



# Coten End Newsletter

Issue No 10

Friday 28th February 2025

## Message from Mrs Sheepy

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful half term last week which marked the half way point of our academic year. You all should have received your child's mid-year report yesterday which gives a brief snapshot of how they are progressing in key areas of learning. Next week, you will be able to discuss these further at parents' evenings on Tuesday and Thursday. If you haven't received the mid-year report, please contact the school office and please sign up for parents' evening if you haven't already done so. Please use the main entrance for parents' evening appointments and make your way to your child's classroom. I would ask that parents observe the 10-minute time slot as overrunning can cause a knock-on effect for other appointments, especially for those parents with more than one child.

Despite only being back to school for a week, much has already happened in the curriculum. Our Year 6 classes are continuing with their World War 2 cooking using rationed ingredients. They have shown the value of collaboration, working so well in their groups, and produced some very edible dishes that would have certainly helped the war effort all those years ago. Meanwhile, there was great excitement in Year 3 as a dinosaur egg was discovered in the school grounds, which also happened to coincide with their Palaeontology Day! Today, the children in Key Stage 1 have experienced some wonderful music from the Orchestra of the Swan accompanied by some of our own instrumentalists. They are a locally based, professional orchestra who perform concerts in the region throughout the year. Please take a look at their website for more information. <https://orchestraoftheswan.org/>

We also have much to look forward to as our World Book Day celebrations are spread across next week with Science Week the following week. Please refer back to previous communication about these.

On Saturday last week, Mr Williams and his wife welcomed their new baby daughter, Wren Carolyn into the world. She is very lucky to also have such a proud and loving big sister in Elspeth. Congratulations to them all!

After 20 years as a member of staff at Coten End, Mrs Jane Pittock is retiring. She has taken on various support staff roles over the years, mostly as a SEND Teaching Assistant. I am sure you will join with me in wishing her well for the future.

With very best wishes

Sarah Sheepy

**BE SAFE BE RESPECTFUL**

# OVO Foundation Grant Win for Water, Play and Plants project

## Great news from Friends!

Earlier this month we were delighted to hear that they had won a grant of £1,000 towards phase 1 of our Water, Play and Plants project. Friends applied for the money to cover the cost of planting diverse pollinator and wildlife-friendly plants and trees to help absorb rainwater in the rainscape we want to create.

Students from across the school will be in charge of planning, planting and maintaining the garden with advice from Bee Friendly Warwick on the best plant species to include.

Friends should hear in the next two months whether we have been successful with two bigger grant bids we need to fund the initial groundwork for the rainscape.

Thank you so much to the OVO Foundation Nature Prize for choosing to support our project - we are so grateful.

## Smartphone documentary

We are signposting this documentary to parents— it may be of particular interest to parents of children in Years 5 and 6 who could be making decisions about purchasing phones for their children.

### **Swiped: The School That Banned Smartphones**

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/swiped-the-school-that-banned-smartphones>

## Athletics success

On Wednesday, our pupils took part in the highly anticipated Sportshall Athletics Competition, and we are thrilled to extend a massive congratulations to every child who participated! Not only did they represent themselves with pride, but they also showcased our school's values through sportsmanship and fair play throughout the event.

The competition, held in a vibrant atmosphere brimming with enthusiasm, featured a variety of engaging events, including the standing long jump, chest push, vertical jump, obstacle relay, and the entertaining over and under race. Each individual event offered our athletes the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and teamwork, leading to a day filled with excitement and camaraderie.

With an impressive turnout of over 1,000 young people, representing 34 schools across the region, the competition was fierce. Out of the twelve large schools that competed, Coten End surged into a remarkable third place, finishing just a few points behind the first and second place teams. This achievement is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and talent displayed by our students, and we could not be prouder.

The participants should be immensely proud of what they have accomplished. Their commitment to excellence and their spirited involvement set an inspiring example for their peers. With such a strong performance this year, we are excited about the prospects for next year's competition. We look forward to building on this success and aiming for an even better result in the future.

Once again, congratulations to all our athletes! Your determination and teamwork have not gone unnoticed, and we are confident that you will continue to excel in your sporting endeavours. Let us keep this momentum going as we prepare for future competitions!



## No dogs on site

If you need to bring your dog to school at drop off and collection times, please be certain that they are securely tied up as far from our school entrance/exit points as possible. Some children and adults are fearful of dogs and have been caused distress by dogs who are tied up close to the gates. There have been occasions when dogs have been seen to be noticeably anxious and barking and we therefore encourage parents to leave dogs at home whenever possible.

## Warwick Town Pancake Races

The annual town pancake races are taking place on Tuesday 4th March and teams from Coten End (representatives from Year 2 and Year 6) are competing against other local primary schools in the Market Place. The races take place from 1.30pm and support is welcomed! The children will be also cheered on by all Year 6 children and it is hopefully going to be a great event for all involved. Results and photos to follow in the next newsletter!



## Culture Club

The children had lots of fun at the last **JAPANESE** Culture Club before half-term sampling all sorts of different Japanese snacks! Big thanks must go to Mari Trevena (Elliot's Mum) for giving up her time to come and share her language and culture with us.



Our new language of the half-term is **CANTONESE**. We are very lucky to have two Cantonese speakers on our staff, Mrs Tso and Mrs Hui, who have very kindly agreed to help Madame Allison run the club. If there are any parents/carers who speak Cantonese and would be willing to help out on Wednesday lunchtimes (12.30-1) please contact the school office.

## British Science Week

Coten End are celebrating British Science week on 10th March—14th March.



Year 1 and Year 2 (KS1) will be having their Science Fair on Wednesday 12th March and parents are invited into their children's classrooms to see the science fair projects at 2:15pm - 2:45pm.

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 (KS2) will be having their Science Fair on Monday 10th March and parents are invited into their children's classrooms to see the science fair projects at 2.30-3.00pm.

## Wheelie Bins wanted!!

Do you have a spare or unused wheelie bin that you would be willing to donate to school for OPAL?

Please let Mr. Johnston know via the school office!

## Family Information Service

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

[FIS Newsletter](#)



# Year Group News

## Year 2

Ocean exploration—virtually!

On Tuesday Year 2 had a fantastic time exploring the ocean through VR headsets. Two ocean robots took us on an underwater submarine through many parts of our oceans. On our adventure we learned facts about the Great Barrier Reef, Jelly Fish, Dolphins, Whale Sharks and many more. We finished our tour with a virtual visit to an ocean museum where the children explored their own favourite sea creatures.



## Year 3

Palaeontology Day

You would not believe what happened on Wednesday in Year 3! The children came to school ready to do some fun activities to start off their new topic 'Fossil Hunters'. They were dressed as palaeontologists, explorers and there were even a few dinosaurs. The children went into the hall and suddenly Mr Grana came dashing through - walkie talkie in hand. The usually cool, calm and collected Mr Grana seemed worried and asked the children for their help. He had only gone and found a large egg in Wildlife Way which he thought could just be a dinosaur egg! The children immediately offered to help him discover what type of dinosaur may have laid the egg. Magnifying glasses in hand, our young egg-sperts looked for clues and then went back to their classrooms to do some research. We have decided to give the egg to the Natural History Museum along with our research. We will keep you posted on how this egg-citing story unfolds.



## Year 5

Trip to Birmingham Symphony Hall

Before half term, Year 5 were treated to an exciting performance of classical music from around the world by the City of Birmingham Orchestra. Sitting in the breathtaking Birmingham Symphony Hall, the children were treated to an exceptional performance of familiar favourites as well as lesser-known pieces by composers from as far away as Japan, Venezuela and Russia. They even had an opportunity to join in conducting the orchestra in a performance of the Imperial March from Star Wars.



This was a fantastic experience for all the children to see world class professional musicians and hear just how incredible a live orchestra can be. For anyone else who is interested, the CBSO regularly put on family concerts. All the information can be found on their website: <https://cbso.co.uk/whats-on/category/families>.

There is also information further on in the newsletter regarding discounted tickets for upcoming events involving the CBSO.

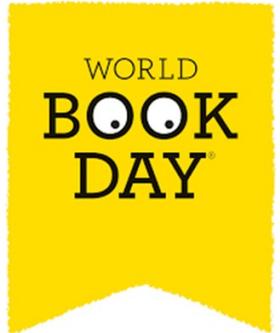


# World Book Week - reminder

We are celebrating Book Week next week, focussing on folk tales from around the world with each year group learning about traditional stories from different continents. Children are invited to come into school dressed up on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March as a character from their favourite book or folk tale.

There will be a special World Book Day menu on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March, please book your child's meal via ParentPay ensuring that there is sufficient credit on your account if your child is in Key Stage 2 and not in receipt of Free School Meals.

If parents have made a selection already via ParentPay you may change the choice if needed based on the menu below.

A vibrant poster for World Book Day. The background is yellow with a dark blue, starry night sky at the bottom. The text is centered and surrounded by illustrations of books and children reading. The 'educaterers' logo is in the top left. The main title 'WORLD BOOK DAY' is in large, bold letters. Below it, the date 'Thursday 6th March 2025' and the lunch menu items are listed. Allergen information is provided at the bottom. A quote in a speech bubble and illustrations of children reading are at the bottom. Book covers for 'The Gruffalo', 'I Am the Grinch', 'The Cat in the Hat', 'James and the Giant Peach', and 'Willy Wonka's Chocolate Mouse' are scattered around the text.

**educaterers**

# WORLD BOOK DAY

Lunch  
Thursday 6th March 2025.

**Harry Potters Bangers and Mash (G.D.SU.SB)**

**(v.h) Gruffalo Mac 'n' Cheese (G.D)**  
Served with Freshly Baked Crusty Bread  
Vegetables of the Day  
or Salad

**(h) James and the Giant Peach Melba sponge (G.E)**  
OR  
**(v) Willy Wonka's Chocolate Mousse (D)**

Allergen Free alternatives are also available

Allergens  
G-Gluten  
D-Dairy  
SU-Sulphite  
SB-Soya  
V-Vegetarian  
H-Homemade  
E-Egg

" Let's make our children love books, so that books become the needs of our children."

Illustrations include a child reading a book, a girl reading a book, and a chef standing on a stack of books.

# Notes from the office

## **Absence reporting**

Many parents use the school app, MyEd, to report pupil absence. Please be reassured that messages sent are picked up first thing in the morning, however there is not always time to respond to these. We will always contact parents if a reason has not been given for any pupil absence so please rest assured that, if we do not make contact, then your message has been received.

When reporting absence please give a specific reason for this, including details of any illness.

## **Useful school website links:**

[School dinner menu](#) (please note that the menus are changing at the start of the summer term)

[School term dates](#)

[Diary dates](#) Please note that you can subscribe to the website calendar and it will sync to your chosen online calendar

## **After School Clubs**

Due to Parents Evening next week, the following after school clubs are not running:

Tuesday—Cookery and Chess

Thursday—11+ Maths/English and Gymnastics

The programme of after school clubs for the Summer term will sent out by email next Friday.

	Morning		Afternoon/Evening	After School Clubs
Monday 3rd March	World Book Week			Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 4th March	Year 3 visit to St Nicholas Church		Warwick Town Pancake Races  Parents' Evening	Football (Rec/Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) <del>Cookery (Y2-6)</del> <del>Chess (Y3-6)</del>
Wednesday 5th March				Judo (Y2—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish
Thursday 6th March			Parents' Evening	Multi-Sports (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) <del>11+ Maths &amp; English (Y5)</del> <del>Gymnastics (Rec, Y1 &amp; 2)</del>
Friday 7th March	World Book Day celebration			Dance (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y1, Y2)
Monday 10th March	British Science Week			Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 11th March			2.00pm—Reception 'Come and Play'	Football (Rec/Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Chess (Y3-6)
Wednesday 12th March	9.00am—Year 2 'Come and Learn'			Judo (Y2—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish
Thursday 13th March	9.00am—Year 2 'Come and Learn'		2.00pm—Reception 'Come and Play'	Multi-Sports (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Gymnastics (Rec, Y1 & 2)
Friday 14th March				Dance (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y1, Y2)

# THANKS FOR JOINING US AT OUR SCHOOLS' CONCERT!

We'd love to welcome you back for more amazing live music at Symphony Hall and Town Hall.

We're excited to be able to offer discounted tickets for teachers, students and your family and friends! With tickets starting at just £5, there's something for everyone.

**50% OFF  
FAMILY CONCERTS**  
USE CODE 'KSFAMILY50'



Sunday 16 March 2025, 3pm  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## **WHERE ARE ALL THE BLACK FEMALE COMPOSERS?**

Following this concert, stick around for a FREE post-concert performance from Project Remix!

Sunday 8 June 2025, 3pm  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## **CBSO EXPLORES THE ORCHESTRA**

**£10 ADULT TICKETS /  
£5 CHILD TICKETS**  
USE CODE 'KS10TICKET'



Sunday 2 March 2025, 3pm  
Town Hall, Birmingham

## **CBSO BRASS AND PERCUSSION**

Friday 21 March 2025, 7:30pm  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## **CLASSIC FM HALL OF FAME**

Friday 30 May 2025, 7:30pm  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## **BEST OF BOLLYWOOD**

Saturday 19 July 2025, 7:30pm  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

## **THE CBSO & THE ORCHESTRAL QAWWALI PROJECT**

## **SOUND GOOD?**

Book online at [cbso.co.uk](https://www.cbso.co.uk) or call the B:Music Box Office on 0121 780 3333  
Please note, tickets are limited to 6 per concert per booker. For full terms and conditions, please visit [cbso.co.uk/terms](https://www.cbso.co.uk/terms)

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PLUS FREE PLAY  
SMALLER GROUPS (RATIO 1:8)

## JNR'S 5-7 YEARS

ART  
DANCE  
STEM  
SPORT  
ARCHERY

## SNR'S 8-12 YEARS

CR8TIVES  
BATTLE SESSIONS  
SPORTS SKILLS  
SCIENCE LAB  
FUTURE STARS  
(DANCE)

+ MORE!

ACTIVITIES CAN VARY AT VENUES & ON DAYS

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WE ARE BACK!

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See website for details. Offers can not be used in conjunction

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JUNIORS

# 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](http://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](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send)

