



Cotherstone Primary School 16th
September 2022



I am pleased to announce that we have received accreditation of our International Schools Award and will remain an International School for the next three years! We have been awarded this in

recognition of the children's work with our partner school in France and the language taster sessions and international events that we participated in last year. We will be continuing our international work this year, so watch this space! The children have worked so hard and have developed themselves as 'global citizens' and I am so proud of them and our school for receiving this award! Well done everyone! Miss Gillard.

Autumn Term Class Newsletters

Class newsletters have been sent home this week. On these you can find important information unique to your child's class about PE days, homework and reading routines and a detailed overview of what your child will be learning in each subject this term.

Our new school library!

Before the summer holidays we were super busy having a complete revamp of our school library. We wanted an area where our children can relax and enjoy a book to develop our shared love of reading! We took our vision to the Friends of Cotherstone School and, as always, they were happy to fund furniture and soft furnishings! This week we were thrilled to invite local author Anne Fine into school to officially cut the ribbon to open the library. Whilst in school, Anne held question and answer sessions with each class! The library has certainly been well-used this week!

Durham Music Service

The children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will bring home a card today with details of how to take up the opportunity to learn to play the recorder or flute.

Class 1 and 'Little Learners'

We have had a super full week at preschool with our 3-4 years olds and 4-5 year olds. We have been enjoying the September sunny weather. On Tuesday we chased our shadows on the playground and then Miss Lee drew around each of the children laid on the playground. The children then drew their facial features using chalk and coloured the outline of themselves in. We have been on an Autumn hunt and created our own 'Autumn stick' by placing the different coloured leaves of autumn poked on a stick. We have been enjoying 'Dough disco' daily with the playdough and strengthening our fingers. The children have also been leaning to share and take turns by playing a variety of games indoors and also the Reception children have started to learn letter sounds this week. Well done everyone!







In Class 1, we have had a busy week this week continuing our work on Place Value in maths. We have been using place value charts, making tens and ones and partitioning numbers using the part/whole model. In literacy we have been using adjectives to describe characters and writing descriptive sentences about ourselves. We have continued to learn about The Great Fire of London in history and how it started. In P.E we have been practising our throwing and catching skills in preparation to play 'Piggy in the middle'. We have also been learning about the features of a church in R.E and basic computer skills in computing. Keep up the good work!

Show and Tell

Children in preschool, Reception and Year 2 are invited to bring in a toy/object/book that they would like to share with the rest of the class. 'Show and Tell' will take place on a Friday only. Please only send in items that can not be broken. Please also only send in toys/objects on this day and NOT send them in any other day. It is very difficult to manage if children are bringing in toys everyday as the children get upset if they get broken or lost. Many thanks with your cooperation on this.

Shoe boxes and photos

I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who sent in a shoebox with their child last week. The children have thoroughly enjoyed talking about their holidays and sharing pictures. With regards to the children in preschool and Reception, if you have not already done so, please can you send in pictures of your child with their family and friends. I have started to make photo albums for each child to share in the reading area and this is a lovely discussion point for the children to have.

Favourite books

Please can all children in preschool, Reception and Year 2 bring in their favourite book, with their name clearly wrote in it. We would like the children to also share their favourite stories with their peers. We would like to keep hold of these to display in the reading area for this term.

Many thanks.

This week in Class 2

This week in maths we took our learning outside! The children made place value grids on the yard using sticks and challenged their peers to make numbers up to 1,000 with natural materials. Their enthusiasm was great!

In literacy we have continued our work on 'Marshmallows' and we have been looking at conjunctions and thinking about how we can use them to improve our writing. We have also started to look at a non-chronological report, as we get ready to create our own monsters, before writing a non-chronological report about them! I can't wait to read them!

In history the children have been creating a world timeline for us to display in our classroom and I am super impressed by their creativity and enthusiasm! Take a look at some of their posters!

This week in Class 3

Another busy week in Class 3! Famous author visits, swimming, Roald Dahl week and frogs flying on lily pads to name a few activities!

We have continued our work on Place Value this week, moving up to numbers to 1 million and 10 million! I have been completely in awe of Class 3's maths work - they have all developed incredible problem solving and reasoning skills in previous years and to see them now in upper key stage two with the confidence they have to tackle problem solving questions is **incredible**.

We started our new text this week 'Tuesday'. An almost wordless picture book from a picture book great, David Wiesner. One night, the frogs of a pond all lift off on their lily pads and fly to a nearby town causing havoc as they go. Some frogs enjoy chasing after birds on a telephone wire, some frogs fly around houses and others stop to watch TV. The people in the neighbourhood are puzzled as to why there are lily pads all over the roads and they begin an investigation. The frogs even make the evening news. What will happen next Tuesday? Perhaps pigs might fly! Class 3 will be writing newspaper reports based on the crazy events over the coming week and so our literacy lessons will focus on developing writing skills needed for this genre.

In our science lesson this week, Class 3 classified animals into different groups for example those with an endoskeleton or exoskeleton! Next week, we will look at how to create a classification key!



Awards

Class 1: Star of the week: Thom, for his concentration when completing activities. Presentation: Calvin.

Class 2: Star of The Week: All of the year 3s for settling into class 2 amazingly! Presentation: Joseph

Class 3: Star of the Week: Fred for settling in so well into our school! Presentation award: Oliver.



This week's lunchtime awards go to:

Thomas K - for making a great start to lunchtimes in Reception.

Rupert - for being a great help to lunchtime staff tidying up the playground.

Joseph - for being a great team player.

Scarlett N - for her mature attitude.

Homework

Class 1 - Reception -see work in folder and reading books. Year 2 -see work in folder, spellings and reading books

Class 2 - Place Value (1,000s, 100s, 10s and 1s) worksheets and some reading

Class 3 - Spellings. Numeracy - Place Value game to play with someone at home Instructions are in your homework book! Literacy- Speech work based on 'Tuesday' .



Dates for your diary

16th September (**TONIGHT!**) - FOCS meeting 7:30pm Fox & Hounds

19th September - School closed

w/c 19th September - Week 3 of menu

20th September - Whole school trip to the Life Centre, Newcastle.

Thank you for your continued support.

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

Richard Batchelor and the Cotherstone Team