



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



## **Cotherstone Primary School Newsletter 28th May 2021**

### **Covid**

Please continue to wear a face mask when dropping off and collecting your children, for everyone's safety. Thank you.

If your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19:

1. Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible
2. You, your child and anyone else you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have the test. Anyone in your childcare or support bubble should also stay at home if your child has been in close contact with them since their symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.

If any child who has been in school yesterday and/or today tests positive on Saturday or Sunday please email Mrs Matthewman on [c.matthewman200@boweshutchinsons.durham.sch.uk](mailto:c.matthewman200@boweshutchinsons.durham.sch.uk) as we have obligations to trace contacts. Thank you.

### **Swimming**

Swimming lessons have now been offered to years 5 and year 6 and will commence on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Children will need to bring a mask to wear on the bus. Year 5 parents have now been messaged to let us know if they would like their child to attend the lessons. The swimming lesson is from 11am – 11:45am

### **Class 1 Science**

Yesterday in Science, Class 1 were learning about the continent of Africa. They enjoyed creating an 'African safari' displaying all of the animals that they would see along the way and the different habitats that they would live in.



## Buddhist Monk lesson via Teams

Class 1 enjoyed a lesson about 'A day in a life of a monk at Throssel Hole Abbey'. Kusai, one of the monks talked to the children in detail about the activities that she does each day. The children enjoyed drawing some musical instruments, finding out more information about Buddha and having a go at meditating.



## Design Technology in Class 2

This week we have been exploring the question:

'Why was the River Nile important to the people of Ancient Egypt?'

As part of this we have explored the gifts of the Nile. We have learnt about the clever invention of the Shaduf, which was used to collect water from the Nile.

In DT, we have looked at the design of a Shaduf and we evaluated a variety of designs. We then made one in a group using lollypop sticks and plasticine to see how a Shaduf model can work.

Today, we had a DT Day! We started off by designing our Shaduf and by writing step by step instructions. Next, we discussed how to work safely in DT. Finally, we began to make our Shaduf following our design and working safely.



### **Class 3 Maya Cooking – by Libby and Isabelle**

In Class 3, we are learning about the Maya in History. On Wednesday, we made some Maya dishes.

#### Tortillas

We started by measuring our flour and mixing it with a pinch of salt. Then, we added 90ml of water and mixed it together to make a dough. We then each got a piece of dough and rolled it out until it was thin. We went outside and cooked our tortillas on a little gas stove.

#### Salsa

We started by cutting the onion until it was diced finely. We then chopped the tomato and garlic. After that, we mixed it altogether with a splash of lime juice and water.

#### Guacamole

We chopped chili, tomato and onion and then mashed them into a paste. We then added the avocado and a pinch of salt and mashed it all together to make a chunky, creamy consistency.

#### Maya style Hot Chocolate

We ground some cacao nibs with a pestle and mortar to make a powder and then added milk. To make our hot chocolate frothy we used an authentic Mayan method of pouring the liquid between two cups. We also added a pinch of chilli powder and cinnamon to enhance the taste!



### **Reversible Charge Experiment – Class 3 – by Indi and Bella FB**

On Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, we did a reversible charge experiment in Science. We worked in groups of four and we needed to work out how to separate two different materials using different techniques. There were four different bowls, one contained sand and water, another with rice and paperclips, one contained salt and water and the last one had flour and raisins mixed together. We had to find the best technique to separate the materials from each other in the bowls.



## Rounders Report – by Isolina

In Class 3, for this half term, we have been playing rounders in P.E. We are split up into two separate teams and one team starts as the fielders and the other team are the batters. To begin the game someone from the fielding team will bowl the ball to the first batter and they will attempt to hit the ball. If they succeed the fielders will then try to catch the ball and return it to the base that the batter is running towards to stump them out. If the batter misses the ball then the backstop will throw the ball back to the bowler, this is called a strike. If they get three strikes they then need to walk to first base. After the batting team have three innings they swap over with the fielders. After a couple of games, you could see that lots of players had improved their skills and the game became more challenging and competitive.

## After School Club

We would like to thank Nevin for all her hard work with the children and welcome her replacement Jennifer Papworth who will be taking over running after school club after the half term holiday.

## RSPB Wild Challenge

At the beginning of the year our school signed up for the RSPB Nature Wild Challenge award. This award scheme is all about supporting school-based learning by enabling pupils to apply curriculum knowledge and skills, as well as developing their resilience and connection with nature. The activities are divided into two sections - **Help nature** and **Experience nature**. There are three award levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. To earn each award, you need to complete six activities, made up of three from the **Help nature** section and three from **Experience nature** section.

So far, we have completed six challenges which have included:

Making a bee home

Implementing a very successful composting programme

Weather wizard's week diary

Sensing the world

Creating a wildflower meadow

Taking part in the Big Birdwatch

We submitted our evidence last week and we have successfully been awarded our Bronze Certificate!

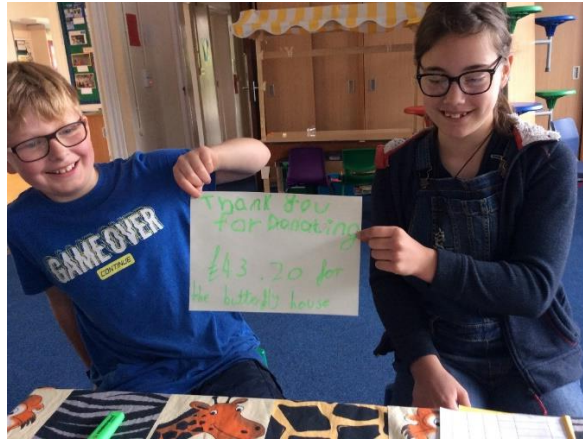


## Behaviour Award

Raby House has won this half term's 'Good to be Green' Behaviour Award and the children will receive a collective treat when we return.

### A message from the School Council

The School Council would like to say a big 'THANK YOU!!' to all the donations for a new butterfly house in our school garden. We have raised a fabulous £45.20!!



### Golden Ticket Lunchtime Awards

Golden tickets this week were awarded to:

Thomas G - for always being such a big help to the lunchtime staff.

Finley - for always being polite and having lovely manners at lunchtime.

Harry – for always offering a helping hand to staff at lunchtime.

Calvin – for his lovely manners at the dinner table.

### Homework

**Class 1:** No homework

**Class 2:** Science-Light Crossword. Reading- please continue to do lots of reading at home and record this in your reading record. Topic- Explain how a Shaduf works to members of your family and how you made your Shaduf.

**Class 3:** Numeracy: Co-ordinates. Research Sao Paolo. Spellings

***Thank you for all your support.***

***Chris Matthewman and the Cotherstone Team***

### ***Dates for your diary:***

*28<sup>th</sup> May – School closes for half term break*

*Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June – School re-opens*

*8<sup>th</sup> June – Week 1 of new lunch menu*

*14<sup>th</sup> June – Week 2 of new lunch menu*

*18<sup>th</sup> June – Years 5 & 6 swimming*

*21<sup>st</sup> June – Week 3 of new lunch menu*