

MARCH NEWS & LETTER



This term has flown by and we are fast approaching the Easter holidays! We have been extremely busy with lots of exciting things happening in school and lots to look forward to in the summer term. It has been lovely to welcome so many parents into school for our parents meetings, coffee mornings, art exhibition and music assemblies – Thank you for all of your ongoing support.

Sensory Room

We are incredibly excited to announce that, following a successful bid to East Midlands Railway and funding from the Cowley Trust, we have recently installed an incredible multi-sensory room. This will enhance our SEND provision and has been designed to provide sensory input for our children. This unique facility has been carefully designed and is bespoke to meet our specifications. It will officially open in the summer term and we are looking forward to sharing more about this in the coming weeks.

I would like to offer a huge thank you to our PTFA member, Tony, who has championed our funding bid to EMR.

A further exciting project is planned in readiness for next academic year... watch this space!

Autism Awareness Day- 31st March- Wear your PJs!



We will be celebrating Autism Awareness on Friday 31st March. All children are welcome to attend school in their pyjamas, onesie or anything in which they feel comfortable. We will be celebrating what makes us unique and learning more about autism.

Our parents coffee meeting will be focused around autism awareness and will be held at 2.15pm. Details for this have already been sent to you via ParentMail.

Red Nose Day

We raised an amazing £146.57 for Red Nose Day! Thank you to everyone who donated. The children and staff looked fantastic in their bright colours and crazy hair.

School Visits - Year 5 / 6 Visit to Duxford

On Wednesday 1st March Kestrels, Hawks and Falcons classes enjoyed a wonderful trip to Duxford Imperial War Museum. Lots of children and the adults dressed up as WWII evacuees – and everyone looked amazing! They took part in a workshop with two war veterans and heard their stories about their lives, which were fascinating. They also had the chance to explore some of the many different hangers – including walking through Concorde and looking at all the different military vehicles. Some of the tanks and planes were huge! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and didn't want it to end!



Reading

Throughout the past month we have enjoyed celebrating our love for reading by taking part in numerous exciting activities across the school. Our school council lead National Storytelling Week, where children had the opportunity to listen to a story of their choice from a mystery staff member! We have also taken part in several shared reading activities where all children were paired up with someone in another key stage to share their stories with. It was lovely to see the children reading together and we look forward to more of these activities in the future. Please see the reading part of the website for pictures and updates on some upcoming projects including Shakespeare Week and Poetry Day!



Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance at school is vitally important to ensure that all children make good progress and that they access the curriculum they are entitled to. In the first instance, it is the responsibility of pupils and their parents to ensure attendance at school as required by law. The Government states that an attendance rate of less than 95% will have a detrimental effect on a child's education. It is therefore the school's aim that each of our pupils should have an attendance rate as high as possible; this being in excess of 95% each academic year unless there are exceptional circumstances, out of the child's control, that affect their attendance at school. If this is the case, the school will support the child and their family to ensure their attendance rate is as high as it can possibly be.



Lateness is hugely disruptive both to the child and to the effective running of the school and teaching. **The school day begins promptly at 8.55am.** Please make sure your children are at school by this time.

In line with policy, we are taking a robust approach and working with families to raise attendance and improve punctuality. Our Attendance Policy can be found on our school website:

https://www.cowley.lincs.sch.uk/web/safeguarding_policies/606601

Sporting update

Tennis coaching with Boston Tennis Club – 1st March



Children from Ladybirds, Dragonflies and Rabbits each had a PE lesson with coaches from Boston Tennis Club. Children played a variety of games to develop speed, accuracy and hand-eye co-ordination with a racket and ball. They also practised hitting balls over a net. All the children had a wonderful time and were inspired to continue their tennis skills.

Cross-Country Tournament – 9th March

On a very cold and snowy day, children from Years 4, 5 and 6 travelled to Thomas Middlecott Academy to take part in a Cross-Country tournament. We competed in the large schools category against 8 other schools from across the Boston area. Each team ran 2 laps, covering 1500m! Everyone showed tremendous team spirit, cheering each other as we crossed the finishing line.

Our boys team came 3rd and the girls team came 5th. Individually, Elijah came in 2nd place, winning a medal! Congratulations everyone!



Playground Leaders

Our new playground leaders from KS2 are working brilliantly with groups of children from KS1 at lunchtime. They are teaching fun, active games to all classes to help develop the children's physical skills.

New Active Area - KS1

Now the weather is improving, children from KS1 are loving the new active area. There is a climbing wall, rope ladders, tunnel, balance beam and steppingstones!

Staffing achievements

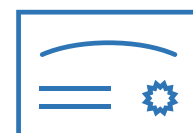
We are incredibly proud of the work which has been undertaken by members of our support staff who have been involved in varied training opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills in different areas and recently have successfully completed the following:

Denise Taylor and Sarah Bailey are now qualified Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA)

Heather Taylor and Claire Wilderspin have qualified as Level 3 Forest School Leaders and

Alyson Coxhead has qualified as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant through the University of Northampton.

I would like to congratulate each of them on their achievements and look forward to seeing the continued impact of their studies on our children's learning.





Goodbye

At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to Sharn Morrissey who is leaving us for warmer climates and a new adventure in Fiji! Katie Gill will also be leaving next week. We wish both members of staff the very best for the future and thank them for all they have done to support our school.

Welcome

Laura Adshead will be joining our support staff team in April, initially working in Ladybirds and Dragonflies. We look forward to welcoming her to our team.



Breakfast Club



Next term Breakfast Club will be led by Louise Poutney and Caroline Glass. Breakfast club has been a huge success since it's implementation last year and we are pleased to confirm that this provision will continue.

PTFA

We have a small team of very dedicated volunteers that make up the PTFA Committee but, we would welcome more help. If you feel you would be able to help in anyway then please speak to the school office or email ptfa@cowley.lincs.sch.uk

Easter Squares – The PTFA have created a grid with 300 squares and every square wins a prize! It may be an easter egg, a bar of chocolate or a mini bag of sweets. The draw will be made on Friday 31st March during our celebration assembly. Each square costs £1.00 and you can buy your Easter Squares from the PTFA on the playground every morning from Monday 27th March.



Following the success of the Christmas Fair, The PTFA are busy planning a Spring Fair on the 20th May 2023 12- 3pm. Please put this date in your diary.

Pre-loved Uniform. We all know how quickly our children grow out of their uniforms! The PTFA will be holding a uniform sale once a month and at events like the Spring/Christmas Fair all items will be sold for 50p each. However, in order to do this we require your donations of uniform that is in good condition. Please donate any pre-loved uniform to the school office.

SATs, Multiplication Check and Phonics Screening- Reminder

Key Stage 2 SATS will be held **Tuesday 9th May- Friday 12th May**- all year 6 children must attend school on these dates as usual. Further information will be provided nearer the time.

Key Stage 1 SATs will be held week commencing **15th May**.

Year 4 pupils will sit the multiplication check **5th – 16th June**

Year 1 pupils will sit the phonics screening week commencing **12th June**



March

Tuesday 28th- 2.30pm Y2 and Y5/6 Music assembly

Friday 31st- Autism Awareness Day and End of Spring Term

April

Monday 17th- Training Day

Tuesday 18th- Start of Summer Term

Wednesday 19th- Rabbits, Moles and Hedgehogs Lincoln Castle Visit

May

1st- Bank Holiday

5th- Non- Uniform Day- Coronation Celebration (Red/ White/ Blue) - Bring a Bottle- PTFA donation

8th- Bank Holiday

9th- 12th- KS2 SATS

15th- 19th- KS1 SATS

17th- Year 6 London Theatre Visit- Wicked

20th- PTFA May Fayre

22nd – 26th – Y6 Top up swimming

26th- End of Summer Term 1