



Courtney Primary School

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.

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TERM 2 –W/C 06/11/2023

Welcome back to term 2! We hope you have had a wonderful half term break and have enjoyed celebrating bonfire night and Halloween to those who celebrate. The nights are drawing in and the weather is changing. The time when going for an autumnal walk and heading back to our homes for some soup and a roll could not sound more appealing! Children have already started to transitioning into their warmer clothes and we encourage, hats, scarves and gloves. You will notice we are ringing the second bell a little sooner as mornings get wetter and colder.

Our newsletter has had a revamp and we are trialling new ways of updating you on events and the successes taking place in school following parent and carer feedback.

We would also like to wish a Happy Diwali for the Hindu festival of light. Diwali is India's biggest holiday of the year and celebrates the victory of good over evil. The festival is as important to Hindus as the Christmas holiday is to Christians. Diwali is celebrated over 5 days:

- Day 1 looking at cleaning homes and shopping for gold or kitchen utensils to bring good fortune
- Day 2 people decorate their homes with clay lamps and create Rangoli pattern designs
- Day 3 on the main day of the festival families gather for Lakshmi Puja followed by a feast and fireworks
- Day 4 is the first day of the new year when friends and families come together
- Day 5 brothers visit their sisters and are greeted with love and a lavish meal.

Happy Diwali to everyone who is celebrating.

We have lots of fun things planned this term in preparation for the Christmas and the Friends Of Courtney have been busy planning too.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Attendance and Competition
- Key Dates
- Class News
- Children In Need
- Anti Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day
- FOCP - Non School Uniform Day

NEW STAFF/ STAFF CHANGES

We would like to welcome Mrs Hamilton to our Year 2 class, she will be working on Thursdays and Fridays.

STAFF VANCANCIES

No new vacancies at this time.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Let's Make a Noise About Bullying!

Monday 13th - Friday 17th November.

During Anti-bullying Week we will be taking part in Odd Socks Day where we will be celebrating what makes us all unique!

A purple and dark blue poster for Anti-Bullying Week. It features the Anti-Bullying Alliance logo, the text 'With the support of Odd Socks Day', and 'This ANTI-BULLYING WEEK we are holding ODD SOCKS DAY on MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023'. It also includes the 'Odd Socks Day' logo and a message: 'Come to school wearing your odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique!'.

CHILDREN IN NEED DAY

On **Friday 17th November** we will be celebrating Children In Need Day. Children and staff are invited to wear yellow or spotty clothing or their pe kit and Children in Need merchandise. Monetary donations to this charity are voluntary.



ATTENDANCE

School start and finish times are as follows:

Arrive: 08:30 – 08:45am to start at 08:50am

Finish time: 3:15pm

It is important that children arrive on time so that they don't miss out on key messages and information at the start of their lesson. Arriving late not only impacts on their learning but causes disruption to the rest of their class and the teacher. Children arriving after 08:45am will need to sign in at the school office.

Arriving late every day does add up to a lot of lost learning:

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing per week	Equivalent of missing per year
5	25 minutes	More than 2.5 days
10	50 minutes	More than 5 days
15	1 hour and 15 minutes	More than 8.5 days

LET'S CELEBRATE!

We have a new attendance competition running for the highest attendance class, children in the winning class will get a party afternoon in January.

Attendance should be above 96% for each child.

Current scores per class are:

Reception	90.7%
Year 1	96.4%
Year 2	95.9%
Year 3	96.0%
Year 4	97.1%
Year 5	95.7%
Year 6	94.6%

TERM DATES

To assist parents/carers to book holidays and arrange other events, please find detailed below the term and inset dates for this academic year:

Term 2: Monday 30th October 2023 to Friday 15th December 2023

Term 3: Tuesday 2nd January 2024 to Friday 9th February 2024

Term 4: Monday 19^h February 2024 to Friday 28st March 2024

Term 5: Monday 15th April 2024 to Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6: Monday 3rd June 2024 to Friday 23th July 2024

INSET DATES

Tuesday 2nd January
Thursday 28th March

KEY DATES

Reception Open Day/Evening –
Tuesday 14th November 6pm
Saturday 2nd December 9am
Wednesday 6th December 2pm

Individual School Photos —
Thursday 16th November

Nasal Flu Immunisations—
Friday 17th November

Christmas Fayre—
Saturday 18th November (12pm—3pm)



Children's News



Here at Courtney our learning is our priority. The Motto of our school is I AM BECAUSE WE ARE– this is reflected in our attitudes and beliefs. This week at Courtney we have learned many important and interesting topics. In PE, students have been focusing on the art of dance as well as football. As well as football and dance we have lots more fun activities. Both student and teacher led. Some of these activities include; Choir Club, Lego Club and Fun Club. All of these are extremely popular and offer as many opportunities for your child to enjoy!

Some upcoming events include The Winter Fayre and Non-School Uniform Day on Friday. We look forward to writing to you soon!

Y6 Issy H and Lily Ba

Open Mornings

On **Wednesday 29th November** we have an open morning in **reception, Y1 and Y2** for parents and carers to see how we teach phonics.

On **Thursday 30th November** we have an open morning in **Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6** for parents and carers to see how we teach whole class reading.

Sessions will start at **9:00am until 9:30am.**

Please come and see us learning in action!

Sign up at the school office or drop an email.





Friends of Courtney Primary (FOCP)

NON-UNIFORM DAY

Friends of Courtney Primary School are holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 10th November**. On this day, we kindly ask that pupils bring a bottle donation into school. The items collected will be used on the Bottle Tombola stall at our upcoming Winter Fayre on Saturday 18th November!

As a thank you for donations, pupils are invited to wear their own clothes to school. Thank you for your continued support!

Donation suggestions:

- Bottle of coke, lemonade or Fanta
- J20s, Shloer, Fruit Shoots
- Bottle of wine
- Spirits
- Can/bottle of beer or lager
- Non-alcoholic/low alcohol wine/beer or lager
- Hot chocolate/coffee



Please place your donations in one of the collection boxes at the school gates and in the playground. Donations can be made at school drop-off and pick-up.

There will be a FoCP volunteer at each gate. Alcohol donations must be handed to a volunteer by parents/carers and must not be carried into school by pupils.

