

Cotherstone Primary School

Autumn Term
Number 1
4th September '15

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Welcome

Welcome back to everyone following the summer break, we hope you had an enjoyable summer. We say a particular welcome to those children and families new to the school.

We also give a warm welcome to Miss Ashleigh Whitworth who will be working in Class 1 as a Teaching Assistant. Miss Whitworth will also be running the breakfast club on Thursday and Friday. (Mrs Murtagh will continue to run Breakfast Club on the other days)

Annual Form Collection

Parents of Reception children will receive a pack of forms with the newsletter. Please complete and return to school asap. ***NB We will need the EV4 form completed and returned on Monday to enable your child to visit the Sports Centre.***

Should you have any change in circumstance, contact details or a medical update please inform a member of staff so that we can keep our records up to date, thank you.

Text Messaging Service

We will continue to use the text messaging service for reminders etc. For this reason, it is vital that we have your up to date contact details.

School Website

Please note that lots of information about school (including copies of the newsletter) can be found on our website at:

www.cotherstone.durham.sch.uk

Sports Centre

All the children will be going to the Sports Centre on Monday afternoons for ten weeks. Children in Classes 2 and 3 will be swimming whilst those in Class 1 will be using the dry-side facilities with children in Reception having access to the Jungle Gym.

Lunch Menu

The menu for this term can be found on the school website. Should you require a printed copy please contact Alison in the office.

Lunch is now priced at £1.95 per child for children in Key Stage 2. Under the new scheme, children in Key Stage 1 are entitled to a daily free school meal. Should you wish to pay for this whole half term, please send in your payment of £74.10 (cheques should be made payable to Durham County Council). Thank you.

Teaching Staff

As some of our teaching staff work part time the following is the time when they are expected in school should you need to speak to them: Ms Blackburn is in on Monday and Tuesday mornings and all day on Wednesday and Friday. Mrs Hogg is in all day on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Dr Jellis is teaching in Class 1 on Monday and Tuesday, Class 2 Thursday morning and Class 3 Thursday afternoon.

If possible it is usually better to meet teachers at the end of the day rather than the start as in the

Dates for your diary

Dates in bold are new additions from the last

Newsletter

10th - FOCS meeting 3:15pm

11th Sep - Celebration Assembly 2:45pm

15th Sep - Class 2 Parents' meeting 3:30 pm.

17th Sep - Class 1 (Yrs 1 and 2) Parents' meeting 3:30 pm.

18th Sep - Class 3 Parents' meeting 3:30 pm.

25th Sep - Celebration Assembly 2:45pm

9th Oct - Celebration Assembly 2:45pm

20th Oct - Individual school photos

23rd Oct - Celebration Assembly 2:45pm

23rd Oct - School closes for half term break

2nd Nov - School re-opens

morning they are busy getting everything ready for the day.

Clothing Labels

To help us deal with lost property please ensure that your child's clothes are clearly labelled. Please check occasionally that their name can be easily read and that it has not washed off. Please remove any out of date labels.

Celebration Assembly

On alternate Friday afternoons we will be holding our Celebration Assembly where we share some of the work that has been happening in class and present children with certificates. Friends and family are welcome to attend. Assembly starts at 2:45pm until the end of the school day.

Parent Information meetings

At the beginning of this new school year we will once again be holding our class general meetings, outlining class routines and work expectations. Class 1's meeting relates to children in Years 1 and 2. The meetings begin at 3:30pm and usually last about half an hour. Dates for these are on the Dates for your diary section.

Taxis

If, for whatever reason, your child is not to go home on the taxi could you please let the school know as well as the taxi. There was the odd occasion last year when there was confusion as to whether a child should be on the taxi or not.

Car Park

During dropping off and collection times please do not use the car park either in a car or walking through. This is for safety reasons linked to the children who travel by taxi.

Homework

There is no homework set this week.

Staff Offsite

Thurs - Mr Batchelor

Cool Kids

A big welcome back to school from CKC! To kick off the activity programme for the autumn term the following sessions will be on offer:
Tuesday: Crafts session with Bowes Museum

Wednesday: Gardening Club with Claire

Thursday: Tag Rugby with Durham Sports Team (this will commence week beginning 14th September).

We look forward to seeing you at CKC where children can enjoy fun and safe afterschool care from 3:15pm to 5:10pm.

News from The Friends of Cotherstone School

Grand National Sheep Racing @ The Moorcock

I would like to thank Helen Hobson for organising this fantastic, local fundraising event and for inviting the Friends of Cotherstone school to hold a stall for free. Throughout the afternoon there was lots of sheep racing alongside other 'sheep' related events that took place and it proved to be another popular afternoon that takes places annually at the Moorcock Inn, Eggleston. Myself and Sally Williams set up and ran the FOCS stall for the first couple of hours and Jill Blakeman and Emma Handley finished off for the last couple of hours and cleared away. We made a fantastic sum of £58.83! Thank you for supporting this event as every penny goes towards resources, trips or visitors to our school to make your child's experiences better.

Easy Fundraising

We have received a cheque for £168.05 from Easy Fundraising. We only have 14 people registered so this is a super amount raised so far. This is an easy way to raise money for our school and only takes a couple of minutes to register. Please take the time to register.

Air Ambulance Collection

Thank you to everyone who donated bags to the collection. We have received a cheque for £50.80,

FOCS Meeting

THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

CLASS 1 3:15-4:15PM

Please come along to the FOCS meeting which will take place straight after school next Thursday. Your children are welcome to attend as I will put some toys/colouring equipment out. There will be refreshments of drinks, cake and biscuits! Your views are so important and even if you can only attend one meeting every couple of months - it's a massive help. If you are unable to attend due to work commitments please give me your email and I will send you a copy of the minutes. We are a small school so the more support we can get, the more we can achieve.

Jennie Lee, Chair