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## Newsletter 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020



### Internet Safety

Please may we remind parents to be particularly vigilant about their children's use of technology following recent concerns about internet safety. Support is available from:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/> and <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

### Christmas in school

Don't forget the children will be having their Christmas lunch on Thursday and can wear their Christmas jumper and/or Christmas socks for a suggested donation of £1 for 'The Children of the North East' charity.

### Class 1

#### Planting a conker seed

On Monday, all of the children planted a conker seed as part of our learning about growing plants in science. Ryan said, "First we put some little stones in the bottom of the pot. Then we put some compost into the pot. We put the conker in with the white bit facing upwards. Then we put some more compost back in the pot. We watered the pot. We wait for it to grow. It should start to sprout in Spring."



### Shoes

Please can you ensure your child has their 'proper school shoes' in school all of the time and that they come into school wearing alternative footwear. Some children are spending the whole day in their P.E shoes or shoes that do not support their feet fully. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



### **Decorating our outdoor Christmas tree**

On Wednesday, some of the children in the EYFS enjoyed decorating their own Christmas tree outdoors by putting some baubles and tree decorations on. Calvin said, "Put the things on it. Bottom of the Christmas tree - everything goes – presents!" Noah enjoyed decorating his own.



### **Staying fit and healthy!**

This week we enjoyed a presentation covering hand hygiene, dental care, feelings and safety sent to us by Kate Hutchinson who is our Family Health Assistant. The presentation discussed all aspects and how to try to stay fit and healthy. The children enjoyed this presentation and learning about our teeth and most importantly reminding us how to wash our hands properly!

### **Thank you!**

Class 1 would like to say a big thank you to Ali Collinson for her kind donation of this lovely desk and chair which we are going to use as a writing station.



## Class 2

### Poison Dart Frog Clay Models

By Finley

You might remember from last week's newsletter that Class 2 had been writing non-chronological reports about poison dart frogs! This week, Mrs B helped us start to make our own clay frogs to go with our writing.

We made our models in steps. First, we made the body by making the clay into a potato shape and then we made the head. Next, we made the back legs and the front legs and attached them to the body. Finally, we did the eyes by making dots on the frog's face.

We had lots of fun and can't wait to paint them next week!



## Class 3

Class 3 have been studying the poem *The British* by Benjamin Zephaniah. We realised that the poem was written like a recipe to show all the ingredients needed to create the British. We decided to write our own 'recipe poems' about topics including pandas, The Shang Dynasty and our school. Here is an example of one of our school recipes. Delicious!

### Cotherstone School (Serves 60)

Take a building with colourful outsides,

And hire some staff.

Then make a big area for outside,

Like a field or playground.

Add both for more happiness.

Mix some brainy kids with smart uniforms,

And then add subjects, lessons and learning to the pot.

Then take a pinch of yummy food,

And mix with some nice helpful dinner ladies.

Next add a safe and happy classroom,  
With reading books, workbooks, projects, competitions and friendship.  
Make sure to add 3 classes for year groups,  
And mix with happy teachers,  
Leave to simmer for 39 weeks,  
And then....ENJOY!

#### Note

Make sure to sample the food before serving. If the food is sour, then your school will not have happiness or friendship. If it is sweet then your school will have those things.

#### Warning

Make sure nobody judges other people. If you do not do this there will be a bitter taste.

By Isabella B

### **School Council**

Hello Everyone

On Monday we interviewed our first Cotherstone staff member, our headteacher, Mrs Matthewman.



These are our questions and Mrs Matthewman's answers.

What is your favourite meal? Chinese - Dim sum

What is your favourite tree or flower? Freesias - I had them in my wedding bouquet.

Do you play a musical instrument? - No.

Do you have a pet? No, but I would like a dog.

What is your favourite colour? Purple.

Where is your favourite holiday destination? France and Italy.

What is your favourite song? Puff the magic dragon.

What is your favourite celebration? Christmas

Do you have a lucky number? 3 because I have 3 children.

What was your favourite subject in school? English.

Did you have a favourite toy when you were younger? A little bear called Bubbles and I still have him.

What job did you want to do when you were younger? A librarian.

Do you snap a KitKat? Yes!

It was a fun experience. Thank you Mrs Matthewman and we can't wait to interview another staff member!

Bye for now - Libby, Josie, Sennen, Henry, Lydia, Harry, and Noah.

### **Certificates of Achievement**

This week certificates have been awarded to the following children:

Class 1: Benji; for independently writing sentences and Reuben for recognising all coins and notes.

Class 2: Sennen; fantastic work and being a good friend

Class 3: Owen; for his fantastic reading comprehension

Well done everyone!

### **Homework**

#### **Class 1**

##### **Reception**

Cut 2-D shapes and make snowmen.

Read and match the word to the picture

##### **Year 1**

Sort and name 3-D shapes

Spellings

Create a Christmas picture

##### **Year 2**

Label the different countries

Spellings

Create a Christmas picture

**Class 2** –English – Character profiles for the characters in ‘Man on the moon’ and spellings.

Maths: Year 3 - 3 times table. Year 4 - worded problems using 4 and 8 times tables.

**Class 3** – English: To research and write a paragraph about Charles Dickens and spellings.

Maths: to solve word problems.

Thank you for all your support.

Chris Matthewman and the Cotherstone Team