



# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

## COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

16<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents

We are now almost there and what a busy December it has been!

I am so proud of our school community in so many ways – we have seen amazing fundraising for good causes, acts of kindness and the school coming together to celebrate Christmas after a challenging term for everyone.

The children have worked hard over recent weeks and managed brilliantly. I am always amazed at how much we can all achieve when we support each other and this year has been no exception.

We say goodbye to Mrs Henry, who has supported Class 3 on a Thursday and Friday for the entire term. I know she has loved working with the children here and she has helped us enormously.

I am immensely proud of our families, PFA, pupils and staff. Please take the time to read the highlights below and we look forward to some exciting events to come – one being a pantomime in the New Year for the children – a much needed reward for their hard work!

Merry Christmas to you all.

### SAVE THE CHILDREN AND CAROL SERVICE

We dressed in Christmas jumpers and sang carols together in the playground. This is the first time we have done this since March. The children were in their class groups, socially distanced from each other and it was wonderful for them to say hello to the other children in the school! Our new Foundation were brilliant and sang Little Donkey on their own – fabulous! The Reverend Richard joined us to talk about Christmas and it was a lovely celebration.

Well done to all the families who donated to Save the Children too. We have had so much fundraising this term, and I am overwhelmed with the response that we had for this charity. We had £96 donated on the Just Giving site and £37.40 was brought into school. Thank you so much to parents, staff and governors for supporting the vital work that this charity does to help children.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER

Christmas lunch, non-uniform and last day of term

#### TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY

First day of term

#### THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY

Pantomime for all classes – The Wizard of Oz

#### FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

NSPCC Number Day

#### THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

Tempest photographs – family groups (possible)

### SAVE THE CHILDREN



## RAFFLE

Thank you to all of the parents and friends of the school, who brought in raffle prizes and purchased tickets. We raised approximately £1020 for the school PFA, which all goes towards providing resources and experiences for the children at school. We still have some raffle prizes to be claimed as soon as possible. Please ask at the gate. Mrs Jago sent an email to all parents with the names of the winners. She will also give people a call if we have their number on the raffle slip.

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

Well done to our amazing children! I love the Christmas Performance – a medley of the classes celebrating Christmas. Please go to our school website to watch your child in the performance. It is great on a laptop with a larger screen, but it will work on a tablet too. The address is

<https://www.cockwood-primary.devon.sch.uk/>

Thank you to Miss Buttree for taking the time to put the footage together. It really does get you in the Christmas spirit when you watch the children at Cockwood – wonderful!

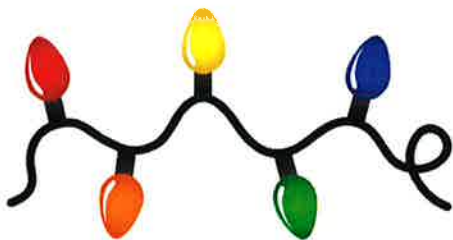
## MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### ATTENDANCE IN TERM TIME

I talked about attendance in the last newsletter. We have faced challenging times, but I am so pleased with how the school community has worked hard to keep our children in school. We have 51 pupils with 100% attendance! Incredible. We will celebrate the achievement of these pupils in our final assemblies, where we will also recognise great effort for Reading, Writing and Maths. Our Platinum Award winners will be chosen and the best attending class will also receive a prize.

### CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Children in Class 1 designed Christmas cards in the annual competition from Ann Marie Morris's office. Well done to Taylor, who has won a prize; her design was selected as one of the best!



## 50 50 RESULTS FOR DECEMBER

£60 prize to Slavka Al Khalili

£40 prize to Nicole Brooks

£20 prize to Fiona King



## MESSAGE FROM NICK TALLAMY (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)

*Hi Everyone,*

*I think that we can all agree this has been a very strange year!*

*As a school community, we have overcome a number of different challenges together, to make sure that our children have had the best opportunities to continue their education, both in school and at home.*

*I would like to thank you - parents, carers, grandparents - for all the efforts you put in, especially during the 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown, when guidance for schools was changing on a daily basis.*

*I would also like to thank you for your patience and understanding over the year; and for observing the different rules that have had to be brought in with little notice.*

*Now with the light definitely visible at the end of the tunnel, we can all look forward to a sense of normality as we move forwards, through 2021.*

*The children have coped exceptionally well with the new rules that have been added to their daily routine. Their behaviour has been exemplary at school, which has helped the school day run smoothly. For that I must thank them all.*

*I am sure you would all join me in expressing our gratitude and respect for the staff at Cockwood School. They have continued to support the children, parents and each other throughout this period, despite having the same concerns and worries that we have all had.*

*Once again, I am very proud to be a governor of a school that has such caring staff, engaging parents and wonderful children!*

*Finally, I would like to wish you all a happy, healthy, safe, and fun Christmas holiday.*

*Looking forward to seeing you all again in 2021.*

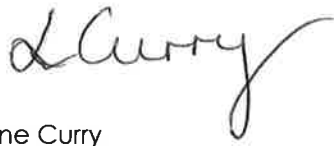


## AND FINALLY....

We have a final surprise for the children tomorrow and we can't wait for Christmas dinner and the last day of Christmas fun.

Have a safe Christmas and take care. Enjoy your holiday and from all of the team here, we wish you a Merry Christmas.

Thank you as always for your support.



Lorraine Curry

