



Coten End Newsletter

Issue No 6

Friday 6th December 2024

Message from Mrs Sheepy

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the festive season in school gets firmly underway it is lovely to see the school decorated with Christmas trees, each in the house colours and beautifully put together by the House Captains from Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6—well done all, you have done a lovely job.

We have also been enjoying the various rehearsals taking place in preparation for next week's Christmas performances. I can hear the children's singing from my office and it is guaranteed to brighten any day. I hope that everyone attending performances next week very much enjoys the experience and thank parents and carers for taking time to help children learn their lines - please remember that not every performance will be perfect, but perhaps that is just part of the charm!

Children in all year groups attended Christmas Fairs last Friday and Monday and were able to visit many different stalls and play a variety of festive games. These great events are run by our Friends Committee and there are many hours of planning that are given voluntarily in order to provide the best experiences for the children. Friends are always looking for more helpers so please look out for ways in which you can help with coming events—there will be a Friends meeting on 28th January, 6.30pm at the New Bowling Green, you are very welcome to come along to find out more about the work of Friends.

We have had 3 Open Mornings this term and many prospective Reception parents have visited and enjoyed tours of school given by our Year 6 children with positions of responsibility in school. The children have been excellent ambassadors and the feedback from parents has been full of praise for the knowledge and enthusiasm shown by their guides. There is one final Open Morning on Tuesday 14th January at 9.30am, prior to Reception applications closing at 4pm on 15th January.

The next two weeks are full of Christmas activities for the children—from their own performances to watching others, Christmas lunches and parties as well as continuing to learn each day. If you are unsure of what your child might need any day please do contact the office.

Best wishes,

Sarah Sheepy

BE SAFE BE RESPECTFUL

Year Group News

Reception

Reception have been enjoying their new 'Coten End Castle' the last couple of weeks. They have been exploring the different ways to climb to the top and have found that the slide is super fast! This week, the children have been using underneath the castle as a shop to sell food and Christmas cookies.



Year 3

Over the past few weeks, 3CC and 3LA children have had the opportunity to visit Warwick School for a hands-on science workshop. 3SC will have their workshop this Friday.

The focus of the session was testing different liquids to determine whether they were acidic or alkaline—a great introduction to chemistry.

With safety goggles on, the children carefully tested a variety of liquids, from lemon juice to soapy water, observing the colour changes that revealed their pH levels using litmus paper and universal indicators. The session was both educational and fun, sparking curiosity and a wish to try more science investigations at home.

Thank you to Warwick School for hosting us and providing such an inspiring learning experience. Thank you also to the Parent Helpers who accompanied the classes without whom the experience would not have been possible.



Year 4

This week, Year 4 were visited by the explorer Al Sylvester as part of our The Big Freeze theme. The children were captivated by his tales of trekking across the Antarctic and asked many insightful questions. Al was very impressed by their knowledge and question asking. One member of 4VW was lucky enough to be kitted out in just some of Al's explorer clothing. It was all very warm and heavy!



Year 5

Last week, Year 5 celebrated our current Harry Potter theme with an exciting theme day. We started the day by being visited by Albus Dumbledore himself, who helped to present our achievement assembly. We then had an exciting morning, making wands, practicing transfiguration and investigating different potions. We finished the day by taking to the school field for a game of inter-house quidditch. It was so fun to see all of the amazing costumes and to see the children so excited about our learning theme. Here are some pictures from the day.



MFL

On Friday 22nd November a group of Year 9 students from Myton School led a French workshop for the whole of Year 6. The students had planned different activities for our children to complete in small groups. The morning was a huge success; a lovely way to revise all of the French that they have learnt with Madame Allison before moving on to learning German next term.



Christmas Jumper Day—Monday 9th December

This year we are helping raise money for Save the Children with our Christmas Jumper Day on Monday 9th December. On this day children are invited to come to school in their festive tops/jumpers and parents may donate to Save the Children via their ParentPay account. The payment is already set up so please donate when you can.

To find out more about the Christmas Jumper Day, please visit:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day/about>



Christmas Hamper Raffle

There is a new way to purchase tickets for the Christmas Hamper raffle this year. There is the chance to win one of 3 festive hampers filled with luxury donations from the staff here at school, the proceeds of which go to our Friends Association. Tickets cost just £1 and should be bought by using this QR code. Unfortunately we are not able to take any cash for tickets.



Pupil achievements

Badminton

James (Y3) has had recent success in a Warwickshire badminton tournament. The tournament was the Warwickshire Schools Badminton Association (WSBA) Odd Age Group Restricted and James won the bronze medal in the U11 singles tournament—a great achievement particularly as James is still just 7 years old!



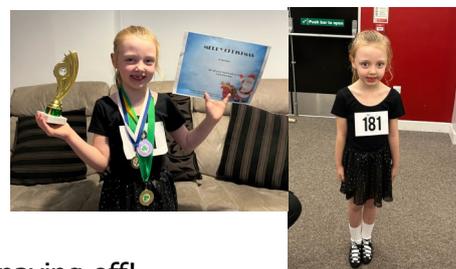
Swimming

Isaac (Y5) competed in the swimming Junior League National Finals with Leamington Swim Club last weekend. As a squad, they placed second overall in the UK. Isaac swam a fantastic PB in his 50m breaststroke race, helping his team achieve their national silver medal.



Irish Dancing

Skylar (Y2) took part in her first Irish dancing competition on Wednesday 4th December. She did 4 dances and took home 3 medals and a trophy. Skylar was very nervous about taking part but now she cannot wait for the next competition to come around and everyone is very proud of her.



Congratulations James, Isaac and Skylar—all your practising is clearly paying off!

Please continue to let us know of children's achievements, it is great to hear of the successes of our pupils.

Family Information Service

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

[FIS Newsletter](#)



Calendar of events



Monday 9th December	Christmas Jumper Day Sing-a-long with Santa (Rec, Year 1 & 2)
Tuesday 10th December	Year 6 Christmas experience at Castle Hill Baptist Church 5MC Walk around Warwick Year 2 at Smeds & Smoods at Warwick Arts Centre
Wednesday 11th December	RWL Nativity at 9.15am (LS Hall) Year 5/6 at Alice in Wonderland at Albany Theatre 2HH Christmas Performance at 2.00pm (LS Hall) Year 4 Christmas Singing Concert at 2.30pm (US Hall)
Thursday 12th December	RNF Nativity at 9.15am (LS Hall) Year 3/4 at Alice in Wonderland at Albany Theatre 2AM Christmas Performance at 2.30pm (LS Hall)
Friday 13th December	RSM Nativity at 9.15am (LS Hall) 5BM Walk around Warwick 2CS Christmas Performance at 2.30pm (LS Hall)
Monday 16th December	Year 1 Christingle (children only) Reception Christmas Party at 1.30pm
Tuesday 17th December	Rocksteady Christmas Concert at 9.30am (US Hall), for parents of Rocksteady musicians Reception at The Gruffalo at Mill House Theatre Year 1 Christmas party at 1.30pm Year 3 Christmas party at 1.30pm
Wednesday 18th December	Year 3 Christmas Performance at 9.15am (US Hall) Year 1 at The Gruffalo at Mill House Theatre Key Stage 2 Christmas lunch
Thursday 19th December	5JL Walk around Warwick Reception and KS1 Christmas lunch Year 2 Christmas party at 1.30pm Year 4 Christmas party at 1.30pm
Friday 20th December	Year 5/6 Christmas party at 1.30pm END OF TERM

NOTES

Christmas Parties (all year groups)

Please send in your child with a donation of 50p on the day of the party.

Children should come to school in party clothes which they will wear for the day.

Christmas lunches (all year groups)

Children may wear Christmas jumpers with school uniform on the day of their Christmas lunch. Children eating packed lunch are more than welcome to bring a festive-themed lunch box.

Lunches have already been ordered; please ensure that your ParentPay account has sufficient funds.

Children requiring hot dinner (not Xmas lunch) will be offered normal Wk 2 menu.

Christmas performances in school

There will be a cash collection at the end of each performance with proceeds going to the School Music Fund and Myton Hospice.

	After School Clubs
Monday 9th December	Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 10th December	Football (Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6)
Wednesday 11th December	Judo (Y2—6) Music (Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish Chess (Y3-6)
Thursday 12th December	Athletics (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Gymnastics (Y1 & 2)
Friday 13th December	Dance (Y1—2) Girls' Football squad (Y5 & 6) Football (Y2)
Monday 16th December	Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
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Christmas Hampers

Coten End Primary School Hamper Raffle

£1

Per Ticket

4 luxury hampers are available to win. Each one filled with festive goodies. All items have been donated by members of staff at the school.

Tickets will be available to purchase from the link below or via the QR code.

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/teachers-hamper-raffle>

Ticket sales close on the 18th December and the raffle will be drawn at 2.00pm. Prizes can be collected from the office on the 19th and 20th December.



Promoter – Friends of Coten End Primary School!
Coten End Primary School, Warwick, CV34 4NP.
Charity number 1071996



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Digital Detox

The use of technology in our day to day lives has become a normal part of today's society and has many benefits, including staying connected with friends and family, accessing information and providing support for learning. However, research suggests that the prolonged use of technology can increase stress levels and have a negative impact on our mental health.

A digital detox is a time when a person does not use devices such as smartphones, televisions, computers, tablets, and social media sites. "Detoxing" from digital devices is often seen as a way to focus on real-life social interactions without distractions.

Some of the benefits include reducing stress, improving sleep patterns, encouraging more face-to-face social interactions, reducing 'fear of missing out (FOMO)', improving attention span, freeing up time for other/new interests and activities, creating a better work-life balance, and encouraging physical exercise.

Our tips for having a digital detox:

1. Set a realistic time limit for your daily screen time/device usage.
2. Participate in other activities instead of screen time (e.g., go for a walk with a friend/join a new club).
3. Create routines for 'device-free times' (e.g., at mealtimes or 30 minutes before bed).
4. Agree to leave your phone downstairs overnight to reduce temptation to scroll in bed!
5. Let your friends and family know you are on a digital detox so they can support you.
6. Delete social media apps on your phone to remove temptation and easy access.
7. Create a list of activities you can do when you have an urge to use a digital device. Make sure you include a balance of quick activities you can do in the moment, as well as activities that may take more time and planning.



Scan for information on social media
and mental health – Young Minds

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.

JOIN US AT ST NICS, WARWICK...

CHILDREN & FAMILIES AT CHRISTMAS

"FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN...AND HE WILL BE CALLED
WONDERFUL COUNSELLOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER,
PRINCE OF PEACE."

FAMILY CHRISTMAS MOVIE SATURDAY 7TH 3PM

A free showing of Miracle on 34th Street in the church, with hot chocolate and snacks available! Bring a blanket and get cosy!

MESSY CHURCH SATURDAY 21ST 10.30-12.30

Join us at Woodloes Primary School for a fun filled Christmas themed messy church - story, crafts and food!

NATIVITY WORKSHOP SATURDAY 21ST 2PM-4PM

Children & Young People aged 4+, would you like to be in this year's nativity play? Contact us to come along to our workshop to rehearse the play and a song!

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY 4PM

A very special service to celebrate the very first Christmas. Come dressed up to take part!

FAMILY CHRISTMAS COMMUNION 25TH AT 10AM

And a date for your diary... Rise & Shine for young families 9am Sunday 12th January!

Contact Ellie for more info:
Ellie.stnicswarwick@gmail.com

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

