

December Newsletter



As the Autumn Term draws to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and wish you all a wonderful Christmas. Please find below our end of term reminders and updates.

Attendance

Once we return from our Christmas break there will only be 120 school days left of this academic year and they are sure to go quickly! From next term, we will be starting an attendance competition in school where the class with the highest level of attendance for the week will get the opportunity to have Arlo join their class for part of the day.

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.



Save the Children

Thank to everyone for their kind donations on Christmas Jumper Day. We raised an amazing £100.77 for the Save the Children UK charity.



PTFA

The PTFA would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who showed their support for this years Christmas Fair. It was lovely to see so many happy faces on the night enjoying all the different activities and exploring the stalls. The bottle stall was once again a huge success so thank you to all our generous families for your donations.

Thank you to all our volunteers who came to help set up and pack away, we are so grateful to you for giving up your time to help. It is a big job setting up the Christmas Fair so the extra help was very much appreciated.

So, how much did we raise? We are pleased to share that this year we raised a huge £1,217.23!!!!!! This will help towards developing our school sensory garden which will benefit all our children.



The PTFA have recently also purchased a new sound system for the school which has been used this week in our Nativity and Carol services and will also be used for future productions, fairs, choir performances and events.

If you would like to join our PTFA, volunteer for future events or have any fundraising ideas please email us at ptfa@cowley.lincs.sch.uk. We also have our own Facebook page so if you are not yet following us, please click the link to keep up to date with what we are up to.

[Facebook](#)

Sports

This term the children have taken part in two sporting events. On the 21st of November, children from our Year 5/6 cohort took part in a footballing event held at Boston United. The children were amazing all day and even though the results did not go our way, the children never gave up.



We also took part in the Sports Hall Athletics event on the 8th of December where again the children showed amazing attitude and athleticism throughout the afternoon. This incredible attitude and athleticism resulted in our children coming **second** which is an amazing achievement.



Next term our children will be taking part in numerous events which include a table tennis competition, a girl's football tournament and a cross country competition as well as many more. As well as these competitions, we have also had a football coach in to teach some of our KS2 girls different footballing skills including dribbling, passing, tackling and shooting. We have also had our netball coach in to teach some of our Year 5s and 6s different skills.



Reading

This term we have been extremely excited to have filled our library and book corners with brand new books! We are always on the lookout for some brilliant book reviews to put on display. Last week, year 5 and 6 had a special online author visit from Katherine Rundell about her new book 'Impossible Creatures' which also gave some insight into the writing process to help children write their own stories. This half term the whole school has also enjoyed their paired reading activity, it was lovely to see so many children sharing their books with one another and look forward to the same event very soon. Next term, the Reading Ambassadors will be heading down to Donington Library to showcase the wonderful facilities on offer and take out their own library cards! Please keep an eye on the reading page on the school website for photographs and updates about our reading journey.



Staffing

At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to Lizzie Boden. On behalf of the school community, I would like to thank Lizzie for her commitment to our school and wish her the very best in her new role.



In January, Ben Carr will be joining us as Squirrels class teacher. Additionally, we are welcoming two new members of support staff: Jenny Allcorn and Nadia Lynch. We look forward to welcoming them to the team 😊

Arlo

Arlo is thoroughly enjoying spending time in school. The children are lovely with him and he really does love the company and attention. He loves reading with our Readers of the Week and has spent time in all classes. His favourite time of day is lunchtime when he is walked by staff members and children. Next term the class with the highest attendance weekly will have the opportunity to look after Arlo for part of the day.



Swimming

Next term from January to March, Moles will be swimming every Wednesday starting on 10th January 2024. Further details to come.



Choir update

Both the key stage one and key stage two choirs have been working hard all term and we could not be prouder of their performances. After Christmas, the key stage one choir will be run by Mrs Glass and Mrs Sawdy.

The key stage two choir have been singing out in the community at the Donington Christmas festival and for the local community lunch. They have been fantastic representatives for the school. They are now busy preparing for their next big performance, young voices! This exciting event will happen at Sheffield arena on February 19th. Currently the choir is at full capacity, however if places do become available then we would love to welcome new members.



Christmas Party Day- Wednesday 20th December

Christmas parties will be held in classes during the morning. Please do send children in non-uniform to enjoy the festivities.



ParentMail

As you are aware we use ParentMail as our main line of communication with parents and carers. We do send out lots of important information and would appreciate everyone taking the time to read what gets sent out. If you do not have the app, we recommend downloading it so you don't miss any information that is sent out. With the app, as soon as a ParentMail has been sent you will get a notification straight away on your phone rather than relying on checking your emails. If ever you have a problem with ParentMail please don't hesitate to contact the school office, we do not want you to miss anything.





December

20th Christmas Party Day and End of Autumn Term 2

January

3rd Start of Spring Term 1

18th – Girls 5 a side football competition

19th – Boccia competition

26th – Year 3 and 4 Sports Hall Athletics

February

1st Healthy Minds Coffee morning 9am

2nd Number Day

9th End of Spring Term 1

19th Start of Spring Term 2 – Key stage two choir at young voices?

21st Y6 London Houses of Parliament Visit

29th Gymnastics Development Day

March

7th Cross Country Competition

8th Goalball competition

20th Parent Meetings

21st Netball competition

28th Autism Day and End of Spring Term 2