



Cotherstone Primary Newsletter 12th January 2024

We send a warm welcome back to school to everyone, we hope you had a lovely Christmas and wish you a healthy and happy 2024. We would like to extend an extra special welcome to Sophie, who has joined us this term.

Attendance

This week's overall attendance is 98.37%. Class 3 had the best attendance with 98.9%. Well done Class 3!

Primary School place Applications

Applications for a place for Reception children starting in September 2024 close on 15th January. Please find the link below if you wish to apply for a place for your child:

[Apply now for a primary school place - deadline 15 January 2024 - Durham County Council](#)

Lunch money

To pay for lunches for this half term please pay £80 either by cash, cheque made payable to 'Durham County Council' or you can now pay directly into our school fund account. For those parents who use wraparound care, it's the same account that you make those payments to, as follows: Cotherstone School Fund account number: 73240487 Sort Code: 20-25-29. Please ensure you note on your payment that the payment is for school lunches. Thank you.

This week in Class 3

Class 3 have made a fantastic return to school and have got off to roaring start. We have continued our geography work by investigating the sustainability of the UK's energy systems. Y5s have been multiplying increasingly large numbers together and the Y6s have been converting and calculating with metric units.

Our new English topic has caused quite a stir by turning some traditional tales on their heads. We have compared and contrasted two versions of The Three Little Pigs - one traditional version and one modern twisted version with some surprising results. The wolf, who has been charged with trespassing and wanton destruction in the original has turned out to be suffering with asthma in the modern version and so unable to blow down any houses - so who has done this and why?? We are also investigating a formal complaint made to the police by 3 bears who claim a girl has broken into their house and committed theft and vandalism. The children are currently creating an evidence board for their investigation.

On Tuesday, the Tees/Swale team in and made some organic birdfeeders with us in preparation for the Big Bird Count next week.

The children have started their new art topic - I Need Space! - and have studied some very cool space propaganda pieces as inspiration.

Last Friday, the children had the opportunity to talk to some former pupils and parents to discuss their careers beyond our school. This was a very interesting day with the children looking great as their future-selves.

PE in Class 3 this half-term will be on Wednesdays (Netball) and Thursdays (Dance).

Class 1 Notice: PE days are Tuesday and Thursday. **Please ensure you send your child to school with a warm coat, hat and gloves during the cold winter months.**

Class 2 Notices PE days are a Monday and Tuesday this half term. Forest school sessions will take place on Tuesdays and will take place in all weather conditions so children need warm, waterproof clothing. **Please ensure Reading Records are sent to school each day.**



Awards

Class 1: Star of the Week: Logan for joining in all activities with great enthusiasm. Presentation: Brandon.

Class 2: Star of the Week: Alvinamarie for your excellent attitude to learning! Presentation: Mia.

Class 3: Star of the Week: Sophie for settling into Class 3 so well. Presentation: Kitty.



This week's lunchtime awards go to:

Florence for happily following the lunchtime routine.

Evie for being a good friend.

Noah for being a great help to lunchtime staff.

Reuben for being a great team leader.

Homework

Class 1: Please see your child's homework folder

Class 2: Spellings. Maths - Multiplication Tables Practice. Literacy - Greek Myth - read and enjoy your Greek myth and turn it into a cartoon/storyboard.

Class 3: Maths: Y5 - Written multiplication Maths: Y6 - Metric conversions. English: Modal verbs. Spellings.

After School Club

Please find below a reminder of this term's activities:

Monday - Film and Games Club

Tuesday - Film and Games Club

Wednesday - Football

Thursday - Baking Club

Bag2School

Friends of Cotherstone School are holding another Bag2School collection on 26th January to raise funds for the school. We'd be hugely grateful for any clothes or textiles that anyone would like to donate to be weighed in. Please see the letter attached to today's email for more information. If you are unable to deliver your donation, collections can be arranged by contacting Rachel on 07990 687636. Thank you!



Dates for your diary

26th January - Bag2School collection

Term Dates:

Spring Term 2024

PD Day 3rd January.

1st half term: School re-opens Thursday 4th January and closes Friday 16th February '24

2nd half term: School opens Monday 26th February 'and closes Thursday 28th March '24

Summer Term 2024

1st half term: School re-opens Monday 15th April '24 and closes Thursday 23rd May '24

May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May

PD Day 24th May

2nd half term: School re-opens Monday 3rd June '24 and closes Friday 19th July '24

PD Days 22nd and 23rd July

Autumn Term '24

PD Day 4th September

1st half term. School re-opens Thursday 5th September '24 and closes Friday 25th October '24

2nd Half. School re-opens Monday 4th November '24 and closes Friday 20th December '24

Spring Term '25

PD Day 6th January

1st half term: School re-opens Tuesday 7th January '25 and closes Friday 21st February '25

2nd half term: Monday 3rd March '25 and closes Friday 11th April '25

Summer Term '25

1st Half Term: School opens Monday 28th April '25. School closes Friday 23rd May '25

May Day Bank Holiday '25 Monday 5th May '25

2nd half term: Monday 2nd June '25. School closes Friday 18th July 2025

planned return 2/9/25

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