



Cotherstone Primary School Newsletter

7th July 2023

School meals

Please find below a reminder of the school meal price increase starting 5th September 2023:

- Pupil £2.50
- Preschool £3.00 (£2.50 + 20% V.A.T)

A message from Chartwells

Several factors, including extreme weather and high energy costs, have impacted the yields of this year's root vegetable harvest.

As such, we are experiencing disruption to the supply of some of these ingredients, including potatoes. We are working closely with suppliers to minimise impact, however you may experience some changes to your child's menu.

Safely catering for all pupils is our number one priority, so our medical diet and culinary teams are working in partnership to ensure there will always be an option for medical diet pupils.

Class 1 and Pre-school news

Class 1 & Pre-school visit Raby Castle Report by Miss Lee

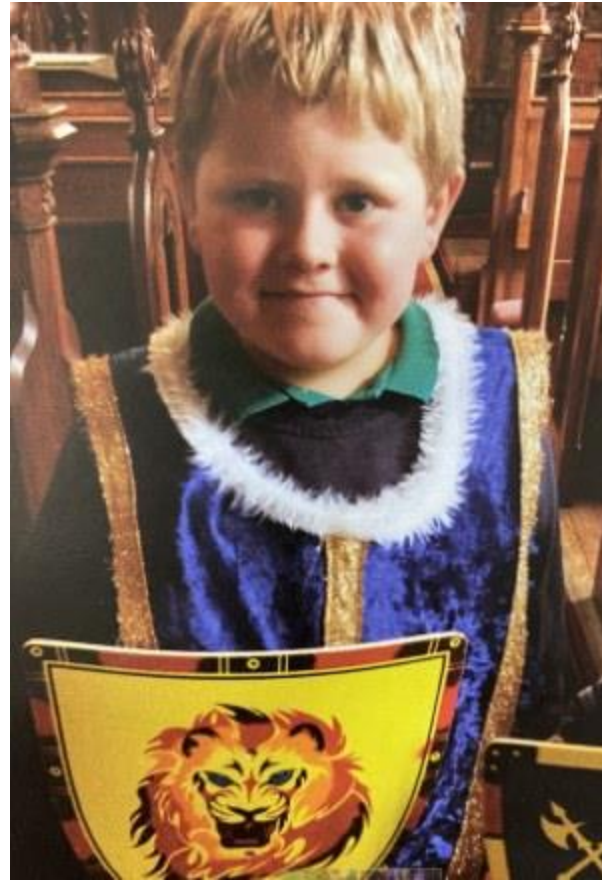
The children all had an amazing visit to Raby castle for the day on Tuesday. They had a super tour around the castle initially and heard lots of different stories from our tour guides; Nick and Wendy. They particularly enjoyed seeing the fox 'Freddie', the golden octagon room covered in silk wallpaper and the housekeepers bedroom which had a tin bath in and pot chamber. The children were amazed to find out that all the poo and wee went into the moat in the olden days! Some of the children were lucky enough to be knighted in the chapel and then we had our dinner in the servant's hall altogether. After dinner we walked around the deer park and observed some deer from a distance! We completed a scavenger hunt and then finished off with a story and ice cream. We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the FOCS for paying for the trip and the ice-cream and I would like to say a big thank you to the pre-school parents for attending this trip too and supporting the children.













Year 6 Water Fight

Somehow, Year 6 have convinced me to have the water fight again this year to celebrate their success and hard work. I had hoped that by taking them to the park today they might let me off.. but apparently not! So.. *reluctantly* the water fight will take place next **Wednesday 12th July**. I have managed to recruit Mr Leinster onto my team, after Mr B has apparently gone into 'Water Fight Retirement'. Mr Leinster's speed and agility really helped last year, and it also meant that they 'eased' off me...a bit.

Dear Year 6,

So... yes, you can bring water pistols next Wednesday - no balloons please (we do not want to harm our rabbit friends). Oh, and remember who got you through those glorious SATs papers (particularly that reading paper!)... please!

Yours sincerely, your teacher of (almost) 4 years!

Miss Thomas

Fingers crossed for a warm day!!

Reading Update from Miss Thomas

Last Thursday we warmly welcomed Mark Siswick into school for him and his wonderful colleague, Jane, along with Rachel Atkinson, who is our reading governor, to see the amazing early reading we have taking place in school using his phonics scheme, Little Wandle. Mark enjoyed looking around the school, reminiscing because he came here as a child. He shared memories of his time here and it was wonderful to welcome him back and show him how amazing our children are. Mark sponsored the school to implement Little Wandle at the beginning of the year, providing a wealth of resources and exciting books. We were able to showcase the exceptional progress our early readers have made with their phonics by inviting Mark and Jane to watch a reading practice session with our reception children taught by the incredible Miss Lee.

They then met with some children who have taken part in the 'Rapid Catch Up' programme, aimed at children in Key Stage 2 who have not secured all of their phonics graphemes or need additional reading practice in order to read fluently and maximise their reading progress. These children confidently shared their stories with Mark about how they are now able to read with so much more confidence and how the sessions, led by Mrs Batchelor, have helped them. This was such an inspiring moment that Mark asked if he could share one of our child's experiences of Little Wandle at a conference held in London this week. Mark's kindness and dedication to the continued success of learning to read at Cotherstone, along with the excellent work my wonderful colleagues have contributed to such a positive reading culture here.

At the start of the Autumn term Miss Lee will be running a parent workshop about Little Wandle and how to support your child with their reading at home. I will be holding a workshop for Class 2 and 3 parents/carers showing how we teach reading in Key Stage Two using whole class reading as well as group guided reading sessions.





Awards

Class 1: Stars of the Week: All of Class 1 and Pre-school for their great behaviour on our class trip.
Presentation: Sophia C

Class 2: Star of the Week: Ryan for his great symmetry work. Presentation: Thea

Class 3: Stars of the Week: Summer, Thom, Sennen, Thomas, Sophie and Henry for your wonderful performance yesterday! Presentation: Thomas



This week's lunchtime awards go to:

Sophia - for her kindness to her class friends during lunchtime play

Scarlett - for her mature attitude at lunchtimes

Claudette - for being a great role model to all

Finn - for being helpful and polite to lunchtime staff

Homework

Class 1: Please see your child's individual folder

Class 2: Spellings (from last week). Think about costume/props for the play

Class 3: Continue to read and rehearse your lines/learn the songs- you are all doing AMAZING!



Dates for your diary

w/c 10th July - Week 3 of lunch menu

12th July - Year 6 water fight

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

19th July - Leavers assembly and key stage 2 play 1pm. Parents can arrive from 12:45pm.

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