

JULY NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS

COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 19th July, 2024

FRIDAY 19TH JULY

Last day of term

We Made it!

As we wrap up another incredible school year, I can't help but feel a sense of pride and joy reflecting on all we've accomplished together. What a journey it's been!

Remember when we moved back to Cockwood from Hope Church? It feels like ages ago now. We've truly grown into our new extension, and it's hard to imagine how we managed without those extra teaching spaces before. They've become such an integral part of our daily lives.

October brought us a visit from Ofsted, and I'm thrilled to share that we passed with flying colours. Their observation that "children flourish at Cockwood School" simply reinforced what we already knew – we're a good school with so many strengths to be proud of.

Our Christmas show at The Langstone Cliff was a real highlight, with every single child taking part. It was magical to see their talents shine on stage. The carol service at the church was equally heartwarming, filling us all with festive cheer.

This year, we've given our children so many enriching experiences. From Year 2 to Year 6, every child has had the chance to go on a residential trip. They've all enjoyed Forest School at Methley Meadow, connecting with nature and learning outdoors. We've been busy on the sports front too, taking part in Dartmoor 3 Ball, cross-country, football, and gymnastics. And who could forget our brilliant performance at the Dance Festival in Ashburton?

Our adventures have taken us far and wide – from The Box in Plymouth to Exeter Museum, Shaldon Wildlife Zoo, Dawlish Warren, and Kent's Cavern. Some lucky pupils even spent a day at Plymouth Dive Centre and others tried watersports in Exmouth. Our choir wowed audiences at both the Devon County Show and Exeter Cathedral, singing alongside the Teacher Rock Choir.

We've celebrated traditions like Harvest Festival and Easter at the church, and embraced new experiences like our successful Careers Week. The school council did a fantastic job raising money for the RNLI, showing our community spirit.

From World Book Day to Times Tables Rockstars Day, puppet workshops to music compositions performed at Newton Abbot College, it's been a year packed with learning and fun. And let's not forget our wonderful Sports Day!

As I look back on all these achievements, I'm filled with gratitude for our amazing students, dedicated staff, and supportive families. Together, we've created a year of growth, discovery, and joy. Here's to many more adventures ahead!

WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

FIRST DAY of the AUTUMN TERM

THURSDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

New starters coffee morning in the Village Hall 9am-10.30am- all parents welcome

FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Break up for half term (2 weeks)

TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

First day of Autumn Term 2

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

Break up for Christmas holidays

MONDAY 6TH JANUARY

First day of Spring Term

THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY

Break up for half term

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

Break up for Easter holidays

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK TO YEAR 6

As we bid farewell to our incredible Year 6 students, we are filled with a mix of emotions. It's always bittersweet to see them go, but we're so proud of their achievements. They've worked tirelessly for their SATs and wowed us all in their performance of The Lion King. Our trip to London was a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with them and get to know these super human beings even better.

To Oskar, Omar, Rebecca, Barclay, Lacey, Savannah, Sienna, Josh, Otto, Noah, Charlie, Frankie, Vincent, Lexie-Mae, Olivia, and Lewis - you're an absolute credit to our school. We wish you the very best as you embark on your secondary school journey. May you settle in quickly and continue to shine!

THE MIX FESTIVAL AT BRIDWELL PARK



Miss Butt tree took 14 pupils to the Mix Festival at Bridwell Park, Uffculme, for a music extravaganza two weeks ago. They had the opportunity to take part in a range of workshops including: Taiko drumming, Bhangra, Ceilidh Folk Music, Salamanca Band, Djembe drumming and they went on the Boom Bus to practise being a DJ!

Even though the weather wasn't great, everyone had a fabulous time.

YEAR 6 PERFORM DISNEYS THE LION KING

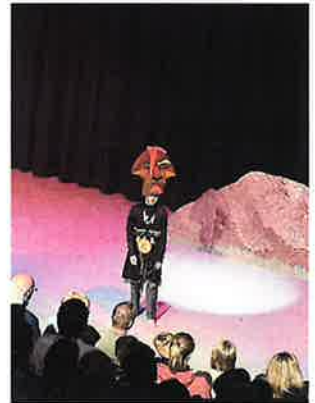
One of the highlights of this term has undoubtedly been the Year 6 production of Disney's Lion King Jr. Our talented students put on an incredible performance that left the audience in awe. The fantastic songs and dance routines were a testament to the hard work and dedication of our young performers. It was truly heartwarming to see their enthusiasm and talent shine through on stage.

The quality of the production was further enhanced by the super costumes and face-paints, which brought the characters to life in vivid detail. Thank you to all those who came to support our Year 6 students. Your presence meant a great deal to our young performers and helped create an electric atmosphere in the auditorium. The encouragement and applause from the audience undoubtedly boosted the confidence of our students and made the experience even more memorable for them.

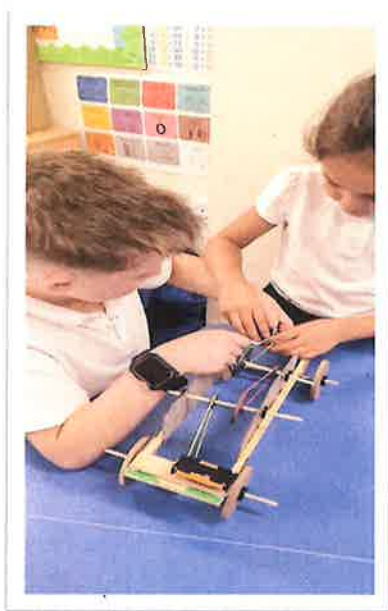
This wonderful opportunity would not have been possible without the generous support of the Helen Foundation and the Ella Philips fund. We are truly grateful for their contribution, which has enabled our students to showcase their talents and gain valuable experience in the performing arts. Such support is invaluable in enriching the educational experiences we can offer our students.

Productions like The Lion King Jr. are more than just entertainment; they provide our students with important life skills such as teamwork, time management, and public speaking. They also foster creativity and self-expression, which are crucial for personal development.





CLASS 2 DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PROJECT



We are excited to share the fantastic work of Class 2 in their Design Technology project this week. Under Miss Buttree's guidance, our young engineers tackled the STEM Primary Engineers Rail Programme, building moving trains in pairs. They honed skills like sawing, measuring, and creating circuits, while developing their innovation and teamwork abilities.

The results were impressive – all trains could move forwards and backwards! It was a joy to see our students so engaged, testing their creations with enthusiasm. This hands-on experience is just one way we're nurturing future innovators at Cockwood School, where we continue to cultivate the inventors and problem solvers of the future!

What a super end to the year Class 1!

CLASS 2 ERUPT THEIR VOLCANOES!

We had a fabulous afternoon of fun, when Class 2 took their volcanoes down on the field to see if we could make them erupt. The children had created and built their models at the end of the Spring Term, using salt dough around a plastic bottle. They were all very excited to see if mixing bicarbonate of soda, washing up liquid and white vinegar would have the desired effect! They tested out various adaptations in the quantities until we were happy with the amount of lava it created. We also talked about the various things we could do to improve our outcomes if we did it again, such as add red food dye to make it look more realistic. It was a super afternoon, all the children were really engaged in their learning and making lots of great scientific predictions. Well done Class 2.



ACCELERATED READING

For the month of July...

Cockwood Primary School Reads!



In July 2024, students have read...

121 Books

1,193,703 Words

for 31 minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

For the school year...

Cockwood Primary School Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

3,220 Books

24,879,749 Words

for 23 minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Reading will remain a focus throughout the school next year, as we know that being able to read underpins all other learning. We are delighted to share we have had outstanding results in Reading across the school this.

We had **80%** of pupils meet the expected level in Phonics, **90%** of pupils met the expected level in Year 2 and an **AMAZING 94%** reached the expected standard in Year 6 SATs.

The Accelerated Reading is just one of tools we use to promote, increase and track reading across the school. Teachers deliver high-quality Guided Reading, Whole Class reading and this year we have had a focus on Reading for Pleasure. The money invested in the library has also played its part and all of these pieces of the jigsaw come together to give us such wonderful end of year and key stage outcomes. Thank you for reading at home with your child, it is such a vital thing you can do to support your child's learning journey and we are so grateful for your continued help.

ATTENDANCE

Up to the start of this week, we have finished on an average of 96% attendance across the academic year, which is fantastic! The national average is currently, 94.2%. Thank you to everyone working hard to ensure their children are in school every day. This term we have 32 with 100% attendance, and across the year we are proud to say we have 9 pupils who haven't missed one day all year! INCREDIBLE- well done.

Please check term dates before booking any holidays next year.

<https://www.cockwood-primary.devon.sch.uk/parents/term-dates/>

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

Today we say goodbye to two valued members of our staff team. Kate Chadwick, our Kitchen Manager, is going on maternity leave. We look forward to the safe arrival of her baby in a few weeks and lots of cuddles when she brings it in to visit during the Autumn Term. Kate will return later in the year.

We are also very sad to say goodbye to Miss Brown, she has had an excellent year in Class 1 and she will be sorely missed. She is remaining within the Trust so we will still see her at various events as she isn't going too far.

Please join me in thanking both members of staff for their commitment and dedication, and we look forward to working with them both again in the future.

IVY EDUCATION TRUST INSPIRE DAY AT EXMOUTH



We are thrilled to share some exciting news from our recent Ivy Education Trust Inspire Day in Exmouth! Four of our fantastic girls, two from Year 5 and two from Year 6, had an incredible time participating in a variety of water sports and fun beach games. The super sunny weather made for a perfect day out. The well-organised range of events not only promoted team building but also pushed our girls out of their comfort zones, introducing them to new activities. It was wonderful to see them embrace these challenges and grow from the experience.

These opportunities are so valuable for our students, allowing them to develop new skills, build confidence, and create lasting memories. I'm incredibly proud of how our girls represented our school and made the most of this fantastic day. A big thank you to everyone involved in making this event such a success. It's days like these that truly enrich our students' educational journey.

ARCHITECTS IN CLASS 3

This week Class 3 have been 'Architects', pupils have been exploring how famous landmarks are constructed and what a building needs to make it stable and strong. They designed their building, and then were able to choose from a range of materials to create their own structure.



FINALLY...

This year we've shared an incredible journey. I feel truly privileged that you've entrusted us with your child's education, and I want to assure you that at Cockwood School, we will always strive to offer the very best opportunities for each and every child. I'm bursting with excitement about the amazing things we have lined up for September and can't wait to share these with you. But before we look ahead, I want to take a moment to celebrate our wonderful staff team. Their dedication, going above and beyond every single day, makes Cockwood School the special place it is. I'm in awe of how we always pull together, putting the children at the top of our agenda. As we prepare for a well-deserved break, we're all looking forward to spending time with our own families. Rest assured, we'll be just as excited to welcome the children back in September. I wish you and your family a very happy summer holiday. Stay safe, make memories, and relish this precious time with your children.

Alison Rope