



Coten End Newsletter

Issue No 11

Friday 14th March 2025

Message from Mrs Sheepy

Dear Parents and Carers,

How lovely was it to see sunshine last weekend - unfortunately followed by hail later in the week?! However, Spring is definitely on the way and it certainly lifts everyone's mood. Thankfully, the weather never dampens the spirits of what goes on in school and it's certainly been a busy couple of weeks.

World Book Day was a resounding success, with our school transformed with a wide range of literary characters. It was delightful to see our pupils - and staff - embracing the magic of storytelling, with their imaginations brought to life through a whole host of colourful costumes. From beloved classics to contemporary favourites, the diversity of characters on display was a testament to the rich world of literature our children are exploring. The enthusiasm and effort put into the costumes by both pupils and parents was remarkable.

We then celebrated British Science Week, an annual celebration that never fails to ignite curiosity and spark innovation among our pupils. The school was buzzing with scientific inquiry as pupils engaged in a whole school investigation, as well as the ever popular Science Fairs.

These events serve as examples of our commitment to providing a well-rounded education that nurtures not only academic skills but also creativity, critical thinking and a love for learning. They also reflect the amazing support our children receive from their parents and carers, whether it's providing a costume or supporting with Science Fair projects. I was also delighted to see so many Coten End families at the Resonate Science Festival at the University of Warwick last Sunday, following the email I'd sent out a couple of months ago. I hope those who were there enjoyed the wide range of activities and collected lots of badges!

Resonate are also holding an Arts & Culture Festival on 31st May and again it is free to attend. Follow the link here to book tickets.

<https://www.resonatefestival.co.uk/events/fest-arts-culture-87hts>

Thank you so much for your continued support and enjoy the weekend.

Best wishes

Sarah Sheepy

BE SAFE BE RESPECTFUL



£10,000 National Gas grant win for Water, play and plants project

We are absolutely delighted to announce that Friends have secured £10,000 from the National Gas Community Grant Fund to support phase 1 of our Water, play and plants project in the year 3 playground and part of the upper school field!

The aim of the project is to deal with the problems of flooding and waterlogging during heavy rain and turn the water into a resource for play and learning. Along with other successful bids, we have now secured the 50% matched funding needed but are still waiting to hear whether we've been successful with our application to the Department for Education for the remainder.

Huge, huge thanks to National Gas and all the wonderful people involved in the Community Grant Fund, who have been so supportive throughout the process and unanimously approved our grant bid. Enormous thanks also to parent Charleigh Jordan, architect from Inside Out Design, who created the wonderful designs that brought the project to life and helped secure the funding; to her husband, Chris who works for National Gas and suggested that we apply and to everyone who has supported the project and the grant bids. Fingers crossed now for the remaining funds!

**Water, play and plants at Coten
End Primary School**

We are seeking funding to help bring about our vision of using rainfall in new and wonderful ways to benefit the children, the environment, the school community and the wider community.

FRIENDS
of Coten End Primary School

eco FRIENDS
of Coten End Primary School

Spring Raffle

The Friends Spring Raffle is now live with many great prizes donated by the local community. Tickets can be bought via the QR code on the poster further on in the newsletter or via this link:

[Friends Spring Raffle](#)

Good luck!

No cycling or scootering on school site

A reminder to all parents, children and staff that bikes and scooters must not be ridden anywhere on the school grounds **at any time of day**. The start and end of the school day are very busy with many people walking into school and the risk of an accident is increased if bikes and scooters are being ridden—this is particularly the case with younger children who might not pay the most attention to where they are going. Please always push bikes and scooters.

World Book Day at Coten End

This year, we celebrated World Book Day with a special focus on traditional stories from different cultures around the world. It was a day filled with imagination, learning and fun!

We were excited to welcome parent visitors who came in to read stories to the children in different languages, allowing everyone to experience the magic of storytelling in new and exciting ways. The children also enjoyed retelling stories in their own style, creating story maps and sharing their favourite tales through oral storytelling.

In addition, we held paired reading sessions between our KS1 and KS2 students. It was wonderful to see the older children supporting and reading with the younger ones, building friendships and a love for books.

Thank you to everyone who helped make World Book Day so special, and we look forward to continuing to explore new stories throughout the year!



Coten End's Flipping Fantastic Pancake Race!

This week, children at Coten End took part in the annual Rotary Pancake Race, bringing energy, excitement, and plenty of pancake flipping to the competition! Year 2 and Year 6 House Teams gave it their all, demonstrating great determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the event. After some fiercely contested races, the Sports Ambassadors emerged victorious in the Year 6 competition, earning the title of Champion Pancake Flippers for 2025. Well done to everyone who took part—it was a flipping fantastic effort!



Culture Club (Cantonese)

Last week the children were introduced to our new language of the half-term, Cantonese. Miss Tso taught them how Cantonese children are named and they enjoyed finding out the Chinese names of our Cantonese speakers! This week Miss Hui taught them how to count to 10 in Cantonese and they made hand puppets which they used to play a game and join in with a song.



Year 3 visit to St Nicholas' Church

Last Tuesday, the Year 3 classes visited St Nicholas Church as part of their RE topic on Reconciliation. Many thanks to Reverend Linda and Ellie for giving us such a warm welcome and for the interactive and fun ways you taught the children about the meaning of reconciliation in the Church of England.



SPORTS DAYS

Thursday 5th June — Year 5 / 6 (morning); Year 3 / 4 (afternoon)

Year 5/6 will spend the morning and Year 3/4 the afternoon taking part in a variety of competitive sporting activities on the AstroTurf at St Nicholas Park.

Event winners in every group will earn points for their house and overall winners will be recognised individually.

Friday 24th May—Year 1 / Year 2 (morning), Reception (afternoon)

Children will be in teams within their classes and they will take part in a carousel of fun activities and games that enable them to use a wide range of sporting skills that they have been practising.

Parents will be able to move freely around the field to watch the children participating. House points will be awarded and added to the final Sports Day total for the school.

Please note that the dates for reserve sports day are Monday 9th June (KS2) and Tuesday 10th June (KS1/Rec).

Parental Conduct

We are delighted to be able to invite parents to these events and we are sure that many of you will appreciate the opportunity to watch your child take part in competitive sport, however there are a set of expectations for all parents/carers attending any of these events:

- Vocal support should only include positive reinforcement of your child's performance and of their efforts.
- Parents needs to be role models for how children participate in sport, displaying positive sportsmanship, encouraging fair-play and avoiding negativity of any kind.
- Each event will be marked out with cones to indicate how close spectators can get and these areas must not be entered.
- It is essential for spectators to refrain from airing any grievances relating to any aspect of an event either with other parents or the staff leading the events themselves.
- For all children's safety, please ensure that any photos taken of the event are only featuring your own child and are not uploaded on to social media websites.
- It is the school's responsibility to keep all children safe throughout the day.

School Nursing Service newsletter

The latest edition of the Connect for Health newsletter is available to read at:

[C4H newsletter](#)



Sporting news

Coten End Girls Shine in National League Football Tournament

On Friday, the under 11 girls' football team from Coten End had the remarkable opportunity to showcase their talent at the National League Football Tournament held in Rushall. Representing Leamington FC, the girls took to the pitch with enthusiasm, determination, and a collective spirit that embodied the essence of youth football. This round-robin tournament would test their skills across four intense matches, with only the top two teams advancing to the final.

The competition commenced with their first game against Hereford, which proved to be a formidable challenge right from the outset. The atmosphere was charged with excitement and anticipation as the teams warmed up. Coten End began the game with a confident approach, maintaining possession and building from the back. However, the first half remained tightly contested, with both teams displaying tenacity and resilience. Halfway through the game, Hereford managed to break through, utilising some excellent individual skill from one of their standout players who made a decisive run down the wing before slotting the ball past the Coten End goalkeeper. That goal shifted the momentum, and Hereford quickly followed it with a second, leaving the final score at 2-0 to Hereford. Despite the loss, the Coten End girls took heart from their efforts; they had shown great promise and fought valiantly.

Next up was a match against Boston, a game in which Coten End felt increasingly confident. The girls had regrouped and were ready to play their game. They began to exploit the wings effectively, showcasing their speed and teamwork. Their hard work soon bore fruit; two quick goals rattled the back of Boston's net, sending cheers from the Coten End supporters who were there to back them. This win not only gave them a 2-0 victory but also infused the team with an overwhelming sense of belief and excitement, setting the stage for the decisive match ahead.

The third match against Kidderminster was pivotal; they needed at least a draw to secure a place in the finals. As the game commenced, it became clear that Kidderminster were keen to make their mark. They struck early, netting two goals in quick succession, and Coten End found themselves in a precarious situation. Many teams would have crumbled under such pressure, but not this group of determined young athletes. Just when it seemed as though hope was dwindling, Olivia, an exceptional player with a knack for making things happen on the field, took the initiative. With a stunning run that sent her through the heart of the Kidderminster defence, Olivia brilliantly slotted the ball past the goalkeeper, igniting a spark in her teammates and the fans.

A thrilling match went back and forth, with both sides fighting to gain an advantage. With time running out, Coten End earned a free kick just on the edge of the box. Up stepped Olivia again, who, with a fierce determination, executed a perfectly struck free kick that flew like a rocket into the top corner of the net. It was a moment worthy of a highlight reel, one that would certainly have made its way onto Sky Sports News had it been televised! The game concluded at 2-2, sending Coten End through to the final, and the delight among the players and supporters was palpable.

Now, attention turned to the final match against Hereford, the very team that had earlier claimed victory over them. Both teams had a solid understanding of each other after their previous encounter, but this time, the girls from Coten End were armed with the confidence born from their previous games. The final kicked off with Coten End pressing hard right from the whistle. Their energy was infectious, and they maintained relentless pressure on Hereford.

Coten End's attacking play was breathtaking. They swiftly created opportunities that led to two quick goals, taking the lead and showcasing a dominating performance that Hereford struggled to counter. The stands were filled with cheering supporters, each shout of encouragement fuelling their efforts on the pitch. The girls were now an unstoppable force, embodying the spirit of teamwork and camaraderie. When the final whistle blew, it was a resounding victory for Coten End, sealing a triumph that was built on perseverance, skill, and a deep sense of camaraderie. All the players performed spectacularly, but the whole collective effort spoke volumes. Each girl contributed to this splendid achievement, demonstrating not just their footballing prowess but also their dedication and teamwork.

A special mention must go to Olivia, who not only scored vital goals but also inspired her teammates with her leadership and determination. Equally deserving of recognition are Orly, Erin, Genevieve, Zariah, Lily, Izzy, Paloma, and Imogen, all of whom played pivotal roles in the tournament. They made everyone at Coten End and Leamington FC proud and exemplified what youth sports are all about — joy, learning, and the spirit of collaboration.



Well done!

Mr Rose

Archery

The school recently celebrated the remarkable achievements of our talented team of four archers who represented us at the prestigious School Games competition. Oliver, Ethan, Kayler and Freya faced an array of challenging events, including the demanding 'over the moat' and the precision-focused target shoot, and encountered a truly competitive atmosphere that tested their skills and determination.

Throughout the day, our team exhibited exceptional focus and resilience. In the 'over the moat' event, they achieved an impressive score of 37, setting a strong foundation for their performance. In the target shoot, their precision and technique shone through as they notched up an outstanding score of 88. With a combined total of 125 points, our team not only showcased their archery prowess but also demonstrated the spirit of sportsmanship that we hold dear at our school.

Congratulations to everyone involved for their remarkable efforts. We are very proud to have such talented individuals representing our school. Well done, team!

Gymnastics success

Isabella Saich (Bella, Year 5) competed in the Winter Magic Gymnastics competition in Wiltshire in February 2025, bringing home 2 gold and 2 silver medals.

Bella attends Leamington Warwick Gymnastics Club (LWGC) and is a member of the squad, competing regionally. She's been doing gymnastics since she was 3 years old.

Congratulations Bella on these great results, we look forward to hearing more about your Gymnastics successes.



Great win for Grace

Grace (Year 3) took part in the U9 Midlands and North tennis tour at the weekend. The event took place at Leamington Tennis Club and, after battling through 6 matches and a very nail-biting final, Grace emerged victorious! Grace was rightly very proud of her achievement as are we!



Family Information Service

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

[FIS Newsletter](#)



Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Next week is Neurodiversity Celebration Week. *Neurodiversity is a word used to describe the different thinking styles that affect how people communicate with the world around them. It is an umbrella term - a word that sums up lots of different things. It includes autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia and Tourette's.*

At Coten End we always celebrate difference and recognise that there is strength in all the wonderful ways our brains work.

There are some free events available for people to access here:

<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/events>

Parents can also find resources to support them in understanding their child's neurodivergence here: <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/resource-hub> and through the Community Autism Support Service (<https://casspartnership.org.uk/>).

For children with SEND, PLP reviews are coming up in the next few weeks and parents will receive appointment times soon. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss progress and provision of individual children with you.

Mrs Munday

To celebrate NCW 2025, Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice (WPCV) will be hosting a series of webinars covering topics, including:

- Regulating emotions
- Being a neuroaffirming parent

Creating a holistic needs-led profile

To book onto one of these events, please visit the [WPCV Eventbrite page](#).

Special webinar to launch the Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029

The new [Warwickshire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2029](#) has been published and is now live on the County Council website.

This comprehensive five-year plan aims to address the key challenges in services for children and young people with SEND.

The strategy has been shaped through the collaborative efforts of the Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Partnership Board, drawing on a wide range of expertise and experiences. Significant engagement with key stakeholders has ensured that the voices of those who use and deliver SEND services have been central to its creation.

Parents, carers, and others with an interest in SEND, are invited to sign up to a special webinar on **Tuesday 18 March, from 12.30pm to 1.30pm**, to learn more. The first part of the webinar will consist of a presentation outlining the main aims and six priorities included within the strategy and the actions identified to deliver these over the next five years. This will be followed by a live Q&A, providing an opportunity for attendees to ask questions about the strategy.

To sign up to the webinar please [complete this short form](#).

For those unable to attend on the day, the presentation element of the session will be recorded and made available after the event on [Warwickshire's Local Offer pages](#)

SEND Coffee and Chat for parent carers

Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice are holding a number of drop-in sessions over the next few weeks for parent carers to attend.

It's a great opportunity for you to meet with members of the group and share your feedback. You don't need to book and you don't have to stay for the whole session.

Thursday 20 March, 9.30am - 11.30pm at Westgate Children's Centre, Bowling Green Street, Warwick, CV34 4DD

Worried about the effects of smartphones on children and teenagers but feel they'll be isolated without one?

If you have signed our Parent Smartphone Agreement but are thinking ahead or have older children or teenagers, we highly recommend these free information and discussion evenings taking place locally. You can meet teachers and parents who share your concerns and hear about:

- The latest research on the impacts of smartphones on children and teens
- Ways to achieve a healthy tech balance in your family

The experiences of local schools who have gone smartphone-free

The panel of expert speakers includes doctors, tech insiders, teachers and a former police sergeant detective. There are three dates and locations, tickets must be booked in advance and are being taken up quickly.

Stratford-upon-Avon: Tuesday 25 March 7.30-9pm, Clore Learning Centre, RSC

Warwick: Tuesday 29 April 7.30-9pm, The Court House

Kenilworth: Tuesday 6th May 7.30-9pm, The Kenilworth Centre

Book your FREE ticket here: <https://shorturl.at/9A3Hs>

The events are being organised by Warwickshire Smartphone Free Childhood leaders. [Smartphone Free Childhood \(SFC\)](#) is a grassroots campaign set up by parents who feel stuck between a rock and a hard place on this issue. Nearly 100,000 parents at more than 11,000 schools have signed SFC's online pledge to delay giving their child a smartphone until at least the end of year 9. This period is crucial for brain development, and the younger a child gets a smartphone, the more harm it can cause to mental health, attention, focus and sleep along with issues of cyberbullying and exposure to dangerous, harmful content, and inappropriate material.

Roblox warning

You may recently have noticed an article on BBC News regarding Roblox and inappropriate/harmful content being accessible to children. Whilst Roblox states they are vigilant in protecting its users, it does have a PEGI rating of Parent Guidance.

As with any online platform, we highly advise that children are supervised whilst using these sites/platforms and regular conversations are had about the type of content they are accessing.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's use of technology, please do speak to your class teacher for further support or seek advice from websites such as:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/#:~:text=Because%20the%20content%20in%20Roblox,amount%20of%20user%2Dgenerated%20content.>

	Morning		Afternoon/Evening	After School Clubs
Monday 17th March			1.00pm—Governors' Meeting	Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 18th March	9.00am Year 5 Come and Learn		9.00am Year 5 Come and Learn	Football (Rec/Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Chess (Y3-6)
Wednesday 19th March				Judo (Y2—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish
Thursday 20th March				Multi-Sports (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Gymnastics (Rec, Y1 & 2)
Friday 21st March	Year 6 German workshop with Myton School		Bingo evening	Dance (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y1, Y2)
Monday 24th March				Football (Y3/4) Girls' Football (Y3/4) Spanish Dance (Y3—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) 11+ Maths & English (Y5)
Tuesday 25th March	9.00am Year 3 Come and Learn			Football (Rec/Y1) Netball (Y5 & 6) Drama (Y3-6) Cookery (Y2-6) Chess (Y3-6)
Wednesday 26th March	Year 6 visit to Castle Hill Baptist Church			Judo (Y2—6) Music (Rec, Y1 & 2) Arts & Crafts (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y5 & 6) Spanish
Thursday 27th March	9.00am Year 3 Come and Learn			Multi-Sports (Y2—4) Boys' Football squad (Y5 & 6) 11+ Maths & English (Y5) Gymnastics (Rec, Y1 & 2)
Friday 28th March				Dance (Rec, Y1 & 2) Football (Y1, Y2)

Tickets
3 for £1

Access via
YR3 doors



of Coten End Primary School

EASTER EGG TOMBOLA

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL AT 3.20PM

Friends are holding a non uniform day at school on Friday 4th April in exchange for a chocolate donation to support their Easter Egg Tombola.

Please hand your chocolate donations to your class teacher at morning drop off on Friday 4th April.

The Easter Egg Tombola will be held in the upper school hall at 3.20pm.

**NON
UNIFORM
DAY**



of Coten End Primary School

Spring Raffle

Prizes include: AEG Warwick Sessions Concert tickets for 6 people; KEF Audio in-ear headphones (RRP £199); A photoshoot and images from Michelle Lutley Photography; Reformer Pilates 1:1 induction, sessions and socks from Humanity Pilates; Magazine Subscription from DC Thomson; Vouchers for Aubrey Allen, Bread & Co, Charles Clinkard, COOK, Golden Monkey Tea Company, Presto Music, Stratford Garden Centre, The Black Pug, The Wine House and Warwick Books; Holiday Club vouchers from GoGo Makers, Let's Play and Onside Coaching; Entry to Jam Jam Boomerang and Little Monkeys Funhouse; Family days out at Batsford Arboretum, Birdland, Hill Close Gardens, Fairytale Farm and Umberslade Adventure; Boat voucher from Leam Boat and Paddle Board voucher from Spot on Wake; Family Swims at St Nicks and 30 minute session at Swim in a Tin; Mini Fish and Chips from St Johns Fishbar; Cream tea for Two at Thomas Oken Tea Rooms; Brunch at Boston Tea Party Stratford; Music Tuition from Top of the Rock; Disc Golf at Gilly's Disc Golf; Mini makeover from Raspberry Hair; Adult hair cut from the Den Barbers; Wine from Wine Poole; Mr Karting Sessions; Main Enclosure tickets for Warwick Racecourse; Acting classes from Pauline Quirke Academy and Gymnastics from Warwickshire Elite; Tickets to a Loft Production

Raffle tickets are £1 each and are available through People's Fundraising by scanning the QR code.



With our thanks to all businesses who have supported our fundraising by donating incredible prizes.

Friends of Coten End Primary (Charity no. 1071996) c/o Coten End Primary School, Coten End, Warwick, CV34 4NP.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX



Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



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

