauces
- ⇒ Curry sauces
- ⇒ Rice
- ⇒ Casserole sauces



Of course, we would always be grateful for anything else that you can think of that would be good to donate too.

If you would like anything from our food bank, please speak with Mrs Burnett.

Poem By Peggy

Year 5 have been working hard on including figurative language to create an image for the reader. Here is one chosen by Mrs Andrews to showcase the wonderful work they have been doing.

This poem was written by Peggy in 5A and is inspired by a poem by Valerie Bloom called 'The River'.

The Forest

The forest is a queen,
Don't cut her down.
She's dying slowly,
About to lose her crown.

The forest is a sanctuary,
With towering trees.
Breathing life into earth,
Along with some stingless bees.

The forest is a large beast,
Better bring your compass,
Many, many animals.
Making a right rumpus.

The forest is a protector,
She needs time to live.
Don't cut her down,
She has more to give.





Netball News

Players of the Week:

Monday 4th - No netball

Thursday 7th - Matilda 5A

Monday 11th - Amelie 3T

Upcoming matches:

- Tues 23rd June - All day tournament, Billesley

End of Year Netball Presentation:

Thursday 9th July 3:30 - 4:15pm in the school hall. Light refreshments will be provided. There will not be a netball session on this day.

PSHE Lessons

After the May half term, in our PSHE lessons, we will be covering:

Changing Me

This subject deals with change of many types, from growing from young to old, becoming a teenager, assertiveness, puberty, self-respect and safeguarding. Each year group thinks about looking ahead, moving year groups or the transition to secondary school and how to cope positively with such changes. Life cycles and human reproduction are taught in some year groups at the school's discretion. Jigsaw has produced a separate leaflet explaining the approach taken with Relationships and Sex Education. Your child's school can make this available to you on request.

Possible discussions at home

- What can I do now that I couldn't do when I was younger?
- How have I changed since last school year?
- What changes are coming up for me? i.e. new year group, Secondary school and how can I manage them well?





TUESDAYS 4-6PM

CHESS & BOARD GAMES

Bring your board games,
dungeons and chess sets,
Beginners very welcome - chess
helpers will be available

UNDER 14S NEED
PARENTAL CONSENT

FROM 5 MAY



Water Safety

On Holiday

An average of 82 UK citizens drown each year whilst abroad.

Whether holidaying abroad, or at home in the UK and Ireland, follow these basic principles to help ensure your family stays safe whilst having fun in, on or around water.

Please click the link below:

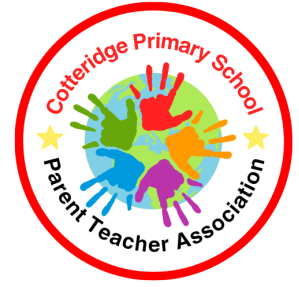
[Water Safety on Holiday | Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK \)](#)



ROYAL
LIFE SAVING
SOCIETY UK



PTA News



Dates for Your Diary (details coming soon):

Friday 5th June - EYFS and KS1 Disco
Friday 12th June - PTA Non-Uniform Day
Friday 19th June - KS2 Disco

Please note: discos will continue depending on whether we get enough interest and volunteers to help supervise

Uniform Sale

We will be holding a pre-loved uniform next Friday 22nd May afternoon at the Den.

Please NO donations at this time.

NEW - Tea Towels

The children in Reception and Year 6 helped create a tea towel design by drawing a portrait of themselves.

If you would like to purchase one of these wonderful keepsakes, they are now on sale for £6.50 on Classlist. You have until Friday 22nd May (8 p.m.) to get your orders in.

Proofs are available to view on Classlist.

Stikins

Stikins is a website where you can purchase labels for your child's belongings.

By quoting "5083", you will be helping us raise money for our PTA through a commission.

www.stikins.co.uk

Easy Fundraising

Easy Fundraising is a website/app where you can purchase items from over 7000 brands, and a small donation will go to the cause of your choice. This does not cost you any extra: the donation is covered by the brand.

Cotteridge Primary School PTA is a searchable cause on the website. It is quick and easy to sign up at:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

When searching, select "find a cause" then type "Cotteridge Primary School PTA."

Birmingham Community Lottery

Birmingham community lottery is an exciting weekly lottery that raises money for good causes in Birmingham. Cotteridge Primary School PTA is part of the community lottery. We can benefit from you playing and will receive at least 50% from every £1 from the tickets, with 10% also going to other causes within Birmingham. Each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win.

Each ticket has six numbers (each between 0 and 9.) There will be a draw every Saturday night at 8pm. Prizes will be given to players with tickets that match the first or last 2 to 6 numbers from the winning combination. Match all six and you win the jackpot of £25,000!

To find out more information and sign up, visit:

www.Birminghamcommunitylottery.co.uk

Contact details

Email: Cotteridgepta@gmail.com



**CHILDCARE
FROM JUST
£3.20 PER
HOUR**



MAY

HOLIDAY CLUBS



**ST ALBANS CATHOLIC PRIMARY,
KINGS HEATH, B14 5AL
TUESDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 29TH MAY**

**£22.50 9AM-4PM (5-11 YEAR OLDS)
£14.00 9AM-1PM (4 YEAR OLDS)
CURRENTLY AWAITING OFSTED REGISTRATION**

**PRICE CHANGES COME INTO EFFECT:
£23.50 FROM MON 27TH APRIL
£24.50 FROM MON 4TH MAY**

**SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.PREMIER-EDUCATION.COM/HOLIDAY-CAMPS**



Book today
premier-education.com





Mrs Tucker
Assistant
Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mr Willetts
Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mrs Burnett
Pastoral
Manager
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

Mrs Timmins
SENDCo

Mrs Smith
Learning
Mentor

Mr Adam
Jarvis
Safeguarding
Governor



Our Safeguarding Team are always here to help!

Out of school hours, if you are concerned about a child, please contact Birmingham Children's Trust on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, always dial 999.

If you have any concerns about a child our safeguarding team are always here to help. You can contact them during school hours on 0121 464 2865 / enquiry@cotridge.bham.sch.uk. Alternatively, you can find them in the playground areas during the morning drop off and afternoon pick up times. Outside of school hours, if you are concerned about a child, please contact Birmingham Children's Trust on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, always dial 999.

How Can We Help You?

If you are unsure about any information or require more assistance about your child, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

If you require further support, please contact one of our Assistant Head Teachers: Mrs Darby for Nursery to Year 2, or Mrs Tucker for Years 3 to 6.

Mrs Pickering Ernst is currently on maternity leave.

If your query is then still not resolved, please contact Mr Willetts.



Mrs Darby
Assistant Head
EYFS / KS1



Mrs Pickering Ernst
Assistant Head
Years 3 and 4



Mrs Tucker
Assistant Head
Years 5 and 6