



# Cotherstone Primary School Newsletter

## 8th September 2023

### **Welcome to the new school year!**

We would like to wish all pupils, staff and parents / carers a warm welcome back to Cotherstone Primary School in this new academic year. We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer break and are feeling rested, refreshed and energised ready for the excitement, fun and challenges of school. We would like to extend a special welcome to Florence, Izacc, Florry, Logan, Max, Anna, Chloe, Lilah, Thom and Edie who have started in Class 1 as our new Reception Cohort and Heather, Aimee and Henry who have joined our Little Learners pre-school. As well as this, we would like to welcome Brandon, George-William, Mia and Alvinamarie, who have joined us further up the school. We hope our new students have enjoyed their first week at Cotherstone as much as our returning pupils have.

### **Healthy Snacks and Packed Lunches**

Please can we remind everyone to send in healthy snacks and packed lunches for children. It is vital that children are eating nutritious snacks and packed lunches at school. This will help children to stay fit and healthy; focus in lessons and thrive socially and emotionally. May we also remind you that we are a nut-

free school. If you would like any further advice or ideas for healthy packed lunches, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

If your child has school lunch, please send in payment of £97.50 for this half term. Please make your cheque payable to Durham County Council or pay cash, in an envelope marked with your child's name. Parents of pre-school children, Alison will email you to let you know how much your child's lunches amount to for the half term .

### **Readers**

If anyone is interested in coming into school on a regular basis to listen to readers in school, we would very much appreciate this. If you are able to help, please contact the school office to let us know your availability. We are happy to provide training to support you in this role. We look forward to hearing from you.

### **Forest School**

Class 1 Forest School will take place on **Tuesday 12th September** next week instead of Wednesday. Please ensure that children are sent to school with all the appropriate clothing.

### **Swimming**

Swimming sessions will begin **Monday 18th September** for Class 2 and 3 children. More information will follow next week.

### **Uniform**

Please ensure all items of child's uniform are clearly marked with their name. If any items not belonging to your child manage to find their way to your home, please send them back to school so that they can reach their rightful owner (in particular a green PE tshirt, size medium adult).

## **This week in Class 3**

### **Class 3**

Everyone has made an amazing start in class this week. I have been really impressed with how quickly everyone has settled into their new routines with new classmates and, for some, their new classroom and new teacher.

We have already covered lots of subjects including place value work on numbers up to 1,000,000 for year 5s and up to 10,000,000 for year 6s. We have looked at character descriptions for our first literacy topic based on our whole-school text, Flotsam. We have learned some new hockey skills, studied different types of transport in French, created loops and riffs in music and drawn circuit diagrams using scientific symbols in science. We have also started work on our history topic, World War II, by learning about Germany. The children have all worked very hard and I'm sure will be ready for a rest this weekend! Well done everyone 😊

Our PE days will be Monday (swimming which will begin on 18th September) and Tuesdays. Children in Class 3 will need their PE kit on Monday 11th as there will be no swimming on that day.

Homework will be given out on a Friday and is due to be returned by the following Thursday.

Children will receive a ticket for our Book Raffle each time they get their reading record signed at home.

If anyone would like to come in and listen to our amazing readers, giving them a valuable, extra opportunity to read aloud to an adult, please contact myself or Alison in the office. Thank you.

Mr B

### **After School Club**

The first week back has been a busy one in after school club! Mr Leinster now runs activities for the children on Mondays and Tuesdays along with Football Club on a Wednesday. Derrick, the school chef and Mrs Bark have some delicious ideas for cookery club on Thursdays...they started with shortbread bears last night and pizza is planned for next week. Please contact Alison in the office if you would like to book your child into club.



### **Dates for your diary:**

18th September: Key stage 2 swimming starts

22nd September: Friends of Cotherstone School Bag2School collection

***Thank you for your continued support.***

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

***Mrs Julie Gibson and the Cotherstone Team***