

Coten End Newsletter

Issue No 4

Friday 8th November 2024

Message from Mr Graña

Dear Parents and Carers

I trust that you all had a positive and restful break last week, over half-term. The last few weeks, before the half-term break, were, as so often is the case in a primary school, action-packed and involved a variety of activities.

Lots of the Year 6 visited Arete, in Wales, for their residential, before half-term. All children showed resilience and responsibility – as well as many other impressive qualities and school values. The feedback from children was overwhelmingly positive, despite it being a challenging and tiring week. As always, it was really pleasing to hear – from our own staff and from Arete staff - just how polite, well-mannered and kind the children were; they were excellent Coten End ambassadors. Some Year 6 children did not attend; they, too, had a busy and enjoyable week – enjoying painting, buddying up and supporting younger children, attending Coten End's French café and so much more.

In the last week of the half-term, Year 4 children enjoyed their 'Groovy Greeks' theme day and children also had their school photos taken. Please remember that the deadline, in terms of completing your online order for individual and sibling photos, is Tuesday 19th November. In the last week, we also welcomed lots of you to Parents' Evening, where you were able to meet your child's teacher and look at your child's work. We look forward to welcoming you again, to the next Parents' Evening meetings, in Spring Term.

Despite it being only their first week back after half-term, the children have been extremely busy. All children have started new learning themes this week, whether that be 'Explorers of the Wild' in Year 1, 'The Big Freeze' in Year 4, or 'Darwin's Discoveries' in Year 6. The start of a new theme often evokes lots of curiosity and questioning from children, so please do capitalise on this and take time to ask your child about their new learning.

The school value this half-term is **kindness**. The children often show kindness when at school, whether it be supporting each other in the classroom, or showing concern for one another on the playground. As we know, small acts of kindness can have such a positive impact on others. Please do talk about kindness with your child, and how we can show and receive kindness.



We would like to extend a warm welcome to Vienne Tso and Haralambia Christou, who are both parents at Coten End and have now joined our staff. Vienne has started as a teaching assistant and midday supervisor, and Haralambia has joined the staff in the school office.

Finally, enrichment activities have started, in earnest, this week, with children successfully representing the school in the rowing competition at Champion School (see more information later on) and 4VW visited Warwick School today, as our children continue to enjoy making use of Warwick School's laboratories, equipment and expertise, experiencing science in action.

Best wishes

Mr Graña

BE SAFE BE RESPECTFUL

Academisation

As I mentioned in the newsletter of 13th September I promised I would keep you notified regarding academisation.

At the end of October we were notified by the DfE that they had approved our voluntary conversion to academy status to join Stowe Valley Multi-Academy Trust (SVMAT).

Over the coming months there will be work going on behind the scenes with Warwickshire County Council, SVMAT and the school to ensure that the necessary due diligence is carried out. At the moment we do not know a specific date for conversation but it will be some time in the spring/summer next year.

I will, of course, keep you updated with the progress of our academisation.

Mrs Sheepy

Parents' Evenings

97% of parents and carers attended Parents' Evenings in the week before half term. For the very small minority of parents who didn't make or attend appointments, please contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible to arrange a 10-minute appointment at a mutually convenient time.

The dates for next term's Parents Evening meetings are **Tuesday 4th March** and **Thursday 6th March** (3.40pm—6.40pm)

Christmas performances

Years R, 1, 2 and 3 will soon be starting rehearsals for the Christmas performances. Parents will be informed of any costume requirements and we hope that you will be able to spend some time helping children learn their lines and songs as appropriate.

The performance dates are:

Reception nativity (all 9.15am)

RWL – Wednesday 11th December
RNF – Thursday 12th December
RSM – Friday 13th December

Year 1 Christingle

Monday 16th December at 9.00am

Year 2 Christmas shows (all at 2.30pm)

2HH – Wednesday 11th December
2AM – Thursday 12th December
2CS – Friday 13th December

Year 3 Christmas Concert

Wednesday 18th December at 9.15am



Family Information Service

The latest edition of the Family Information Service newsletter is available to read at:

[FIS Newsletter](#)



Reception 2025 applications

The window is now open for parents and carers to apply for school places for Reception 2024. Applications must be made by 4pm on 15th January 2025 and should be done online via:

[Warwickshire Admissions](#)

Please ensure that your application is on time as late applications will not be included in the first round of offers made in April.

MFL

Coten End Cake Off

Our languages themed cake sale raised a staggering £530.95 for school. All children who baked should have received a small prize from Madame Allison courtesy of The Council of Europe. Thank you once again to all of our fantastic bakers!



Duolingo - Key Stage 2

All children in KS2 should now have their own Duolingo logins. Please encourage your children to get involved with this fantastic educational app. They can learn any language they choose.

Remembrance

On Monday 11th November we will be commemorating Remembrance Day with two minutes' silence at 11.00am. (Please note that the office will not be answering the telephone at this time.)

Children who attend Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Sea Scouts, Beavers, Cubs and so on may wear their uniforms to school on Monday to mark this day.

The office has some poppies available if you would like to make a donation, on Monday, to the Poppy Appeal.



Christmas is coming and Friends will need elves!

We'll be sharing lots more details over the next week regarding Friends' Christmas event, but a quick heads up that the Christmas Fairs will take place, as they have for the last two years, during the school day as child-only events.

Reception and Key Stage 1 fair will be on Friday 29th November and Key Stage 2 on Monday 2nd December.

We will need lots of helpers on both days to make this happen though and in the run up as we prepare. It's a huge amount of work! So please save these dates now and keep your eyes peeled for more information coming soon! Please also take note of our donation days mentioned further on in this newsletter.



Opal Help Out Day

On Saturday 16th November we are having our OPAL Help Out Day. The focus of the day is to construct a mud kitchen on part of Lower School Field (area shown on attachment).

There are lots of photos on the guidance below to give you an idea of the kind of work that will be involved, and we are looking for more volunteers to help with its construction.

If you feel you would be able to support us with this project, please complete the following Google Form - <https://forms.gle/DhsoqvCkCLPVpPNN7>

Guidance on making a mud kitchen:

Work surfaces: OPAL suggests building simple work surfaces where children can "cook" and prepare their mud creations. You can use reclaimed wood, pallets, or old tables. It doesn't need to be fancy, just sturdy and child-height.

Storage space: Incorporate open shelves, crates, or hooks where children can store tools like spoons, pots, pans, and bowls. OPAL encourages the use of recycled materials, so anything sturdy and easy for children to reach works well.

Sink or basin: Though not necessary, having an old sink or basin where kids can mix mud or wash items adds to the sense of realism and encourages water play. It can be as simple as an old metal basin or an unused sink from a renovation.

The area we will use for our mud kitchen:

At the top of the lower-school playground. The area already has some boundary to it and there are some unused picnic tables behind, which could be incorporated into the area.



IDEAS:



Thank you,

Mr Nick Williams
Deputy Headteacher

Black History Month

Black History Month is observed every October in order to give everyone the opportunity to share, celebrate and understand the impact of black heritage and culture.

This year's theme was 'Reclaiming Narratives' and focused on recognising and correcting the narratives of black history and culture. It encouraged us to shine a spotlight on the untold stories, the unsung heroes, and the everyday individuals who have made an indelible impact on our communities. Throughout October, children at Coten End learnt about the lives of significant black individuals through assemblies, paired class activities and also through their curriculum lessons. In addition, many children took part in our whole-school art competition, celebrating the work of black artists.

The artwork was of such a high quality that we awarded all children who entered with a certificate and small prize. All of the artwork has been displayed in Upper School Hall. Thank you so much to everyone who took part - the quality of artwork and creativity was incredible!



Year 3 news

What a fantastic day we had in Year 3 on the Wednesday before half-term for the Tribal Tales Theme Day! The children dressed up as Prehistoric boys and girls, archaeologists and explorers. Many thanks to parents and carers for their help with the costumes - they really helped bring our day to life. The children made clay pots; wove wool; did cave painting; archery and flint napping using soap instead of stone. It was great to hear the children using lots of the vocabulary we have been learning this term when sitting round the camp fire completing these activities.



Basketball news

Lewis and Robert (6WH) recently represented Warwickshire Hawks in their first U11 tournament in the Warwickshire Basketball Association league against Coventry Tornadoes. They were chosen from all four Warwickshire Hawks training teams in the area (Warwick, Leamington, Stratford upon-Avon and Moreton Morrell).

Lewis, Robert and their team demonstrated remarkable skill, teamwork, dedication, resilience and sportsmanship. The game was a testament to their hard work and passion for basketball. Although their team didn't win, the experience was nothing short of inspiring. They congratulated their opponents with genuine respect and grace, embodying the true spirit of the game.



	Morning		Afternoon/Evening	After School Clubs
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Day Inter-Faith Week			Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 12th November				Football (Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Coding (Y3-6)
Wednesday 13th November	9.00am—Year 2 Come and Learn			Judo (Y2—6) Music (Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish Chess (Y3-6)
Thursday 14th November	9.00am—Year 2 Come and Learn			Athletics (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Gymnastics (Y1 & 2)
Friday 15th November				Dance (Y1—2) Girls' Football squad (Y5 & 6) Football (Y2)
Monday 18th November	9.00am—Year 1 Come and Learn			Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 19th November	9.00am—Year 4 Come and Learn			Football (Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Coding (Y3-6)
Wednesday 20th November	9.30am Open Morning			Judo (Y2—6) Music (Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish Chess (Y3-6)
Thursday 21st November	9.00am—Year 4 Come and Learn			Athletics (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Gymnastics (Y1 & 2)
Friday 22nd November	9.00am—Year 1 Come and Learn			Dance (Y1—2) Girls' Football squad (Y5 & 6) Football (Y2)



of Coten End Primary School

AUTUMN RAFFLE

DRAWN ON 22ND NOVEMBER 2024

KEF Audio Wireless Headphones (RRP £349); Signed Leicester Tigers Rugby Shirt (donated by AJG Insurance); Lifestyle Photography Session with Julie Hermann Photography (worth £250); 1 years access to the Body Coach App; Gin Tasting Experience for 2 at the Warwickshire Gin Distillery; 2 tickets to a Coventry City FC 24/25 Season Match; 2 bottles of wine from Majestic; White Porto and Cremant de Bordeaux from Wine Poole; Family entries to:- Batsford Arboretum, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Umberslade Adventure and Birdland; Midweek Session for 2 at the Snowdome; Cookery Book by The Cross, Kenilworth; Holiday Camp sessions from Go Go Makers and Let's Play (at Newbold Comyn); Tasting Palette at Hoorays; Entry to Jam Jam Boomerang for 1 adult and 1 child; Paddle Board Hire for 2 at Spot on Wake; Cut and Blow Dry from Hair @ 103; £30 Coffee Tavern Voucher; £25 That Gin Company Voucher; £20 The New Bowling Green Voucher; £20 Stratford Garden Centre Voucher; £20 Cook! Voucher; £20 Playbox Voucher; £15 Voucher from Warwick Books; £10 Voucher from Be Hoptimystic; £10 Voucher from Bread & Co; £10 Swim Works Voucher; £5 Voucher from Golden Monkey Tea Company; 30 day passes for 3 at Warwick University Sports Centre; 2 tickets to a Loft Production; 5 family swims at St Nicks Leisure Centre; Two 15 minute sessions at Mr Karting; Two Handmade Quilts made by a pupil's Granny; Family Boat Hire from Warwick Boats; Facial Voucher and Body Pebble from Tropic; Tumbler glasses and more from Present Days.

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT:
[HTTPS://PAY.COLLECTIV.COM/FRIENDS-OF-COTEN-
END-88687](https://pay.collectiv.com/friends-of-coten-end-88687) OR BY USING THE QR CODE.**





Christmas

DONATION DAY

Friday 22nd November

Donations to be left outside the school office by 9am

Have a clear out for the Christmas Fairs

If you can support these events by donating any of the items below it will be hugely appreciated and will help us give the children another super festive experience!

We don't want you to spend money - second hand things in good condition are perfect and will save waste too!

- Pre-loved Christmas jumpers and party wear for our second-hand event
- Pre-loved clean teddy bears and cuddly toys
- Small gifts for 'Elfridges' where children pick and wrap a gift for a family member. These don't need to be new but in good condition. Unwanted gifts are great, for example - scarves, mugs, photo frames, candles, smellies, homemade craft item, toys and games.
- Small prizes such as sweets or party bag-type fillers (McDonald's toys are perfect!)

For Eco Craft and Wrapping:

- Lightweight fabric or scarves (drop in to the office any time)
- Christmas wrapping paper or gift bags saved from last year

Sign up to help - the kids need you!

Both fairs will be during the school day on:

- Reception/Key Stage 1 - Friday 29th November
- Key Stage 2 - Monday 2nd December

A sign up link is coming out soon - please look out for it and sign up if you can. We can't run the fair without helpers like you.





of Coten End Primary School



NON-UNIFORM DAY

Thursday 28th November

to support the Christmas Fair



NUT-FREE
donations
only please

Please bring:
CHOCOLATE &
CONFECTIONERY
donations that
kids enjoy



*Donations to be handed to
your class teacher on the
morning of the 28th November*

COME & TRY

Netball

For girls in years 4, 5 & 6

LEAMINGTON NETBALL. SUPER SKILLS

TUESDAYS | 6PM | LEAMINGTON NETBALL CLUB

Ready. Net. Go!



CONTACT JESS ON 07368 289466 TO REGISTER



leamington_netball



The SYDNI Centre

WINTER FAYRE

- Stalls
- SYDNI Café
- Santa
- Craft workshop for kids



23

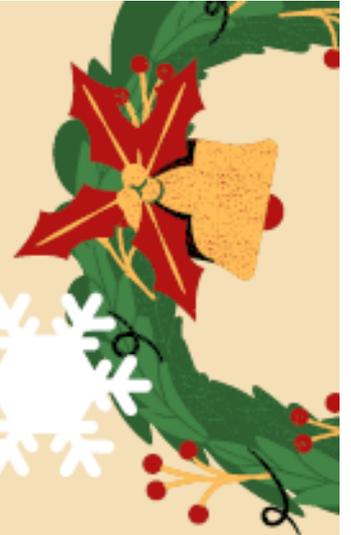
NOVEMBER

11AM - 4PM

Cottage Square,
Sydenham
CV31 1PT



FREE ENTRY



The JUNIOR CHOIR

of All Saints' Parish Church, Leamington Spa
is recruiting **singers** for *Christmas and beyond!*



Does your child love to sing?

Are they aged 6-11?

Would they like to take part
in the town's biggest
carol concert?

Sign up using the QR code!

Get in touch: music@allsaintschurchleamington.org.uk

Re-established in 2024, our Junior Choir is friendly, fun, and open to primary-aged boys and girls of any background who want to come and sing.

We rehearse for 45 minutes every Friday after school and perform at Sunday morning services with the amazing regular choir once a month.

The highlight of this term will be the Myton Carol Concert on 7th December. We'll be singing popular favourites including...

Ding Dong Merrily on High
Jingle Bells

I Saw Three Ships
Silent night

ALL are welcome to join:

- ★ FREE training, and snacks included!
- ★ No audition and no experience required
- ★ Make new friends
- ★ Sing in a variety of styles
- ★ Learn to read music



- ★ Rehearsals: Fridays, 4:15pm to 5pm during term time
- ★ Services: Sundays, 10am to 11:30am (monthly)
- ★ Location: All Saints' Church, Priory Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 1AA



Tell us what you think...



... and help influence the development of services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Warwickshire

**Progress starts with listening,
which aids understanding and
enables better solutions.**

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendfamilyfeedback

Warwickshire's SEND Local Offer

Has lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send

