

Cotherstone Primary School **Newsletter 13th January 2022**

Covid

We are hearing reports that the main symptom of the Omicron variant of Covid is a sore throat. Please be vigilant and if your child has a sore throat please get them tested as soon as possible.

School Lunch

Please send in payment of £70.95 for lunches this half term. Lunch for pre-school children for this half term is £79.86 Please pay either by cheque made payable to Durham County Council or cash.

Little Learner's Pre-school

We have had such a busy time in Pre-school since we returned after the school holiday. Our topic this half term is 'People Who Help Us'. We have looked at several different jobs that people do and focused on Firefighters and Doctors this week. The children have enjoyed dressing up as firefighters, sharing books about them, completing cutting and sticking activities, watching how they help people on the interactive whiteboard, singing songs and painting them.

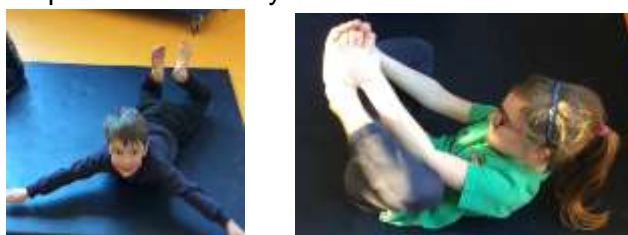
We have also been practising how to wash our hands properly (as it can be tricky for little people when they can't physically see any germs) and washing germs off a plastic balloon hand too! We have warmly welcomed 'Thom' who has just started Pre-school and enjoyed making marks on the large interactive whiteboard. He thought it was quite magical!

The children have been most helpful this week as they have each taken a turn to give out the snack and milk. Children love being given little jobs to do too. 😊



Class 1

This half term in P.E we are learning gymnastics. The children had great fun using the mats in the hall to balance on different parts of their body and demonstrate different point balances and rolls.



Science

The children have been learning about different microbes and which ones are harmful and which ones are not. We talked about how they are tiny living things that are all quite often too small to be seen with our eyes. We discussed the three types of microbes and then the children used some playdough to make them and discuss with their peers which ones they chose to make and why.



Next week in Class 1

For wk commencing Monday 17th January, please could children in Class 1 (Years 1 and 2) bring into school their favourite toy for the week, if possible a parent's toy they had when they were little and also one of their grandparents. We will be looking at and comparing the toys through the different eras and sketching them. Please note the toys will be put up a height when they are not being used. If you feel happier sending photos of them in, that too is fine as we appreciate some will be very precious. Thank you.

This week in Class 2

Our children have settled well back into the routines of school-life and have already produced two pieces of writing, worked through ways of grouping equally, negative numbers, temperature and fractions in maths. All this on top of learning about skeletons - their uses and differences, The Romans, swimming, netball, creating identity cards in French, thinking about our skills and goals for the future as well as lots and lots of reading!



To top it all off, Robby even gave us a fantastic demonstration of his didgeridoo playing and circular breathing!

This week in Class 3

It has been a busy week in Class 3 with lots of new topic work. Our topics this half-term are Earth and Space and World War III! You can find out exactly what we are going to be learning over this term on our Class information leaflet attached.

In Maths this week our Year 5s have been mastering division with remainders. Our Year 6s have been introduced to Long Division! Both year groups have shown an excellent understanding of these concepts. Well done Class 3!

In Literacy Class 3 wrote non-chronological reports to complete our Dragons topic. I am sure you will agree the work is incredible!

As part of our Dragons topic, in Art we explored Dragons Eyes before designing their own and used sculpting techniques to create a clay eye. We will now explore colours to create mood and decide which colour to paint our dragon eyes!



As part of our Space topic in Science we have explored the flat earth and spherical earth theories and The Planets in our Solar System.

Awards

Class 1: Star of the week: Thom for settling into Pre-school so happily and have such wonderful manners! Presentation: Peter.

Class 2: Ryan for his great letter to the Wild Lives Film Studio. Presentation Award: Charlie

Class 3: Chloe for your incredible dragon Non-Chronological report. Presentation- Owen

Lunchtime Golden Tickets

Calvin - for his lovely manners to lunchtime staff.

Harry - for being a great help during lunchtime play.

Oliver - for always being polite to lunchtime staff.

Scarlett - for being a great role model to all.

Homework

Class 1: Please see individual child's folder.

PLEASE practise spellings with your child for 5 minutes each day alongside their reading book. We have lots of new books to be won in the book raffle!

Class 2: Spellings. Timestables. Roman country names.

Class 3: Spellings. Numeracy- Maths Mat. Literacy- SPAG Work.

After School Club

Jen is starting a Lego Club in After School Club on Tuesdays. If you would like your child to be involved please contact the office.

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 17th January – Week 3 of lunch menu