



Another busy half term has flown by!! We have had a brilliant start to the Autumn Term and children and staff have enjoyed the new opportunities in and around school. Next half term looks to be incredibly exciting with further incredible opportunities planned within the curriculum and beyond. I would like to wish all our families a lovely half term and hope you all enjoy the Autumn days ahead.

Immersive suite opening

Undoubtedly the most exciting development within school was the installation of our incredible immersive suite. Following its official opening by the Cowley Trust, this amazing facility is being used by children across the school. It offers a wealth of possibilities and experiences to evoke curiosity, capture imagination and to inspire, whilst broadening knowledge and understanding of the world, building vocabulary and enhancing learning across our entire curriculum.

Please follow the link below to read all about the Immersive suite and it's official opening. [School trips to space, the rainforest and even the ocean... thanks to opening of immersive suite at Donington Cowley Endowed Primary \(spaldingtoday.co.uk\)](https://www.spaldingtoday.co.uk/news/school-trips-to-space-the-rainforest-and-even-the-ocean...thanks-to-opening-of-immersive-suite-at-donington-cowley-endowed-primary)

We would like to offer the opportunity for parents and carers to visit this unique facility on Friday 3rd November. Mrs Floyd will set up a booking system and slots will be available 9-10, 10-11 and 2-3 on this day. Refreshments will also be available.

EYFS

The children have settled into school brilliantly! They have really enjoyed exploring the inside and outdoor learning environments and are really taking every challenge in their stride. They quickly got use to the school routines and have particularly enjoyed phonics and the immersive suite! We have visited many places in the immersive suite such as a farm, under the sea and we even went back in time to when dinosaurs roamed!



This term we are going to be spending time looking at many different celebrations such as Diwali, Hannukah, Fireworks night and Christmas.

We will be taking part in 'World Nursery Rhyme Week' (13th-17th November) and have scheduled a dress up day on 13th November to launch this. May we ask that children come into school dressed as their favourite nursery rhyme character.

Reading

This half term we have enjoyed the start of our 'Reader of the Week' celebrations in the new library! Please see the reading section of the website for updates and pictures of the children enjoying their drinks and biscuits to celebrate. We have already started working hard with our reading ambassadors towards achieving the silver reading pledge award, and our first reading newsletter (written by our ambassadors) is ready to go. We are delighted to see the children take such an interest in reading, especially at home, and we always love to hear about the books people have enjoyed.



Sports

Girls Football Club



Girls from Years 5 and 6 are currently enjoying a free 6-week football club delivered by Discovery Sports. Each week the coaches have been impressed with their skills and enthusiasm. There will be 2 more sessions after half-term.

Netball Club



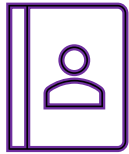
Boys and girls from upper key stage 2 are enjoying netball club every Tuesday after school. Our netball coach is teaching and developing the children's skills and gameplay.

Future events:



Tuesday 21st November – Y5/6 - 7 a side football competition at Boston United
Friday 8th December – Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics competition
Friday 15th December – Santa Run. This will be a whole school event! Details to follow.

Black History month



The children have enjoyed celebrating Black History Month across the school this half-term with children learning more about influential black women throughout history to link with this year's theme of 'Saluting Our Sisters'. EYFS children have looked at music created by black artists such as Aretha Franklin and Etta James. Children in Key Stage 1 have learned about the lives and achievements of Bessie Coleman and Floella Benjamin. Key Stage 2 children have enjoyed learning more about key figures such as Mary Seacole, Rosa Parks and Katherine Johnson.

Attendance

This academic year there are 190 school days. We have already done 33 days this term so we only have 157 days left!!

Please can I remind you that the school day starts at **08.55am**. Your child should be in school and at their desk by this time. If your child arrives after this time, the parent/carer must bring them to the office and sign them in.



A copy of the School Attendance Policy can be found on the school website.

Aylmerton update

The children have just come back from a fabulous residential trip to Aylmerton. This was an incredible experience for children and staff as we explored the city of Norwich and the Norfolk Broads. As well as partaking in amazing activities, our children learnt so much about team-building skills, communication and independence. It was a truly wonderful experience, and the Aylmerton team were, once again, superb. The children were a credit to the school with their behaviour and resilience. We have booked again for next year, and the pupils currently in Years 4 and 5 will be receiving details regarding this in the coming weeks.

Keep an eye on the website to see some amazing photos of our experiences.



Children In Need – Spotacular!

Children in Need this year is Friday 17th November with the theme being Spotacular! Children are invited to come to school in spots and bright coloured non uniform. Donations are welcome and payable via ParentMail.



School Disco



Our School Disco's will take place on Friday 8th December. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be from 6pm – 7pm and Years 3,4,5 & 6 will be from 7.15pm – 8.30pm. Tickets will be available to purchase via ParentMail and we will notify you when these will be available to purchase.

School Council

A new school year means a new School Council. We had lots of children who wanted to be the school council representative for their class, so thank you to all who wanted to be involved. Each class held an election and our new councillors are:

Kestrels: Kevin and Chenumi

Hawks: Ella

Falcons: Binaya

Moles: Florence

Badgers: Ollie

Squirrels: George

Hedgehogs: Teddy

Rabbits: Bella

Dragonflies: Solomon



We have lots of projects to focus on, the main one being the establishment of a Sensory Garden for the whole school to use. We have lots of ideas for the garden and will be creating a wish list very soon. We will definitely be including some planters in the garden that we will be filling (in the spring) with a variety of plants that have been carefully chosen to appeal to the senses, for example, the curry plant, lavender and some herbs for their smell and lambs ear for touch.

PTFA

The PTFA will be having their AGM on the 16th November at 3.30pm at Donington Cowley Primary School. Please come and support us, any help is appreciated.

Spooky Squares will be on sale from 31st October to 3rd November. Squares are £1 each and every square wins a prize! There will also be 5 special prizes.



Our Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December is fast approaching, and we could really do with some volunteers to help on the day/evening. If you are able to help set up or even man a stall that would be brilliant, please speak to Mrs Floyd in the office. The PTFA are busy contacting local businesses to request Raffle Prizes – If you have a small business or would like to donate a raffle prize please speak to Mrs Floyd or email ptfa@cowley.lincs.sch.uk. Our bottle stall will be back at the Christmas Fair and our PTFA Bring a Bottle non uniform day will be Friday 24th November 2023. Come to school in non-uniform and bring an unopened bottle of whatever!





October- Black History Month

31st Start of Autumn Term 2

November

1st Parent Consultation Day

3rd Immersive Suite opening

13th Nursery rhyme week dress up day (EYFS/KS1)

14th EYFS open morning (2024 cohort) (09:15 – 10:00)

17th Children in Need – Spotacular Non Uniform

21st Y5/6 - 7 a side football competition at Boston United

24th PTFA Non Uniform and Bring a Bottle day

December

1st Christmas Fayre 5pm - 7pm

3rd Donington Christmas Festival - Choir performance

7th Choir Performance - Ruby Hunt Centre

8th School Disco KS1 6pm -7pm & KS2 7.15pm – 8.30pm

8th Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics competition

13th Nativity- KS1- 2pm - 2.40pm and evening performance 5pm-5.40pm

14th Carol Service- KS2 2pm - 2:40pm

15th Christmas Dinner

15th Santa Run

20th End of Autumn Term