

# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 23rd September, 2022

## Back to School...

What a brilliant start we have had to the new academic year; the weather has been lovely and we have all enjoyed getting back into daily routines. Our new Foundation children have settled really well and it has been wonderful to reinstate our 'buddy' system to pair our youngest and eldest pupils. They get to play with them some lunchtimes and have weekly shared reading time.

The children have voted for a new Head Boy and Girl and a new School Council has been formed. They will be meeting with Miss Godbeer regularly and working on a range of projects to promote pupil voice across the school.

A letter will be going out today regarding after-school clubs and these will start week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Unfortunately, we are currently unable to offer after-school childcare, the sessions were not very well attended and we cannot run them at a loss to the school. We will reassess the situation before the Christmas break and possibly run them again from January.

There are lots of events coming up over the next few weeks so please keep checking the calendar on the website as it is changed and updated frequently. The website is also a great place to see what has been going on in school, along with Twitter, please follow us @CockwoodPrimary .

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW FOUNDATION CHILDREN

We are delighted to welcome Roman, Obie, Sienna, Matilda, Daisy, Joe, Wilf, Eric, Ravenna, Lilly, Arthur, Hamish, Noah, Kai and Jayden. They are super additions to our Cockwood family and we look forward to seeing them grow and thrive on their journey with us.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPT

Dawlish Triathlon- PFA to do refreshments and Marshall the event to raise funds

THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPT

Year 5/6 5-a-side football match at Gatehouse School (3.45pm)

FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPT

Flu Vaccination Team in school

MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> OCT

M & M Productions visit the school to perform 'Oliver Twist'

WEDNESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OCT

Parent Online Safety Meeting at school  
3.30-5pm (see info below)

THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCT

Class 1 & 2 Harvest Festival rehearsal- drop at Cofton Church 9am

(pupils walk back to school after rehearsal)

FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OCT

Harvest Festival at Cofton Church

Drop ALL chn at 8.45am

Service starts at 9.15am

TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCT

Year 4,5 & 6 children attend Farm Wise at Westpoint (details to follow)

THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCT

School photographs

TUES 18<sup>TH</sup>/WED 19<sup>TH</sup> OCT

Settling in Parent Consultations

## OUR SUMMER TERM AWARD WINNERS

The Summer Term seems a distant memory but we wanted to share with you the photos of our award winners (right).

### YEAR 5/ 6 BIKEABILITY

A massive well done to the children that completed their Bikeability course last week. It is so important to keep safe on the road whilst enjoying the benefits of cycling. The instructors were impressed with the level of concentration and behaviour. Well done.



### ONLINE SAFETY

We hope you are able to attend one of the sessions being provided for parents to learn about Online Safety. Our children are living in a digitally diverse world and we **ALL** have a responsibility to ensure we do our best to keep them safe. You can attend any one of the sessions and it is completely free of charge. Unfortunately, you cannot bring children as the content may not be appropriate. The sessions are as follows:

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm Cockwood School**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 5.30pm Kenton School**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm Kenn School**

### CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL

Class 2 have started Forest School sessions and have been embracing the changing seasons. They have helped to plant new trees on the Methley Meadow site, along with collecting and pressing apples to make their own apple juice. So far the weather has been kind but please make sure children are wrapped up well over the coming weeks once it begins to get colder.



### NEW PARENTS COFFEE MORNING

We were delighted to welcome so many of our new parents to our coffee morning in the village hall last week. Our new Head Boy and Girl, along with two Year 6 helpers, enjoyed serving the tea and coffee. It was a super chance for parents to meet our Chair of Governors, Nick Tallamy, along with other members of the governing board and PFA. It was a super event and one we will repeat for all parents at a later date.



### HEAD BOY AND GIRL 2022-23

We are delighted to announce that our new Head Boy and Girl for 2022-23 are Nate Squires and Taylor Mackenzie. The candidates had to prepare a speech and deliver it in front of the whole school. Every member of the Cockwood family, pupils and staff, had one vote each and it was a closely run contest. Well done to Nate and Taylor, we are confident you will do a great job representing the school this year.

### ATTENDANCE

Please remember I am NOT able to authorise any holidays in term time. Please try your best to make sure the children are in school every day to maximise and make the most of their learning. Obviously, if your child is unwell then that is different. We will continue to promote good hygiene in school to try and minimise the spread of seasonal germs.



## POSITIVE CHANGES

Through the Autumn Term we have decided to alter our class structure in Maths. This has been done for a variety of reasons, post-pandemic we have found that some children have gaps in their mathematical knowledge and this is hindering their progress moving forward. Teaching a mixed-aged class of three year groups is incredibly challenging at the best of times but especially in Maths when the content may be completely different and teachers are needing to revisit the previous year's learning to ensure it is embedded. Based on our internal data we are going to trial teaching Maths Year 2 and 3 together, Year 4 and 5 and Year 6 separately. We will monitor and check the impact of this curriculum change and feedback in the Spring Term on our results.

## CLASS 1 VISIT TO BOVINGTON TANK MUSEUM

Class 1 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Bovington Tank Museum this week. They had two workshops based on their topic of World War II. The children enjoyed finding out about the role the Air Raid Wardens, Women's Land Army and the Home Guard and they visited a 1940's shop, which was an exact replica, and learnt about rations. A super day that really brought their learning to life, especially dressing up as soldiers and having to do drill practice and march around the tanks!



## VACANCY FOR A TEACHING ASSISTANT

We are currently have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant at Cockwood School, if you are interested in finding out more or know someone who may be interested please follow the link below. We would welcome applications from interested parties, however the closing date is Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

[https://www.devonjobs.gov.uk/job/Teaching%20Assistant%20-%20Cockwood%20Primary%20School%20\(Ivy%20Education%20Trust\)-11/](https://www.devonjobs.gov.uk/job/Teaching%20Assistant%20-%20Cockwood%20Primary%20School%20(Ivy%20Education%20Trust)-11/)

## YEAR 5 AND 6 BOYS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



Well done to Nate, Billy, Lewis, Otto and Oskar who represented the school at a 5-a-side football match against Gatehouse School. The match started off at a high tempo with Gatehouse going into the lead, we almost instantly equalised and went ahead 2-1, only for Gatehouse to level the scores at 2-2 in an even first half. In the second half, Gatehouse started to dominate the game and scored a succession of goals meaning the final score was 5-2. We were very proud that our team gave 100%

## FINALLY...

*It is such an exciting time of year as we start a new school year and everyone has a 'fresh' start; the perfect time to embed good habits and routines. We want every child to reach their full potential and you can help us by encouraging your child to read regularly at home. It is the one thing every child can do to support their own learning journey. We have a well-stocked library and there is something to engage even the most reluctant reader.*

*Every pupil has reading opportunities woven throughout their school day but nothing replaces that 1 to 1 quality time you can offer your child. We will be sending home guidance in the next few weeks to support you when reading at home, but as always, we are here to help if you need any guidance.*

*Alison Roper*