

COTTERIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

16th January 2026



Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

Happy New Year to all our families! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful break and that last week's snow was a delightful treat for the children – let's hope Mother Nature has got it out of her system now and we can look forward to a slightly less frosty and snowy spring term!

As we step into 2026, I'm optimistic that this year will build on the tremendous success we achieved in 2025. Our pupils, staff, and families worked incredibly hard last year, and the results speak for themselves.

Celebrating Our 2025 Achievements

I'm delighted to share some highlights from our 2025 results, which demonstrate the outstanding progress our pupils are making:

Key Stage 2 Results

Our Year 6 pupils achieved exceptional results, particularly in mathematics where **88% of pupils reached the expected standard** – significantly above the national average of 74%. Our disadvantaged pupils excelled too, with **84% reaching the expected standard in maths** compared to just 61% nationally.

Reading and writing results were strong, with **76% and 75%** of pupils respectively reaching expected standards. The combined reading, writing and maths result of **68%** was above the national average of 62%.

Early Years and Phonics

Our youngest learners made fantastic progress. **75% of children achieved a Good Level of Development** in the Early Years, compared to 68% nationally. In Year 1 phonics, an impressive **93% of pupils passed the screening check** – 13% above the national average.

Narrowing the Gap

I'm particularly proud of how we're supporting our disadvantaged pupils. Results show consistent improvement over three years, with gaps narrowing in reading, writing, and grammar. Our disadvantaged pupils are now performing well above national averages in several areas.

These results reflect the dedication of our staff, the hard work of our pupils, and the invaluable support from you, our families. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Here's to making 2026 even more successful!



Dates For Your Diary



January 2026

Mon 5th - All children return to school

Thurs 8th - Nursery class Toni's Tots Drama 9:15 - 10:15am

Fri 9th - KS2 PTA disco (tickets for sale on Classlist App)

Mon 12th - Yr6 parents' SATs meeting

Tues 13th - Nursery storyteller visit - in school

Thurs 15th - Turtles class Toni's Tots Drama 9:15 - 10:15am

Fri 16th - Yr2 Florence Nightingale visit - in school

Thurs 22nd - Dolphins class Toni's Tots Drama 9:15 - 10:15am

Thurs 29th - Nursery class Toni's Tots Drama 9:15 - 10:15am and NO NETBALL TODAY - MRS SMITH NOT IN SCHOOL

February

Thurs 5th - 1BD trip to Lapworth Museum and Turtles class Toni's Tots 9:15am - 10:15am

Fri 6th - 1BH trip to Lapworth Museum and FINAL YR6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP PAYMENT DUE

Mon 9th - 5A start weekly swimming lessons and Yr3 trip to Mosque and Buddhist Centre

Thurs 12th - Dolphins class Toni's Tots Drama 9:15 - 10:15am

Fri 13th - PTA Non school uniform day and Yr6 Learning Share 2:30pm

Save the Date:

**Thursday 12th March 2026 at 7pm
in the KS2 Hall**



Keeping Children Safe Online Parent Workshop

Watch This Short Video to find out what the session will cover:

<https://safetynet.skipseducational.org/parents-cotteridge-school-assembly/>

**Worried about what your child/ren are doing online?
Are you aware of the dangers?**

This 60-minute face to face session is hard hitting and will:

- **raise your awareness to the good, the bad and the ugly of the Internet and what children are doing online.**
- **highlight the real dangers children are unknowingly at risk of when they're using the Internet, social media, gaming and more.**
- **equip you with the confidence, knowledge and tools to help keep your child safe online.**

Online Safety Spring Term

Project Evolve

Self-Image and Identity

Our Online Safety unit this half term is all about self-image and identity. We will be discussing topics such as our online identity and how media can impact on stereotypes.

Use the scenario cards below to start a conversation with your child about self-image and identity.

Self-image and identity

Early Years - 7

What would you do?



- 'No'
- 'please stop'
- 'I'll tell'
- 'I'll ask'



Self-image and identity

Early Years - 7

Watching a funny video 	Seeing a picture you weren't expecting 	Seeing an unkind message 	
Playing your favourite game Play again	Seeing a picture of something sad 	Getting a message from someone new NEW MESSAGE	
Searching for something online Search	Having a pop-up appear Allow "GameParadise" to access your location while you use the app? Don't Allow Allow	Getting to a new level in a game Level 27	
Losing in a game GAME OVER Sorry you hit the ship, want to play again?	Having a new video start playing straight away 	Getting to try something new NEW	

Key

Happy =

Sad =

Worried =

Scared =

Excited =

Add colour codes to the key

Challenge - Come up with your own examples of things which make you feel happy, sad, worried, scared or excited online.



Self-image and identity

Ages 7-11

If you saw something upsetting online, would you do any of the following?

(Tick all that apply)

- Tell a friend
- Tell a parent, carer or family member
- Tell a teacher
- Tell another trusted adult
- Report to the app, game or site
- Report to the Police
- Ignore it
- I don't know what I would do
- Other



Self-image and identity

Ages 7-11

If you saw something upsetting online, would any of the following stop you telling a grown-up?

(Tick all that apply)

- They might take away my device, stop me using the app, game or site or cut down my screentime
- They might monitor more what I do online, follow me online or check my device
- They might overreact or be angry with me
- They might tell someone else
- I don't know what they would do (& that would worry me)
- I just need to toughen up
- I might get someone else in trouble
- None of these
- Other



Attendance Matters



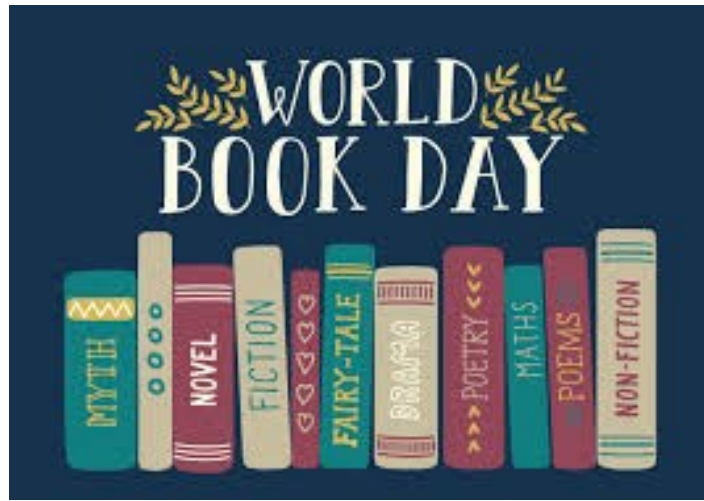
Monday 5th to Thursday 15th January 2026

Turtles	94.0
Dolphins	98.1
1BD	93.8
1BH	97.9
2N	97.3
2W	95.5
3B	97.5
3T	95.4
4A	93.4
4D	98.3
5N	97.9
5A	96.0
6S	93.1
6A	92.6



Whole School this
fortnight : 95.8%

TARGET : 96%



Advance Warning

We're excited to announce that **World Book Day is coming up on Thursday 5th March**, and we'd love to see children dressed as their favourite book characters!

We want to make this as stress-free as possible for families, so please don't feel you need to rush out and buy an expensive costume. In fact, **homemade costumes are often the most creative and memorable!**

Here are some easy ideas to get you started:

Classic characters using everyday items:

- **Harry Potter** – black clothes, round glasses (or make some from card), a striped scarf
- **The Cat in the Hat** – striped top, black trousers, and a homemade tall hat from card
- **Matilda** – blue dress or cardigan with a book in hand
- **Where's Wally?** – red and white striped top, jeans, and glasses
- **Gangsta Granny** – dressing gown, slippers, and grey hair (talcum powder works well!)

Character accessories:

- Add cat ears and whiskers for characters like the Cheshire Cat
 - A cape can transform any outfit into a superhero from your child's favourite book
- Face paint can help bring characters to life

Find More Ideas Online:

There are brilliant resources online with step-by-step guides for easy book character costumes. Try searching for:

- "Easy World Book Day costumes"
- "Homemade book character costumes"
- "No-sew World Book Day ideas"


Pinterest and parenting websites often have fantastic tutorials using items you'll already have at home.

The Most Important Thing is for children to celebrate their love of reading and have fun! Whether your child comes dressed in an elaborate costume or simply carries their favourite book, what matters most is their enthusiasm and participation.

We can't wait to see all the wonderful characters on the day!

Dolphins Class Thursday

Next Week!


Free  **Free**

www.tonistotsdrama.co.uk

TONI'S TOTS DRAMA

Parents/carers, please join us for a fun-filled hour of adventure, full of music, movement, role play, puppets and craft, all with imaginative play at its heart.

9.15-10.15am in KS1 Hall
Nursery-8th/29th Jan
Turtles-15th Jan/5th Feb
Dolphins-22nd Jan/12th Feb



Free **Free**

Important Reminder: Drop-off and Collection Times

To keep everyone safe and avoid congestion around our school site, please remember to follow our one-way system during peak times:

Drop-off: 8.45am – 9.00am

Collection: 3.00pm – 3.30pm

- **Enter** via the car park gates
- **Exit** via the main pedestrian gate



We've noticed that when people try to enter through the pedestrian gates during these busy times, it can cause significant congestion, particularly for families with pushchairs and prams. This creates safety concerns for everyone.

This system is in place for everybody's safety – please help us by following it carefully.

If friends or family members collect your children, please share this information with them so they can follow the same system.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe.





Netball News

Players of the Week

Monday 5th - Millie 4D

Thursday 8th - Kaytie 5A

Monday 12th - Leah 3T

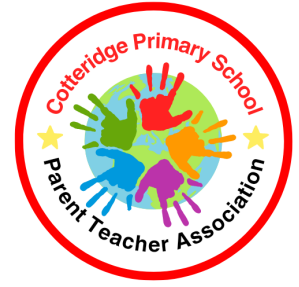
Thursday 15th - Matilda 5A

REMINDER - There is no netball on Thursday 29th January as Mrs Smith is not in school.





PTA News



Rescheduled KS2 Disco

Tickets for KS2 are ON SALE NOW on Classlist at £3 per child.

Friday 30th January

(4:30 – 5:30) – Year 3 and 4

(5:30 – 6:30) – Year 5 and 6

If your child is in afterschool club, please inform the afterschool club staff that your child will be going to the disco. Staff will bring the children on their list over to the disco.

If your child wants to go to the disco but you feel they may struggle with the noise, please consider bringing their noise cancelling headphones (if they have any) or reconsidering as it can be loud.

****We require parent volunteers to help supervise the Discos to ensure we meet the appropriate adult to child ratio. If we don't get enough volunteers, then this disco will be cancelled. You can sign up when purchasing tickets on Classlist. ****

PTA Non-Uniform Day

Friday 13th February - non uniform in exchange for £1.

Bag2School - Next Collection

Next collection date is Friday 1st May 2026.

Please, bring the pre-loved items you wish to donate in tied up black bags from Monday 27th April.

Donations

NO UNIFORM ITEMS AT THIS TIME PLEASE.

Next Meeting - Thursday 26th February at 7:30pm via Zoom video link.

Contact details

Email: Cotteridgepta@gmail.com

Free



Free

www.tonistotsdrama.co.uk

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Free

Free

Free Courses!

Allens Croft Road, B14 6RP
0121 443 3310
brandwoodcentre.co.uk

Future Health



Take the first step towards a healthier, more informed you!

This course is perfect for anyone looking to improve their own health knowledge and support others to do the same. Gain recognised qualifications, build confidence, and become a positive influence in your community.

0121 443 3310

alison@brandwoodcentre.co.uk

157 Allens Croft
Road, Kings
Heath, B14 6RP

Starting on Friday 27 February 2026 every Friday
9.30am - 4.30pm for 5 weeks

Level 1 Health Awareness

Level 1 Nutrition

Level 2 Emotional Wellbeing (2 days)

Level 2 Encouraging Physical Activity



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