



Cotherstone Primary School Newsletter

Friday 23rd June 2023

Job Vacancy

Sadly, Mrs Papworth will be leaving us at the end of the summer term and the role of After School Club Leader will become vacant. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the school office.

Here is a message from Mrs Papworth:

I'm sad to be leaving and I'll miss the children at Cotherstone because I've really enjoyed my time here. It's with a heavy heart I've made the decision to leave ASC.

Reading at Cotherstone - Little Wandle

By Miss Thomas (Reading Lead)

I was lucky enough to attend a Little Wandle 'Champion School' live event this week with Miss Lee and Mrs Gibson to continue to develop the outstanding phonics taking place in our school.

We are nearing the end of our first year using Little Wandle and next week we are very lucky to have Mark Siswick, an ex-pupil, visit the school. Mark is Co-CEO of Little Wandle and last year offered to sponsor both Cotherstone as well as Bowes school to implement Little Wandle. This involved a complete re-stock of all reading books in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as well as a whole range of resources to teach phonics and early reading. In addition to this, Mark provided us with the Rapid Catch-Up books for children aged 7 and above to develop fluency and a love of reading. These resources and books have been invaluable, and we are incredibly grateful for Mark's support, especially when school budgets across the country are so tight.

We will be running a parents phonics workshop at the start of the Autumn Term to provide information on how to continue to support your child at home.

Working in a small school, I have been lucky enough to watch the progress our early readers have made this year. I have reflected this week on those first few 'sounds' our INCREDIBLE Reception children were learning in comparison to their oral blending using their phonics learning now, 8 months later. A huge thank you to all staff involved in teaching our youngest learners to read and all of our parents/wider family who have provided incredible support at home.

This week in Class 3

Class 3

We have explored an incredible video clip this week called Alma. A young girl wanders down a narrow street when she notices a chalkboard full of names. She feels something behind her and notices a doll in a shop window, realisation kicks in when she notices the doll is dressed exactly the same as her... Class 3 have been focusing on suspense writing using short, snappy sentences, onomatopoeia and micro-expressions (focusing on Alma's facial expressions and movements). We have also been using a mnemonic called DADWAVERS! which is a technique used to vary sentence types. DADWAVERS! stands for:

Description

Action

Dialogue

Where

Adverb

Verbs

Estimation of time

Rhetorical Question

Simile or metaphor

! Exclamation or onomatopoeia

Class 3 produced two pieces of writing, both of which showcase their incredible writing skills- so proud of you C3!

Our history topic, Crime and Punishment (C & P) is well underway and is a popular one!! So far, we have explored what C & P is and what it looked like for the Romans and then the Anglo-Saxons. Over the next few weeks, we will explore C & P across these different periods: Tudors, Stuarts, Victorians before finally looking at C & P in the 20th century. Ask them all about Romans and Anglo-Saxons- they are full of knowledge!

As part of our materials topic in science we carried out an investigation on how to separate materials. To do this I gave C3 four different trays to separate the materials in the most efficient way without using their hands! This included: raisins in sand, thousands of metal pins and paper clips in rice, sand and water and sugar and water. In their groups they had to think and work scientifically to decide what separation technique they could use. As expected, they were incredible and as a group very quickly worked out that they could use magnets, filtration, evaporation and sieving. There were a few groups that had some (interesting) ideas, one included using a pipette to pick up each individual raisin, which was excellent to watch! This is all part of the excitement of science, being able to fully explore the world around us, problem solve and think scientifically.

A busy week C3! 😊



Awards

Class 1: Star of the Week: Harold for coming into pre-school so happily. Presentation: Rupert.

Class 2: Star of the Week: Billy for always giving his best. Presentation: Benji.

Class 3: Star of the Week: Finley for an amazing double page spread on 'What was Crime and Punishment like for Anglo-Saxons?' Presentation: Fred.



This week's lunchtime awards go to:

Tommy for his excellent table manners

Isla LA for always saying 'Thank you' to Derrick when collecting her lunch

Benji for always being polite to lunchtime staff

Brandon for being a great role model

Homework

Class 1: Please see your child's folder

Class 2: Literacy: Apostrophes for possession. Maths: Right angles.

Class 3: Spellings. History: Crime and Punishment in the Tudor period. Alma- write what happens next...



Dates for your diary

w/c 26th June - Week 1 of lunch menu

4th July - Class 1 & Pre-school trip to Raby Castle

7th July - Sports Day

13th & 14th July - Year 6 transition days to Teesdale School

21st July - School closes for summer break

5th September - School re-opens for new academic year

22nd September - Bag2School collection

Thank you for your continued support.

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

Mrs Gibson and the Cotherstone Team