



MARCH NEWSLETTER



This half term has certainly flown by and it is lovely to see the first signs of spring making an appearance. We are having a fantastic time in school with lots of exciting things happening and coming up!

I would like to thank you all for your understanding and support over the last few weeks as we have again faced the challenges of COVID-19. The children have been amazing and have coped brilliantly with the changes to routines and to staffing which have been necessary.

School Reports

We were greatly looking forward to welcoming parents back into school for face-to-face parents' meetings, however COVID-19 again made this impossible. This week your child will bring home a brief report which provides a general comment on their progress and also indicates current levels of attainment.

Within this is a table indicating levels of attainment. These are predictions for end of year based on where your child is currently working. Please be aware that the past 2 academic years have been greatly disrupted by school closures – whilst teacher assessment reflects the national standards this may not fittingly reflect the progress which your child has made despite the challenging circumstances they have faced. Therefore, we urge you to focus upon the teacher comments made and the judgements made in terms of your child's achievement and effort.

Should you have any queries in relation to your child's report please do contact class teachers directly.

A full academic report will be sent home at the end of the summer term.

Staffing

I am delighted to inform you that we have internally appointed Sarah Ogden as Assistant Headteacher from April 2022. Sarah will have responsibility for all aspects of inclusion including SEND and Pupil Premium and for the pastoral care of our children. To support Sarah in this role, Sarah-Jane Millard will be joining us in the summer term as SEND, Inclusion and Family Support Assistant. We look forward to welcoming her to our school in the summer term.

I would also like to welcome Emma Floyd who has recently joined our office team as an administration assistant.

At the end of this week, we will be saying goodbye to Zoe Starkie and Jackie Robertson who are moving on to new roles and wish them the very best for the future. Jackie isn't completely leaving us though as she will still be in to support as needed around her new working hours.

Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Relief Cleaner; the hours of work will vary but at this stage would be 12.5 per week – (15:30 – 18:00). The grade for this post is G1 SCP2 – from £18,092 pro-rata. If you are interested in this post, please speak with Mrs Baxter in the School Office.

Curriculum

We are currently reviewing our curriculum and are excited to be starting our new topics from next term. Class newsletters will be going out before Easter outlining what these will involve. Our approach is changing in order to ensure that all subjects are effectively sequenced, through a rolling 2-year programme, to progressively build upon children's knowledge, skills and understanding in all subject areas as appropriate to year group and stage of development. School leaders and class teachers are already buzzing with enthusiasm and fantastic ideas- our completed curriculum will be shared next term ready for full implementation September 2022.

Sports

Children from across KS2 attended a cross country competition at Thomas Middlecott Academy. In the girls' team Evelyn came in 1st place and our girls' team overall finished in 4th place. In the boys' team, Charlie came in 2nd place. The boys team overall came in 1st place and came away with a trophy! All the children were amazing and a credit to the school. Thank you to Hannah Winfield for taking the cross-country team to the event.

Attendance

Our Attendance Policy has been reviewed and has been sent out with this Newsletter – it can also be accessed on our school website.

<https://www.cowley.lincs.sch.uk/media/policies/DCEPS%20Attendance%20Policy%20March%202022.pdf>

Attendance at school is vitally important to ensure that all children make good progress and that they access the curriculum they are entitled to.

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.**

In line with policy, we will be taking a robust approach and working with families to raise attendance and improve punctuality.



Autism Awareness Day (Thursday 31st March)

This week is Autism Awareness week and we will be raising awareness of autism through PSHE sessions and assemblies. On Thursday we ask children to wear their onesies, pyjamas or any clothing they feel comfortable to celebrate being unique and being proud of who we are.

Year 6 Boosters

These will continue next half term – Mondays until 4pm.

Comic Relief

Thank you for all your support with this fund-raising event. I am delighted to tell you that we raised **£176.80**



Mini Police

I would like to say a huge thank you to our mini police who have done an amazing job in the mornings of raising awareness of road safety.



Please can we again remind that cars should not be parked on the zig zag lines and that bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school premises.

Thank you to all of you for helping to keep our school safe during school drop off times.

Forest Schools

Last week 4 members of staff attended the first part of their Forest Schools Leader training: Heather Taylor, Louise Poutney, Claire Wilderspin and Katie Gill. We are keen to develop our outdoor learning provision across our school and are excited by the opportunities to incorporate Forest Schools within our curriculum. Before we can start, we need to clear an area of woodland on our field and would love for volunteers to join us on Saturday 23rd April, weather providing, to help us with this effort. Please email Mrs Baxter to let us know if you are available.

Roots to Food

We have arranged for Darren, from Roots to Food, to join us on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th April. Darren will work across the whole school during these days to provide a food and nutrition workshops, developing cookery skills and enjoying delicious, healthy, home cooked recipes. This will be a fantastic enhancement to our Design Technology curriculum.



Active Education in Health & Wellbeing

Key Dates

March

Thursday 31st- Autism Awareness Day (further details to follow)

Thursday 31st- End of Spring Term



April

Tuesday 19th- Additional Bank Holiday

Wednesday 20th- Start of Summer Term 1

Monday 25th – Roots to Food

Tuesday 26th – Roots to Food

May

Monday 2nd- Bank Holiday

Monday 9th- Thursday 12th- SATS week

Friday 27th- Jubilee celebrations (TBC)

Friday 27th- End of Summer Term 1

The Year 2 children will be doing their SATs throughout the month of May