



**Executive Headteacher: Mrs C A Matthewman
Chair of Governors: Mr P Nicholls
Vice Chair of Governors: Mrs A Butler**



Cotherstone Primary School Newsletter 26th March 2021

COVID-19

Please ensure you continue to adhere to the guidance and requests we have issued with regard to staying safe during the pandemic. We respectfully remind parents that lockdown rules still apply and should still be followed. Durham County Council have advised that if we have knowledge of families breaking lockdown rules we must ask that they isolate before returning to school.

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Please email the school if a member of your household tests positive on the Saturday or Sunday after we break up.

Red Nose Day Report by Bella FB & Monty

On 19th March, it was Red Nose Day and we supported Comic Relief by raising £120.50! We did lots of fun activities and held a joke competition where we told a joke and if it was funny we pined Mr B (Deputy Head) in the face! We were selling red noses for £1.50. One of the activities the children and the teachers took part in was a penalty shoot-out. Mr B was the goalie, when you scored a goal you got a chocolate!



A note from Mr B

I would just like to say thank you for all the kind words regarding last Friday's shenanigans. It was an absolute pleasure to have the opportunity to bring a smile to all our amazing children's faces and I hope that they had as much fun as I did! There was a lot of organisation behind the day (I just had to sit there) so thank you very much to all our staff for making it easy for me!

I would also like to add that since our full-school return 3 weeks ago, our children have been positive, engaged and working hard from day 1 so well done to them and to all the parents who clearly did a sterling job of keeping them safe and sane during the lockdown! 😊

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Russian comes to Cotherstone!

On Monday, KS2 had a Russian taster session with Kate, a student from Durham University. We learnt all about studying languages at university as well as some interesting facts about Russia and some new words.



We learnt how to say 'hello' and introduce ourselves in Russian. The Russian alphabet is very different to the English one, so we learnt about the letters and the sounds that they make. We finished off by having a conversation with a partner!

I even dusted off my Russian GCSE to help out!

KS2 had a great afternoon, with some lovely feedback from the session, and some were even speaking in Russian to each other at afternoon break!

Thank you Kate!

Miss Gillard

Friends of Cotherstone School

FOCS are actively seeking new members!!!

Heading into the Summer Term there is a number of maintenance jobs which need to be carried out in school - from repairing and revamping the notice boards at the front of the school; remedial works to the KS1 outdoors space; and digging over and creating a usable gardening space for KS2.

If you are willing to be involved in whichever way you feel possible, could you please email friendsofcotherstoneschool@hotmail.com

Liz Gill has requested to step down from being Treasurer of FOCS. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her dedication and support over the last few years. Therefore, we are also looking for someone who would be willing to take on the treasury role – if you would like any further information could you please again email friendsofcotherstoneschool@hotmail.com

Finally, we've had a very inactive year when it comes to fundraising for FOCS – moving forward into the Summer Term it would be fab if we could come up with some new fundraising events. With lots of new faces on the playground it would be great if you were willing to share any ideas you may have in the hope we can raise funds for additional equipment and support for our amazing little school.

We look forward to hearing from you!!!

Easter Holiday Activities

Whether it's finding fun things for the kids to do, paying for extra childcare, or even just all that extra food they seem to eat, the school holidays can be a struggle for many families. Covid-19 has meant that many people's incomes have been reduced and children and young people are keen to get out and spend time with their friends.

We want to make sure no young people go hungry during the holidays. That's why we launched our Fun and Food programme, providing fun activities with healthy snacks and meals for children and young people. Activities are provided by range of partners including schools, voluntary and community sector groups, sport and leisure services and our Family Centres.

For information on Fun and Food activities during the Easter holidays check out www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood

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We have had a very successful term and all the staff have greatly enjoyed having your children back in school. Attendance and behaviour have both been excellent and we appreciate all the hard work carried out by parents during the lockdown. We wish you all a very happy and safe Easter and look forward to welcoming your children back on Tuesday 13th April.

**Thank you for all your support.
Chris Matthewman and the Cotherstone Team**

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