



# Coxhoe Communicator

January 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very proud to share the link with an article in the Chronicle Live this week: <https://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/best-primary-school-north-east-17558652>

The Chronicle use a broad range of factors to rank schools in the North East and ranking in the top ten in Durham is something that we should all be very proud of as a school family. We have an amazing team of staff who are passionate about providing the very best for all of our children – always striving to develop and improve practice across all areas of school life. Our governors and parents also provide support that is second to none – helping us to help our children to believe and achieve! #proudtobeCoxhoe

Mrs Bartle



## Attendance:

Being at school everyday gives your child the best opportunities to access everything available to them to help them learn most effectively. We want to celebrate positive attendance with our children and so have introduced 'Class of the week'. The class with the highest percentage attendance for that week will receive the school certificate award and 5 minutes extra playtime. Understandably, sometimes absence is unavoidable and we work closely with families to support individual circumstances.

Please remember to call school if your child is absent so that we can authorise it. Numerous unauthorised absences can result in involvement from the attendance improvement team. By ensuring that your child is in school and on time, you are giving them the best possible start to their learning.

Thank you for partnering with us.

## Wellbeing:

Last term we successfully ran our family course with a focus on disability awareness. Parents who attended with their children spoke highly of the materials used and time spent with their children completing team activities and games.

Following on from this we have a group of parents, staff and governors who have just started the 'Understanding Autism' free course provided by Aspiral Learning. This is great for anyone wanting to learn more, develop their understanding and/or add to their CV. We are keen to provide more opportunities for family learning in the future and are open to suggestions for what to offer.

Mrs O'Sullivan – Wellbeing Lead

## SEND Team Update

Question of the month: My child has been added to the SEND Register. What does this mean?

Children are added to the SEND register in consultation with parents, teacher and SENCO. Your child may have some areas which they are struggling with and need further support; this would be over and above what is usually common practice in the classroom. Your child will have a SEN support plan outlining the areas of need. Each need will have a small step outcome and provision to show how the outcome will be met. These are working documents used by all staff working with your child and enable your child to make small steps progress in whatever area of need they have.

## Sports Report

We are looking forward to lots of upcoming sport events this year. Class 3 have participated in a Multi Skills festival already this week and our swimmers are taking part in the Swimming Gala.

We held an assembly this week where the children discussed Olympic values and how we could use them across all of our learning. It was also another opportunity to celebrate, once again receiving a Gold School Games Award! This recognises the efforts to engage children in physical activity. Keep it going.

We are also very proud that one of our pupils was one of the 3 winners in the Sedgfield Schools Sports partnership – designing an Olympic Logo.

### Pantomime Visits

We are very excited about our visit to the Pantomime next week! Oh yes we are!! Again, we thank the PTA and all of our families who contribute towards the fundraising that enables us to take our whole school to the pantomime. Classes will enjoy their visit on Tuesday and Classes will follow with their visit on Wednesday. The PTA have been able to pay for the buses, the tickets, a drink and some sweets. This year the pantomime is ... Please let us know if your child has any worries about this visit.

### NSPCC Number Day

On the 7<sup>th</sup> February, the whole school are taking part in the NSPCC Number Day. The day is going to be filled with exciting Maths activities such as a Number Flasmob, a Rockstar Marathon and a day of dressing up. At the end of the day (3:10 for KS1 and 3:25 for KS2) each key stage will perform their dance on the yard for parents and carers to see. For more details, please see the app message titled 'Dress for Didgets'.



### Online Safety

Safer Internet Day is fast approaching and we are excited to welcome Martin Bailey back into school on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Martin will be delivering a parent workshop at 9am where you will also be entertained by our KS2 children. We hope to see you all there.

We are delighted to announce that National Online Safety have just released their brand-new platform, and as a Certified School – our whole school community has now received a complimentary upgrade to their new website. This is a fantastic opportunity to ensure we all stay up-to-date with the latest changes to online safety.

### SMART Watches

In the interest of Safeguarding and Health and Safety, we operate a no jewellery policy this includes Smartwatches which are not allowed in school. This is for a variety of reasons as staff are unable to monitor them closely enough to ensure they are being used safely. If your child is wearing a SMART watch for school, it will be taken from them and kept in a safe place (in the office) until an adult collects it. However, in line with our passion for helping children to tell the time and our approach to healthy schools, a standard wrist watch or a simple fitness tracker may be worn. The school cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage. If you are unsure whether your child's watch is appropriate, please speak to Mrs Bartle or Miss Marsden.

### Snacks and packed lunches

Promoting ways to stay healthy is currently a focus for our School Council. They have some super plans, including a healthy tuckshop. We would love to have parent ideas as to what would be popular – please let us know by chatting to us on the yard or emailing into the office. The children will have their chance to share their ideas through the school council.

Sweets/chocolate and crisps are not permitted as a snack. We encourage children to bring fruit or other healthy options such as low sugar cereal bars, cheese cubes etc. Children in KS1 are provided with fruit daily; this is provided by the government scheme. However, they may bring their own fruit too if they have a particular preference or an alternative healthy snack.

Packed Lunches should not include any fizzy drinks or sweets. In the past, we have asked that parents include a plastic bag for all the rubbish from a packed lunch. This has then been taken home so that parents are aware of any food that has been left. In response to feedback from some parents we will trial moving forward and children will put their rubbish such as fruit peel/yoghurt pots from packed lunches in the bin. However, this will be monitored by the lunchtime team and it will be kept if a child is leaving food regularly. Staff will liaise with parents if they notice this and if parents have a concern please make sure that you make your child's teacher aware.

### TT Rockstars

Classes 5-12 have been taking part in class battles on TT Rockstars. Classes have been working co-operatively with their peers to complete as many questions as possible on TT Rockstars in their spare time. Each winning class will earn a whole class dojo. It has been wonderful to see the children so enthusiastic about their times tables. The competition is on!



### Get into Teaching

For the third consecutive year, Coxhoe Primary School continue to be the lead school for Durham Schools Together. This is a post graduate course where you gain QTS and a PGCE in education and we still have places available to start September 2020. If you or anyone you know are interested in getting into teaching, please get in touch with Miss Marsden. There is also more information available on our website.

### Parent's Evening

Parent's evening is coming soon – Monday 9th & Wednesday 11th March. The online booking system will go live on 30th February. If you have any queries/difficulties in booking an appointment – please contact the school office. You will also be asked to check all of your child's contact details and medical information so please bring any relevant details (and your glasses!!!). You will also be asked to complete a survey online to help inform school development. The event is on over 2 evenings and the online booking system provides the opportunity for you to book when it is convenient to you. We can only provide alternative appointments in exceptional circumstances. Children with additional appointments to review SEND provision will have their parent's evening feedback at the same time to avoid having 2 meetings close together.

### SAVE THE DATE

- \* **20th January-** Art Day 3 (Children can come into school wearing old clothes)
- \* **Tuesday 21st** Classes 1,2,7,11,8 & 9 visit the Pantomime
- \* **Wednesday 22nd** Classes 3,4,6,10,5 & 12 visit the Pantomime
- \* **27th January** KS2 SATS meetings- 3.30pm & 5.00pm
- \* **28th January** KS1 SATS meetings- 3.30pm & 5.00pm
- \* **Thursday 30th January** Class 6 Museum– 9.30am
- \* **Thursday 30th January** Getting ready for school at Hippitots (new starter) – 6.00pm
- \* **Friday 7th February–** 'Dress up for Digits'- please see Newsletters on the school app for further information
- \* **Tuesday 11th February** Getting ready for school meeting at school (new starters) 2.30pm & 6.00pm
- \* **Friday 14th February 9.00am** Martin Bailey Workshops for Parents (Online Safety)
- \* **Half term 17th-21st February, children return to school on 24th February**
- \* **Tuesday 4th March-** Bedtime Stories Night
- \* **Wednesday 5th March-** World Book Day! (Children can come to school as their favourite book character)
- \* **Monday 9th & Wednesday 11th March-** Parents Evenings
- \* **Friday 13th March-** Red Nose Day (Details to be confirmed)
- \* **Friday 13th March-** Class 4 Bake Sale
- \* **Thursday 19th March-** Class 4 Museum 9.30am
- \* **Thursday 26th March-** Class 3 Museum 9.30am
- \* **Friday 27th March-** Class 5 Bake Sale

