

Cotherstone Primary School Newsletter 4th November 2021

Covid

We have received new guidance from DCC regarding Covid. Please look out for an email tomorrow about Covid precautions.

Lunch Money

Please send in payment of £70.95 for your child's lunches for this half term. Please make cheques payable to Durham County Council. Thank you.

My Best Book of 2021 Competition

Please find attached to the newsletter email an entry form for a competition that Barnard Castle Library are currently running in which your child can nominate their favourite book and author of 2021. Book token prizes to be won!

Newspaper for Class 1

Please can we ask for donations of newspaper please, but only sheets without the staples. Thank you!

This week in 'Little Learners'...

What a lovely week 'Little Learners' have had learning about 'Bonfire Night'. We made our own bonfire and talked about the dangers of fire and how to keep safe. The children enjoyed collecting lots of twigs and we talked about the noise and colour from the fire. We made firework pictures outdoors using chalk too. We went on an 'Autumn' walk on Wednesday in our school grounds and made some leaf wands and noticed all of the different coloured leaves and shapes.



This week in Class 1...

We have been reading silly poems in Literacy. There has been lots of silly words in our poems and some tongue-twisters. One of our poems, 'Neath the Crust of the Old Apple Pie' had lots of things dropped into an apple pie! Who has ever found a dear puppy dog's tail or an old rusty nail in their apple pie! We have also been learning about bonfire night and Diwali.



We would like to say a very big thank you to Ryan's parents who very kindly donated lots of RWI books and games to our class. They will be used well. Thank you!



This week in Class 2...

Class 2 have settled straight back into action following their half-term break and Halloween celebrations.

We have been learning multiplication and division facts for 3s and 4s and using these facts to help us learn 6s and 8s.

In English, we have been reading a book about a big wolf with a big secret and learning how to plot a story.

We also had our own Mini Olympic games like the Ancient Greeks but without the sacrifices to Zeus!

As we were unable to attend our Tag-Rugby tournament, Mr Leinster arranged our own tournament on Wednesday which was lots of fun (and a little muddy...) 😊

This week in Class 3...

We have had such a busy first week and it has been amazing to have everyone in Class 3 back in school!

This week a highlight for me was during one of our reading sessions. In our first whole class reading session of the week, we focus on vocabulary, and we look at a range of unfamiliar words that the children will be exposed to throughout the book/text. The children choose a word which is unfamiliar to them then they put it into context to try to work out the meaning, they then explore the definition using dictionaries and find synonyms, antonyms and put the word into a sentence.

During a Literacy lesson the following day, (without prompting) several children began using their new vocabulary within their work! We discussed this after the lesson and how reading is so important to be exposed to and learn a wide range of vocabulary. This is an excellent reading skill to practice when reading at home, exploring unfamiliar words, and finding out their meaning.

In Literacy, we have started our work on Darwin's Dragons; so far cabin boy Syms Covington is on a voyage of a lifetime to the Galapagos Islands with the world-famous Scientist Charles Darwin. Syms has fallen overboard during a huge storm and has been washed up on an island. Stranded there, he will make a discovery that could change the world...

In Art, we have used our sketchbooks to develop our Viking Animal Art sketching dragons, horses and snakes and using our work on Viking knots to incorporate these into our animal sketches.

Lunchtime Golden Tickets

Noah - for his lovely manners at lunchtime.

Harry - for always being kind and a good role model to his younger class friends.

Reuben - for always being willing to help lunchtime staff.

Josie - for being a great help at lunchtime to staff and fellow pupils

After School Club

Jen has some lovely seasonal activities planned for the children in after school club for the run up to Christmas, which start next week with Remembrance Day tasks. Please contact a member of staff if you would like your child to be involved.

Homework

Class 1: Please see homework folders and continue to read every night and practise your 'tricky words' and spellings.

Class 2: Times tables. Spellings. Science – draw your favourite meal and label its nutrients.

Class 3: Literacy - Spellings & Reading Comprehension. Numeracy - Addition and Subtraction word problems.

Please continue to read with your child as often as possible and record this in their reading record. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Chris Matthewman and the Cotherstone Team

Dates for your diary:

w/c 8th November – Week 2 of new menu

2nd December – Carol Service followed by Christmas Fayre

7th December – Christmas lunch

15th December – Christingle service