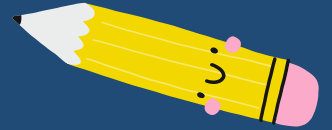




# COCKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



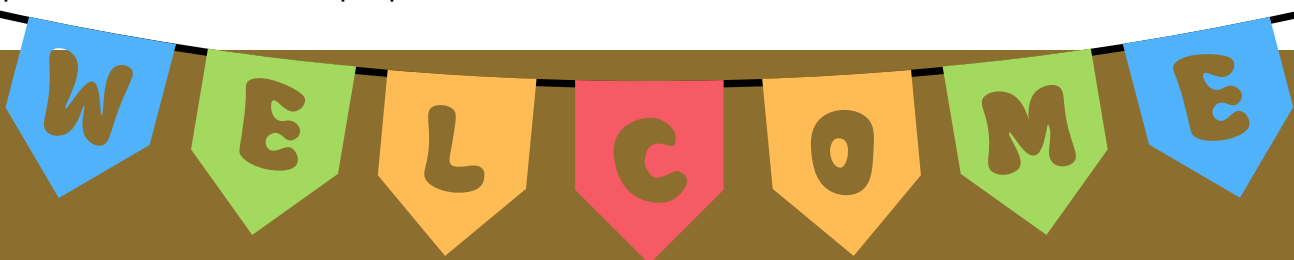
## September

Welcome back everyone to the first newsletter of this academic year! September is always a fresh start and is like turning over a new leaf. The pupils all look incredibly smart in their new uniform and staff start the academic year with fresh vigour and enthusiasm.

Our new EYFS pupils have settled really well into school life and our Year 5 and 6 pupils have loved stepping up to the role of 'Buddies'. We are delighted to introduce our new Head Boy and Girl, and the first School Council meeting has already taken place.

There's so much to celebrate already! Class 2 enjoyed a Sport's Impact Day with Mr Baxter, Class 1 have had a super trip to Bovington Tank Museum, and some lucky pupils attended the rugby at Sandy Park. Forest school is in full swing with Class 2, and Dance has started for Class 1 and 3.

This year is already promising to be one of exciting adventures and learning opportunities for our pupils.



We are delighted to welcome Maya, Clara, Zara, Maeve, Tilly, Andrew, Sammy, Eddie, Joey, Roman, Teddy and Rudy to Class 3. Kiara and Shaini have joined Class 2, along with Mrs Fitton and Miss Jackson.

We welcome them all to our Cockwood family and wish them many happy years as part of our school team.

If you have a child due to start school September 2026 or have friends or family with little ones please pass this on.

Is your child due to start school September 2026?  
Come to one of our open events or book a tour- we cannot wait to meet you.



# Stay and Play afternoons

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 1.30-3pm  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 3.45-5pm  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 1.30-3pm

Book a visit with us-

☎ 01626 890471

✉ [admin@cockwoodschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@cockwoodschool.co.uk)

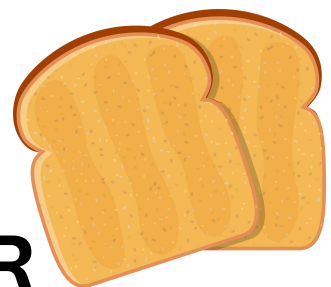
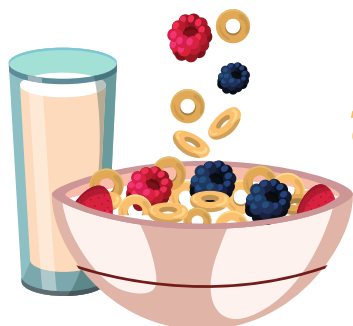
# Breakfast Club

7.45-8.45am  
including breakfast

£5.50

*We are now able to accept  
tax free childcare vouchers*

**Book through ARBOR**



# Women's World Cup Quarter Final



***Pupils had a fabulous day at Sandy Park watching the match between New Zealand and South Africa. We were lucky to secure tickets to this game and very grateful to staff for giving up their Saturday to escort the children. What a fabulous opportunity!***



**MORE PHOTOS ON THE WEBSITE**



## Head Boy and Girl



We are delighted to announce that following our annual election process, George and Rosie have been chosen as our Year 6 Head Boy and Girl for this academic year. Both pupils delivered absolutely amazing speeches that truly impressed everyone, and they were clear winners in the voting process.

George and Rosie will be working closely with our School Council to represent our school community, and we know they will rise magnificently to the challenge ahead. They are already proving to be super role-models for our younger pupils, and we are excited to see them flourish in their new positions. We will certainly be keeping them busy with lots of important jobs throughout the year, and we have complete confidence that they will succeed brilliantly in everything they do.

# CLASS 1 NEWS

## Bovington Tank Museum



Class 1 recently embarked on an incredible historical journey at Bovington Tank Museum. The pupils were transported back to the 1940s, exploring a period house and shop, and experiencing the intense atmosphere of an Anderson Shelter during wartime. The immersive workshop about the Home Front has truly sparked their enthusiasm for this term's historical topic. We are incredibly thankful to our PFA, whose generous support significantly subsidised this educational trip. Their ongoing commitment to enriching our pupils' learning experiences continues to be invaluable.

**Class 1 are enjoying learning the clarinet in Music this term.**



# CLASS 2 NEWS



## Building Bridges!

**Class 2 has been diving deep into our history topic exploring famous Victorians and their remarkable contributions to the world. Our pupils have been particularly fascinated by Isambard Kingdom Brunel and his extraordinary engineering achievements. They spent time investigating the spectacular Clifton Suspension Bridge – a truly remarkable piece of Victorian innovation.**

**Pupils embraced a hands-on engineering challenge, constructing bridges using different materials and testing their structural integrity. Their task was to build a bridge capable of supporting a 'train' (cleverly represented by a whiteboard rubber), which sparked incredible problem-solving and creativity.**



## Sport's Impact Day



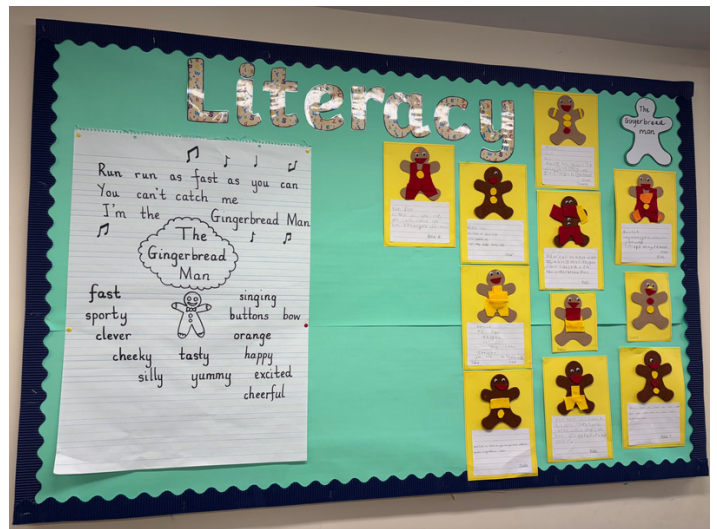
Class 2 had an incredible morning with Mr Baxter, who introduced them to exciting new skills in frisbee and taekwondo. Mrs Fitton added to the energy by testing the pupils' strength using punch and kick pads – Class 2 demonstrated remarkable strength!

*See the website for more photos.*



# CLASS 3 NEWS

This term Class 3 are learning all about Fairy Tales. They read the Gingerbread man and made their very own biscuits. They also used the biscuits in some science experiments!



OUR NEW EYFS HAVE ENJOYED GETTING USED TO OUR OUTDOOR PLAY AREA. THERE HAS BEEN LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO CREATE POTIONS IN THE MUD KITCHEN, EXPLORE RAMPS FOR CARS AND SMALL WORLD PLAY.





# Oracy

As part of Oracy October we are setting a weekly challenge to our pupils. Week 1 is to come prepared to our oracy assembly on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October ready to 'tell a joke'.



## THE CHALLENGE

Write or learn a good joke and tell it to an audience of at least two people.



We've been working closely with our local community to raise awareness about road safety around our village. The lanes of Cockwood are shared by many – cars, pedestrians, horses, and work vehicles – and we must all be mindful of potential hazards.

Recently, one of our neighbours visited during drop-off time with their beautiful horse, reinforcing the message about reducing speed, especially around blind spots on the lane from St Mary's Cottages. We've also welcomed our local Police Community Officer, who will be monitoring drop-off and pick-up times to encourage courteous parking and ensure driveways remain unobstructed.

**Safety is a community effort, and we're committed to protecting everyone who uses our local lanes.**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## IET PRIMARY Term Dates: 2025-26 Academic Year

|                           | Sep-25 |    |    |    |    | Oct-25         |    |    |    |    | Nov-25        |    |    |    |    |
|---------------------------|--------|----|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| Monday                    | 1      | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |                | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |               | 3  | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Tuesday                   | 2      | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |                | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |               | 4  | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Wednesday                 | 3      | 10 | 17 | 24 |    | 1              | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |               | 5  | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Thursday                  | 4      | 11 | 18 | 25 |    | 2              | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |               | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Friday                    | 5      | 12 | 19 | 26 |    | 3              | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |               | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Saturday                  | 6      | 13 | 20 | 27 |    | 4              | 11 | 18 | 25 |    | 1             | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Sunday                    | 7      | 14 | 21 | 28 |    | 5              | 12 | 19 | 26 |    | 2             | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
|                           | Dec-25 |    |    |    |    | Jan-26         |    |    |    |    | Feb-26        |    |    |    |    |
| Monday                    | 1      | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |                | 5  | 12 | 19 | 26 |               | 2  | 9  | 16 | 23 |
| Tuesday                   | 2      | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |                | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |               | 3  | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Wednesday                 | 3      | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |                | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |               | 4  | 11 | 18 | 25 |
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| Saturday                  | 6      | 13 | 20 | 27 |    | 3              | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |               | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Sunday                    | 7      | 14 | 21 | 28 |    | 4              | 11 | 18 | 25 |    | 1             | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
|                           | Mar-26 |    |    |    |    | Apr-26         |    |    |    |    | May-26        |    |    |    |    |
| Monday                    | 2      | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |                | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |               | 4  | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Tuesday                   | 3      | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |                | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |               | 5  | 12 | 19 | 26 |
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| Sunday                    | 8      | 15 | 22 | 29 |    | 5              | 12 | 19 | 26 |    | 3             | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
|                           | Jun-26 |    |    |    |    | Jul-26         |    |    |    |    | Aug-26        |    |    |    |    |
| Monday                    | 1      | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |                | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |               | 3  | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Tuesday                   | 2      | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |                | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |               | 4  | 11 | 18 | 25 |
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| Sunday                    | 7      | 14 | 21 | 28 |    | 5              | 12 | 19 | 26 |    | 2             | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| ATTENDANCE                |        |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |               |    |    |    |    |
| Term dates: Pupils attend |        |    |    |    |    | Non-term dates |    |    |    |    | Bank Holidays |    |    |    |    |
| INSET dates: Staff attend |        |    |    |    |    |                |    |    |    |    |               |    |    |    |    |

## October

THURS 9<sup>TH</sup> OCT- CLASS 2 TRIP TO SS GREAT BRITAIN  
 MON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCT- SCHOOL PHOTOS- TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY  
 MON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCT - BIKEABILITY YEAR 5  
 MON 13<sup>TH</sup> OCT- PARENT CONSULTATIONS 1-6PM  
 TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCT- PARENT CONSULTATIONS 1-6PM  
 WED 15<sup>TH</sup> OCT- STAY AND PLAY FOR NEW EYFS 3.45-5PM  
 FRI 17<sup>TH</sup> OCT- BREAK UP FOR 2 WEEK HALF TERM

## November

TUES 4<sup>TH</sup> NOV- FIRST DAY OF TERM  
 THURS 6<sup>TH</sup> NOV- CLASS 1 ASSEMBLY  
 FRI 7<sup>TH</sup> NOV- CLASS 2 DENTIST VISIT  
 WED 12<sup>TH</sup> NOV- ALWAYS CLUB CINEMA TRIP  
 MON 24<sup>TH</sup> NOV- PARLIAMENT WEEK

## December 11th **WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SHOW**

**DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM**  
**@COCKWOODPRIMARY**



# Harvest Festival



What a lovely morning we had at our annual Harvest Festival service at St Mary's Church, Cofton. Our pupils shared their thoughtful reflections on the harvest, acknowledging the incredible dedication of farmers who work tirelessly to ensure we have food on our tables. Rev Linda delivered a fascinating exploration of words within "harvest", highlighting meaningful connections like "eat" and "tea", and "share". Her message resonated deeply with our pupils, emphasising the importance of community and gratitude. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community donating to our local food bank, and we are immensely grateful for everyone's kindness and support. These contributions make a real difference to local families in need. Thank you all for your continued support and community spirit.

## Train to Teach in Devon

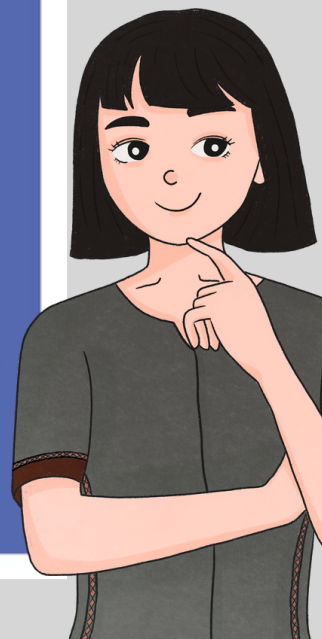
As a partner school with Exeter Consortium Schools' Alliance, we are proud to support their Primary Teacher Training programme. If you've ever thought about becoming a primary school teacher, this school-based training offers classroom placements across Devon, expert guidance, and hands-on experience from day one.

Applications open on 7th October 2025 for training starting September 2026. Find out more here: [www.exeterconsortium.com/train-to-teach](http://www.exeterconsortium.com/train-to-teach)



**Primary  
Teacher  
Training**

Start your journey today



## Attendance

Our current attendance for the year so far is an impressive 97.3%. We've experienced a slight dip to 96.7% over the last week due to a bout of colds and coughs circulating among our pupils. For our new families, we send monthly information on our attendance figures and termly notifications to all parents with updates on your child's individual attendance. Studies show a direct correlation between attendance and academic outcomes, and we will always work with parents to ensure pupils are in school as much as possible. We kindly request that you book medical or dentist appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. If an appointment is unavoidable during the school day, we will need proof of the appointment emailed to the office for our records. The Ivy Education Trust has decided to provide two weeks of holiday for half term. We hope you can take advantage of this and avoid any term-time holidays. Please note that no term-time absence will be authorised unless deemed exceptional circumstances.

## Finally...

It has been a great start to the academic year, and the summer holidays seem a distant memory! However, the learning has started in earnest and it is wonderful to see the pupils so enthusiastic and enjoying their current topics. There has already been so much going on and the next few weeks are extremely busy right up to half term.

Please make sure you keep abreast of dates and timings. We keep the website calendar regularly updated and of course try and update Instagram with any particular reminders.

I have already given out one special award to Georgia in Class 2 for her exceptional writing and I know Mrs Mitchel has made a couple of 'golden phone calls' to share her delight with parents of those pupils that have really shone.

As always we are grateful for any feedback and my door is always open if you want to discuss anything. Thank you for your continued support.

*Alison Roper*