

Collingwood Primary School Newsletter



May 2019

"We live our lives with arms and minds wide open"

Governor News

Our Statement of Governance, which details the membership, attendance and work carried out by our Governing Body is available to view on our school website.

Thank you to those who attended our "Meet the Governors" Coffee Afternoon on 3rd May. We hope it helped clarify the role of Governors at Collingwood and gave you an opportunity to ask questions.

Hello & Goodbye

Congratulations to Mrs Newbert on the birth of her little boy and Mrs Mason who had a baby girl. Mrs Newbert has already been in to visit so that her pupils can meet the new arrival!

Welcome to Scarlett in year 5 who have joined our school.

Attendance

Congratulation, this month to 1st 5M 97%, 2nd 2G 96.73 and 3rd 6O 96.350%.

All schools are required to monitor all pupil attendance closely as it is one of the measures Ofsted and others use to "rank" the school. At Collingwood we recognise that most pupils have good attendance and are only away from school if unwell however, we *do* still have a duty to inform parents if their child is a "persistent absentee" (ie attendance is less than 90%), regardless of the reason, and *do* send out letters notifying parents if this is the case.

We have recently reviewed our attendance policy based on the national model. Please note that the Local Authority will issue penalty notices:

- *where there have been at least 10 consecutive sessions (1 day = 2 sessions) of unauthorised absence for the purpose of a holiday, whereby a parent made an application to the School which the Head Teacher has deemed not for exceptional circumstances.*
- *whereby the parent did not submit a leave of absence request, however the school have reason to believe the absence was for the purpose of a holiday*
- *if there have been at least 6 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence during the first two weeks of September due to a term-time holiday.*
- *where there has been at least 10 sessions of unauthorised absence during the previous 10 school weeks.*

Our School Development Priorities

Our focus between now and July will be to see if we have achieved our SATs targets. These are:

- To further improve "middle ability pupils" attainment.
- To continue to deepen pupils' mathematical reasoning skills (Ofsted April 2016 recommendation)
- To continue to design a curriculum which meets our pupils needs and interests.

CSSE 11+ Information

Registration for the 11+ exam for 2020 entry will be from 14th May 2019 to 1st July 2019. CSSE schools will hold open days/evenings during June/July 2019. The 11+ main test date is Saturday 21st September 2019. **If you are thinking of entering your child for 11+, I urge you to buy some practice papers to use at home as the format is unlike anything we use at school. Children tend to find the vocabulary in the English texts, which are often classics, very challenging and working within the time limit is often difficult without practice.** Mrs Buckland-Garnett

Curriculum Information

Please see our school website: www.collingwoodschool.net for information on how we teach at Collingwood. Current topic webs and curriculum information for each Year group can always be found here.

Curriculum News

Throughout the summer term Collingwood pupils are all working on our 'Wonderful Woodham' topic. If you would be able to share any memories, information or documents, (e.g. old photos etc.) please bring them into school. Please ensure they are clearly named and handed to the office, if you wish to get them back again!. We would also appreciate if you know of anyone in the local community who would be able to come in and talk to the children about the local area or their profession and how it effects the area. Please pass any information to Mrs Hammond (curriculum lead) through the office. In addition please look at your child's class page on the school website for their summer term topic web.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs S Hammond (EYFS and KS1 Phase Leader)

Layer Marney Year 5 Trip

On Thursday 4th April, Year 5 went to Layer Marney Tower as part of the 'Warriors' topic. During the day, the children tried on Anglo-Saxon and Viking armour, held swords and axes, found out about Viking trading, had a go at weaving and even made clay Viking longboats. The highlight of the day for all children was definitely the archery! During lunch they even got to go and visit the animals in the barn and climb on the giant climbing frame! The children were all incredibly well behaved and it was a real privilege to take the class out for the day.

Mrs Macartney



Maths Competition

On Friday 26th April, four pupils from Year 6: Stefan, Harrison, Finn and Isaac, went to Janet Duke Primary School in Basildon to take part in the annual Essex Maths Competition. During our heat, the children were faced with challenging rounds, involving many elements of maths, including algebra, measuring angles, number facts and problem solving. The children worked incredibly hard and worked well as a team by listening to each other and sharing the workload.

Unfortunately, we didn't make it into the top 3, but it was a very close competition. Well done for working so hard and representing Collingwood Primary School so well. I am very proud of you all!

Mrs Macartney - Maths Subject Leader

English Competition

In February Ellis, Finn, Amy and William in year 6 went to an English Competition, which took place in Danbury Park School. We did a variety of activities such as: Spelling, English Charades, adding commas and words into sentences. Eight Schools participated and we came 4th. We really enjoyed this experience but most of all we liked the biscuits!

Written by Ellis, Finn, Amy & William.

Royal Gunpowder Mills Year 6 Trip

Year 6 went to the Royal Gunpowder Mills in Waltham Abbey. We had to take the role of an evacuee and experienced the horror of what the bomb shelter was like and hearing sirens, bombs and much more. We were all very surprised of how small the bomb shelter was and we could just about fit 32 of us in.

Also there were four actresses who were secretly undercover and we had to figure out which one was the spy from Germany!

Written By Layla & Michaela.

Our Easter Egg & Bonnet Competition Winners!



Policies Being Reviewed by staff, pupils and Governors this month

- *Attendance (in the light of national changes)*
- *Complaints (new guidance from DFE)*

Most of our policies can be found on the school website but are also available on request (a charge may be made for printing.) We would welcome any comments you wish to make on policies whilst they are being reviewed. Please put these in writing and hand to our office staff and whilst we will not respond, directly, all written comments will be considered by Governors during their review. Thank you.

7 'til 7 Club News



We have been very busy since returning from the Easter break creating a 'cool corner' in the club. It comprises of two sofas and a small table. All items were recycled. Mrs. Chettur and I thought the children would benefit from an area where they can sit and relax. They can play cards, board games and read etc. It is certainly proving a success and we have had lots of positive feedback. Our aim has always been to provide a home from home and this is another step towards that.

May we take this opportunity to ask for at least 24 hours notice when booking your child/children into the club. This enables us to get another member of staff, should high numbers be reached.

Don't forget if you are planning a shopping trip, lunch or even have an appointment, your children are very welcome to come to our Club on a one off basis.

Mrs Budd and Mrs Chettur (7 'til 7 Club Managers)

Gardening Club news

I hope you all enjoyed the flowers outside the main office, which Breakfast Club planted before Christmas. We are now growing flowers, which we will plant after half term. At the moment we are very busy making our new area for the annual Meadowcroft gardening competition 'Schools in Bloom' which will be judged in July. Last year we came 1st winning £100, which enabled us to purchase an apple tree and a sign marking our achievement which you can find in the African Garden. This new area is opposite the demountable, and is entitled 'Rosie and Jim's Garden'. You will see Rosie and Jim (scarecrows, which the children have made with me), appear sitting on the blue garden bench, having a well-earned cup of tea.

For the past 2 years we have worked hard and have now completed all 5 levels of the R.H.S. Children's Gardening awards! We have received lots of prizes: Level 1 - The growing year calendar, Level 2 - A copy of the RHS book 'How to Grow Practically Everything', Level 3 A Rocket Gardens voucher worth £150 for a series of three boxes brimming with vegetable and fruit plug plants, Level 4 - 47 packets of Mr Fothergill's seeds worth £100, Level 5 - £200 in National Garden Gift Vouchers, and two weatherproof 'RHS Five Star Gardening School' plaques and a framed certificate to display in our grounds and entrance hall. In addition, we can use the level 5 logo on our stationery and website. It was well worth our children's the hard work and dedication. We purchased a 'Wind Chime' with some of gift vouchers we won, which will take pride of place in Rosie and Jim's garden. We also purchased lots of soil for our vegetables and fruit bushes in our African Garden.

After half term we will be holding a special celebration by officially opening the 'Rosie and Jim's Garden', placing our wind chime in their strawberry patch, and unveiling our 'RHS five Star Gardening School' plaque to the sound of the children singing 'Dingle, Dangle Scarecrow.' We will let you know the date soon and hope that you will come and share in our celebrations.

Mrs Peek

School Meals

Here is another one of the children's favourites. Why not make it together at half term?

Raspberry and Apple Crumble Cake (12 portions)

Ingredients:

1 Bramley apple - peeled and diced,
75g butter or margarine,
130g caster sugar,
1 egg,
120g self-raising flour,
95g milk,
150g frozen raspberries.

For Crumble Topping:

75 g self-raising flour,
40g diced butter or margarine,
75g caster sugar.

Method

1. Heat the oven to 180c/350f/gas 4 and line a tin 37cm x 27cm with parchment paper.
2. Cook apple and 2 tablespoons of water and cook for a few minutes until apple softens.
3. Make the crumble topping by rubbing the butter into the flour then add the sugar.
4. The crumble topping resembles big breadcrumbs.
5. Beat the butter and sugar in a large bowl until fluffy, then gradually add the egg.
6. Tip in the flour and milk and beat together until everything is combined.
7. Spoon the mixture into the tin then smooth the surface.
8. Dot the apples and raspberries on the top and push down into the cake mix.
9. Sprinkle over the crumble topping.
10. Bake for 45 minutes or until a skewer inserted comes out clean and the top is golden brown.
11. Cut into 12 pieces and serve.

Mrs Chettur (Catering Manager)



F.O.C.U.S. (our wonderful P.T.A)

F.O.C.U.S. Windfall

Exciting news! We have been selected for the next round of the Co-op Community Fund scheme. All you need to do is get a Co-op points card and select FOCUS (Friends of Collingwood Primary School) for the 1% donation from own brand products and services. A fantastic, easy way to raise funds for Collingwood School!

Thank you to Co-op who provided Bacon, rolls, bread and fruit Juice for the year 6 at the start of their Stats. The children enjoyed their relaxed breakfast, before working hard on their Stats papers.

The winners drawn from those who took part in our parent survey were Emma Nicholls (Lower School) and Emma Moss (Upper School.) Congratulations, you and your children win free entry to all PTA events for a whole year!

Messages from other Organisations

Collingwood Pre-School

Collingwood Pre-school Fete - 5th June 2019 - 3.20pm start

Tombola / Lucky Dip / Sand bottle art-Unicorns & Gingerbread Men, Face painting / Tattoos / Sweets & drinks / Pick a Lolly & lots more! Please do come along and support pre-school, thank you! Jan Green, Pre-School Manager

Tokon Kai Karate

Tokon Kai karate run a class after school each Tuesday from 3.15-4.20pm for age 5-11yrs. Come along and give it ago - first lesson free. For more information contact Sensei Jo Griffiths on 01245 362232 or 07958 057406 -

info@tokonkai-karate.co.uk.

Guitar Lessons - Lessons are provided by Mr David Ainsworth on a one to one basis. If you are interested, please contact the school office.

Gymnastics Club The club runs after school on Wednesdays, 3.20pm to 4.15pm. Please see the leaflets in reception for booking information.

Dance Club - The club runs after school on Fridays, 3.20pm to 4.15pm. Please see the leaflets in reception for booking information.

Dates for your diary

All dates, class lunches, performances etc. can be found on our website calendar at www.collingwoodschool.net **If school is ever closed, at short notice, it will appear on <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx> and the school website/be tweeted first** and be announced on Essex FM and BBC Essex as soon as possible. Please avoid ringing the school as the phone is unlikely to be answered whilst we are organising staff!

2019 SATs and other National Assessments

- Year 6 SAT's commence Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May. The papers will be externally marked and be given a standardised score which will result in an assessment as having met the "age related standard" or not.
- Year 2 SATs tests commence during May. These will be graded similarly to year 6 papers, but by their teachers.
- Year 1 and 2 Phonics commence Monday 10th June

2019

Fri 24 th May	5M Class Assembly
Tues 28 th to Fri 31 st May	May Half Term
Wed 5 th June	1J Class Lunch
Fri 7 th June	2C Class Assembly
Mon 10 th - Fri 14 th June	Father's Day Lunches
Fri 21 st June	4W Class Assembly
Wed 26 th June	RNR Class Lunch
Fri 28 th June	Sports Day - 1 st Choice
Fri 5 th July	Sports Day - 2 nd Choice
Fri 12 th July	FOCUS Event - Summer Disco's
Fri 19 th July	6O Leaver's Assembly
Fri 19 th July	Last day of Term
Mon 22 nd - Wed 24 th July	Non Pupil Day
Tues 3 rd Sept	Non Pupil Day
Wed 4 th Sept	First Day of Term
Mon 28 th Oct - Fri 1 st Nov	Half Term
Mon 4 th Nov	Non Pupil Day
Thurs 19 th Dec	Last day of Term
Fri 20 th Dec - Fri 3 rd Jan 20	Christmas Break

2020

Mon 17 th Feb - Fri 21 st	Feb half Term
Mon 6 th Apr - Fri 17 th Apr	Easter Break
Mon 4 th May	May Bank Holiday
Mon 25 th - Fri 29 th	May Half Term
Fri 17 th July	Last day of Term
Mon 20 th - 22 nd July	Non Pupil Days

Please be aware that no term time holidays are authorised at Collingwood unless a signed employer's letter is provided stating that the dates are the ONLY ones that can be taken. In this event, only one term time holiday will be authorised in any academic year and not during or in the term leading up to national assessment periods.

Essex County Council's criteria for issuing Penalty Notices is:

- where there have been at least 10 consecutive sessions (1 day = 2 sessions) of unauthorised absence for the purpose of a holiday, whereby a parent made an application to the School which the Head Teacher has deemed not for exceptional circumstances.*
- whereby the parent did not submit a leave of absence request, however the school have reason to believe the absence was for the purpose of a holiday*
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