



Tockwith

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year everyone!!

Although this term has been short, there has been plenty going on. The buzz of learning in the classrooms has been fantastic and the broad and balanced curriculum offered at our school is clear to see in the classrooms, on seesaw, in books and from the children's conversations. Last week, I had the pleasure of walking around the school with Mrs Corbett and Mrs Marriner, our school governors. It was lovely to see the children enjoying, art, French, music, PSHE, green screen work and science in the school. It was also fantastic to hear how children were using 'memory lane' to remind themselves about their prior learning.

As well as taking Mrs Corbett and Mrs Marriner around the school, I had the chance to take 3 Headteachers from other schools in Ebor Academy Trust. They commented on the calmness and amazing learning behaviours of our children, they also picked up on the 'feel' of the school. They said it felt like a happy extended family. They also remarked about the children's politeness which I was delighted to hear about.

This half term we have been working hard with the children on greetings and responses to them. Hopefully you have noticed that when you ask them how are you they ask you the same question back. The visiting headteacher's were quite taken back by this and it made them even more impressed with the school.

In our recent Collective worships, we have been telling the stories of the parables and this week we focussed on the parable of the Lepers. In school, we linked this story to the Christian value of Thankfulness. I have challenged the children to show their thankfulness to you as parents/grandparents when they are at home especially at dinner time! If you have positive stories of this please share it with me or the teaching team. On Monday March 20th, I have invited the congregation in to watch one of our collective worships. This is an open invitation if you would like to join us on this day.

Next half term will be another relatively short one leading up to the Easter Holidays. The National Education Union have highlighted 3 strike days on: 28th February and 15 and 16th March. Although we remained undisrupted during the last strikes, I will have to wait until closer to the time to inform you of the school's plans.

I wish you all a lovely holiday and I look forward to seeing you all next half term.

Kind regards Justin Reeve


The Governors have been very active this half term, with our usual Governor meetings and compliance checks, as well as learning walks. Our Governor Monitoring Schedule is all about Implementation this term which means we are looking for evidence and involves us talking to Staff and children, looking at books, resources, displays, data and documentation. Val, our Health and Safety Governor, got the enviable job of coming into school to talk to our amazing kitchen staff and then stay for a scrumptious school lunch. We were all very jealous when she reported back at the last meeting.

We have recently welcomed Dawn Kennett to the board as a Foundation Governor. Dawn's experience and background, both in the church and education, will, I'm sure, prove to be a great asset to the Governing Body.

We also say goodbye to Fiona Ross as she and her family move on to the next stage of their journey. Fiona's knowledge of the school system, particularly around Resources, have proved invaluable to us. She took a major lead when we needed funding for our chrome books and we thank her for this and all she has brought to the table.

We have also welcomed Gordon to the Governing Body. He is proving very popular and is our way of thanking the children for some of the awesome things they bring to the school. It is difficult, because, as we know, our children are constantly amazing, however we look for those little things above and beyond and then Gordon goes for a short stay before crawling to another classroom, along with his passport.

Sue Corbett - Chair of Governors

| PASSPORT | |
|---|---|
|  | Personal Information Name: Gordon Gender: Male Age: 1 Home country: Tockwith Signature: <u>Gordon</u> |
| Description Medium sized Gecko who likes to live in classrooms which show excellent behaviours. He informs the governors when he is ready for a move. | |

John 10:10—live life in all it's fullness

Tockwith are excited to announce residential and Outdoor Education opportunities for the whole of KS2. Working again with Wilderness Outdoor Education and Humphrey Head, each class will have the chance for an amazing experience.

Monday 12th June - Friday 16th June - Year 6 residential to Humphrey Head

Monday 3rd July - Year 5 will travel to Boroughbridge for a kayaking experience on the River (activity funded by school)

Monday 3rd July - Year 3 will do an overnight at school with a BBQ (funded by PTFA) and outdoor games (funded by school)

Tuesday 4th July - Year 4 will do an overnight at school with a BBQ (funded by PTFA) and outdoor games (funded by school)

These are amazing experiences for the children and we are excited for them to happen again.

From 2024 onwards the plan for this will be:

Year 3 - Overnight at school with BBQ and games

Year 4 - 2 night camping residential to Northumberland

Year 5 - Kayaking experience in Boroughbridge and overnight at school with BBQ and games

Year 6 - 5 day residential to Humphrey Head



Open the book

Once every month the Year 6 children have the opportunity to perform a short play of a bible story. For example, last time we performed the story of Jesus and the tax collector (Zacchaeus). Mrs Marriner comes in 15 minutes before the assembly to choose actors for the performance. Last week we had approximately ten people who were selected to act out the roles in the performance. By Seth and Harry (Zacchaeus and a Narrator).



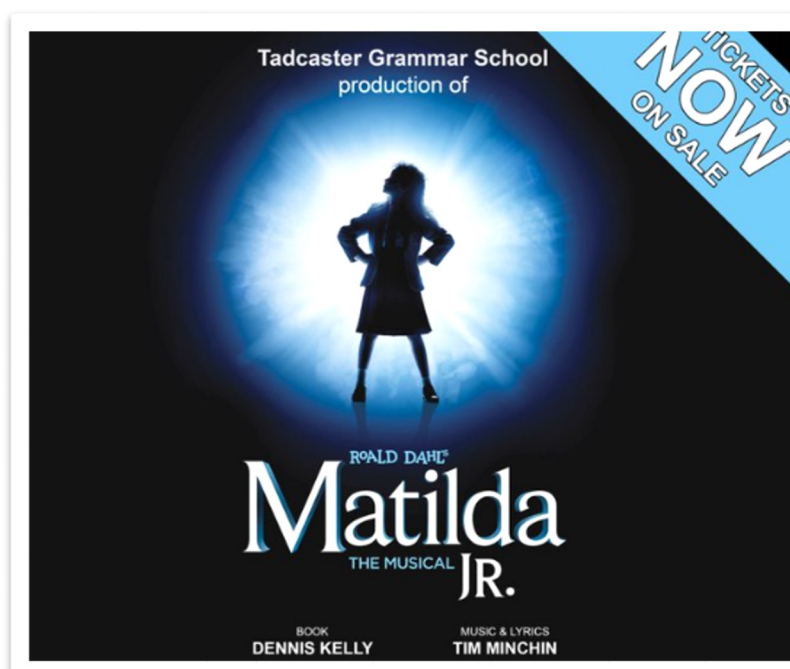
We are so lucky to have such close links with our Church and very grateful to Mrs Marriner and Mrs McBride for giving up their time to come and 'Open the Book' with us once a month.

Swimming

Every Wednesday, the children in Year 3 and 4 have been travelling to Tadcaster to have their swimming lessons. The children's confidence has grown as well as their love for swimming. Not only do the children learn about the different strokes but they have also been learning about treading water- an essential life skill. You never know when it might come in useful! We look forward to continuing our swimming lessons after half term!

Year 5/6 Trip to Tadcaster Grammar School

Going to Matilda at Tadcaster Grammar was a great opportunity to see what previous Tockwith pupils have moved onto and view possible high schools for year 5 and a little taster for those who picked Tadcaster in year 6. The show was excellent and the costumes were very professional. They transformed the stage with amazing paintings and props the lighting was very good. We think it was a fantastic opportunity to experience a high school building and a high school show to give us an idea of what experiences secondary school can offer. By Sophie and Maddy.



News from the kitchen

We are so lucky to have the team in the kitchen that we have. This was recently recognised by Mrs Hackforth, one of our Governors. She spent some time talking to Mrs Hobson in the kitchen about how we cater for children with allergies and how we meet the needs of the children. She was very impressed with how the kitchen team worked together to produce so many options, including the lovely new salad bar. As we all know though, the proof is in the pudding and Mrs Hackforth thoroughly enjoyed her roast gammon as well as the company of the delightful children she was sat with. She was so impressed that she wrote me an email which I passed onto the Hutchisons, the catering company we use.



Laura Whiting
@LauraW_RPHNtr

When you get feedback that's too good not to share. Well done to Sandra, Pauline & Heidi for the amazing work you do and Thank You to @Tockwithcofe for your kind words. @_HutchisonCater #proudmoment

"We are so lucky and privileged to have in the kitchen three of the most loyal and caring employees all of whom work so well together.

"On behalf of the Governors, I would like you to thank Sandra for everything she does for Tockwith School."

"...providing such nutritious and varied meals each lunch-time. I can certainly vouch for that as I thoroughly enjoyed my roast gammon today."



Not satisfied with a lovely Roast gammon, Mrs Hobson and the team went on a trip around the globe and treated the children to A Chinese feast to celebrate their new year and Australia Day. We celebrated Chinese New Year with sweet and sour chicken with rice or vegetable chow mein followed by a celebration cupcake. Australian Day was a sausage sizzler and bonza burger with a selection of salads followed by a tim tam cake! The children all loved the meals and as you can see from some of the photographs, there wasn't much left!



Thursday - Australia Day Barbie Menu
Sausage Sizzler & Bonza Burger
or
Vegetarian Sausage Sizzler & Vegetarian Burger
With Wallaby Wedges & a
Selection of Salads

Tim Tam Cake, fresh fruit or yogurt



Monday - Chinese New Year Menu
Sweet & Sour Chicken with Rice
or
Vegetable Chow Mein

Celebration cupcake,
fresh fruit or yogurt



Attendance

Thank you so much with all of your efforts to ensure your children attend school regularly. This half term we have noticed an increase in the number of late arrivals coming into school. This is always noticeable when I am presenting Ronnie the Ready to Learn Rooster on our Friday star of the week assembly. The first part of the day is exceptionally important for the children to arrive on time and ready to learn. Ofsted's guidance to head teachers can be summarised in their own words as 'Listen, understand, empathise and support—but do not tolerate.

I have to have 'high expectations for every pupil's attendance at school' and I have to 'communicate these expectations clearly, strongly and consistently to parents and to pupils'. I am very proud to say that our attendance is above national average and in the top 10% of all FFT schools (7000 primary schools) but I am also aware of the documentation that states, 'securing good attendance for all pupils is an ongoing process, never something that is 'finished'.



Recorder Club

Our new recorder clubs are up and running and there are some very talented musicians within! Children from years 2-6 have been working really hard to learn this new instrument. It has taken lots of perseverance and patience to get us going but we have now mastered various notes and are playing some lovely tunes as an ensemble. We are hoping to perform a few of our numbers in an assembly before the Easter holidays. Keep up the great work! Miss Cunningham.



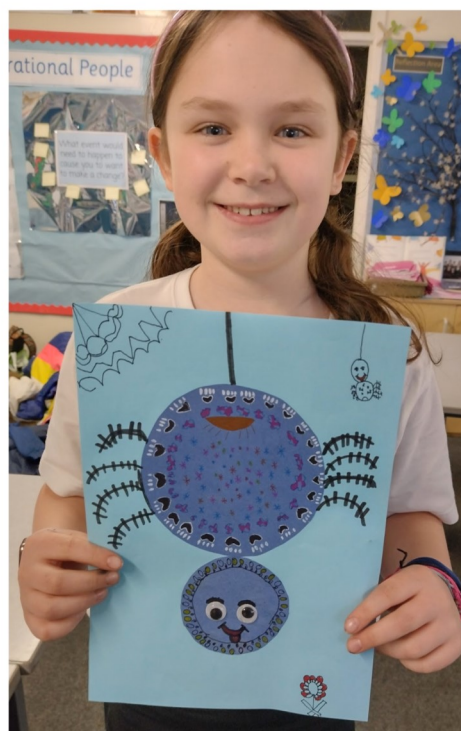
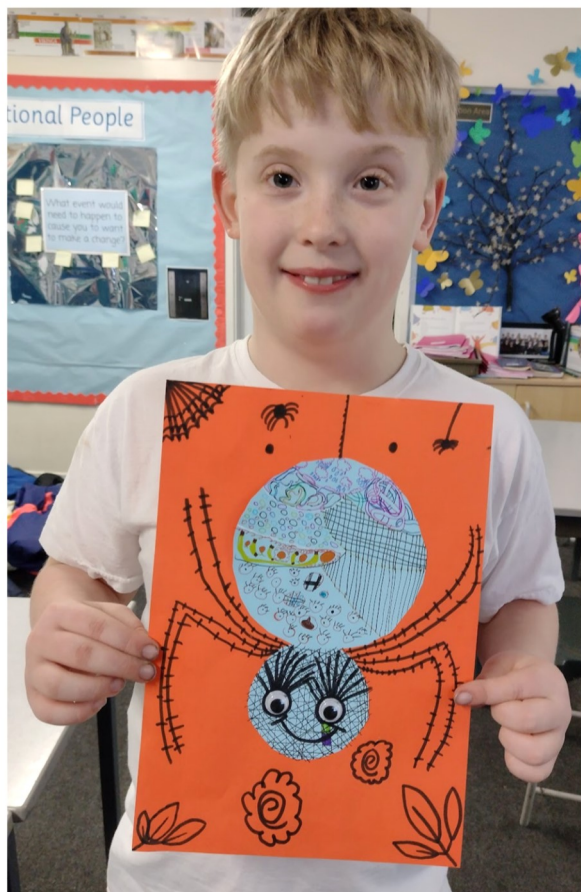
National Handwriting Day

On Monday 23rd January it was National Handwriting Day so I launched a handwriting competition for Years 1-6 who were given the task of writing out a poem using their neatest handwriting. The standard was very high so it was difficult for me to judge. A huge congratulations to the winners, who were awarded with a surprise gift! A very well done to all the children, keep up the great work.
Debbie Strachan



Art Club with Mrs Starr

The Year 5's enjoyed 6 weeks of art club, producing mini woolly bobble hat decorations, charcoal lion faces and googly-eyed spiders. We even got treated to some buns, brownies and a lovely cake, in our final session, by some of our talented bakers! I look forward to doing it all again with the Year 6's, after our half-term break. Mrs Starr



Tockwith Trebles

Say hello to the Tockwith Trebles! They have been working so hard every week on a range of songs to perform at events throughout the rest of the year. We are currently working on "Somewhere only we know"- Keane "Brave"- Sara Bareilles and "Something just like this" Coldplay and the Chainsmokers. It is such a pleasure to see the children really engaging in Music and I look forward to showcasing our work over the upcoming weeks!

Thank you to everybody who auditioned for this club, there will be an opportunity for a pop choir in the summer term.

We look forward to seeing you all after the half term, myself and Mrs Curry are so proud of you already! Miss Kilvington



Boomwhackers

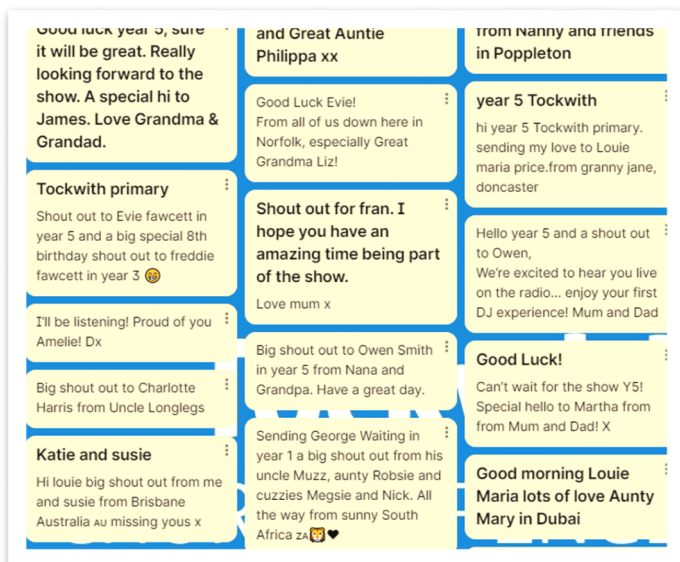
We were delighted to have Mr Crilley join us this half term to introduce each class to Boomwhackers! These tuned percussion tubes are an amazing and unique instrument which produce a musical tone when struck on the floor or against a surface. The children played along with Mr Crilley to various songs and had such a fun time whilst learning! The teachers look forward to continuing to use these with the children to teach about notation and give the children more opportunities to use percussion instruments. Myself and Mr Crilley are planning to support each year group with a performance using our boomwhackers for the rest of the school! Miss Kilvington



Radio show

On Monday, Year 5 had the amazing opportunity to become radio presenters for the day. With the help of expert Russell Prue they split into teams and created scripts on their area of expertise. We had national news, weather, sport, climate change and other topics. The children rehearsed all day and went live from 2pm to 3pm. In addition to this, people from all around the world texted and emailed into the show. Tockwith radio spread from the UK, to Dubai, Falkland Islands, Australia and even to Ukraine where former Year 5 pupil Gleb tuned in. The show has now been turned into a podcast for anyone to listen to. Click on the link below to hear the awesome show. Mr Goodacre—producer for the day!

<https://learnradio.net/tockwith/>



This week in year five we went live on learn/net.radio we learnt lots of different things that we never knew before we got messages all around the world. It was a once in a lifetime experience for us fives. There was no gap of where the facts stopped coming not just in England but to the other side of the world. We felt like professionals because it was our first time writing a scribe and it sounded like a real radio broadcast. We have no words for it apart from extreme. Now I know over a hundred new facts. James



On Monday the 6 of February year 5 did a radio show." We got to learn new things and were trusted to write our own script so it made it feel like we were professionals. I learned that you need to reply to messages and not just read them out on the radio. You have to get so close to the microphone as well and it was really fun to see how if everyone plays a little part and we put it all together it can make something amazing. Also it was amazing to see how far radio can get broadcasted around the world. The jingles sounded amazing as well they added a lot more professionalism to the show. I'd like to say a few thankyou's first to Mr Reeve for organising it to Mr G for being with us to do it and finally to Mrs Corbett for being with us all day." Owen

Police Officer Visit to Reception

In Reception this term we have been learning all about people who help us. We were very fortunate to have a visit from some local police officers to speak about their role. The children had the opportunity to learn how police help our community, ask questions and even sit inside a real life police car! This was a very valuable experience for the children. Miss Davidson



Internet Safety

This term, we had PCSO Joe to come and talk to us about keeping ourselves safe online. He gave a very simple but clear message of Zip it, Block it, Flag it. If you want more ideas about keeping yourself safe online please read our most recent safeguarding newsletter.

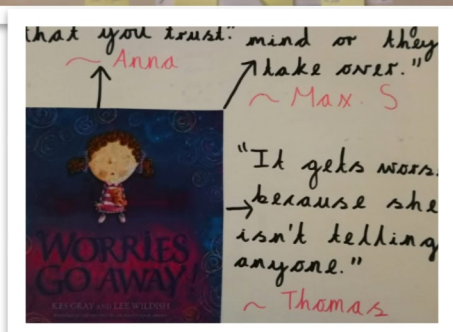
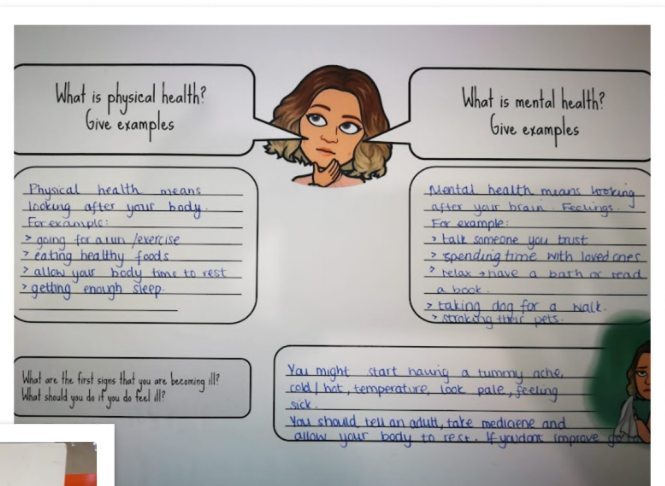
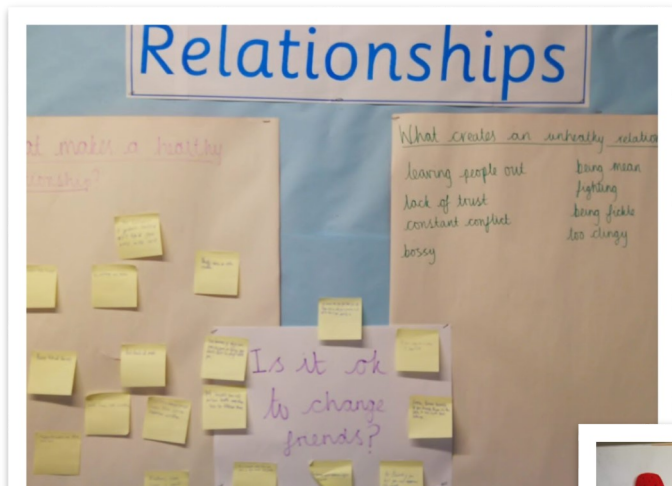
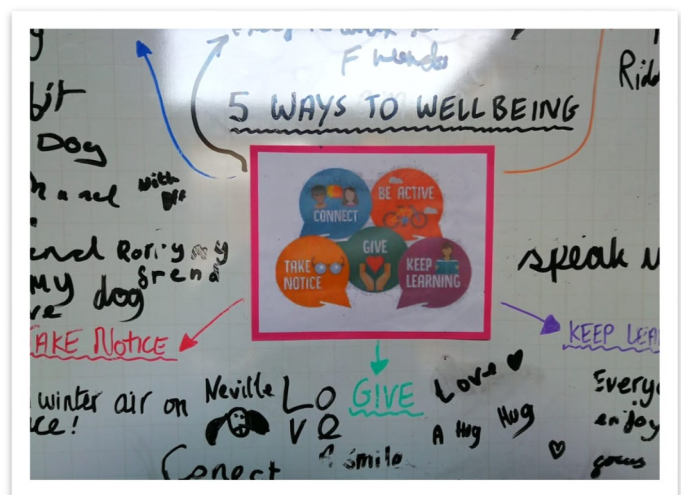
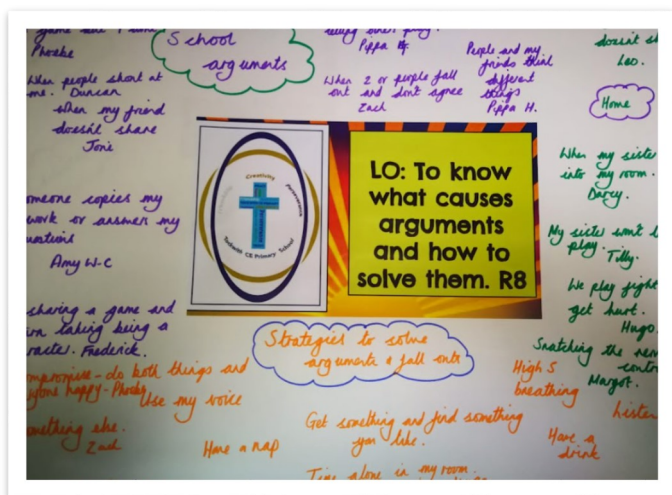


Pastoral and PSHE at Tockwith

I would like to share a resource from CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) with you. Tips For Feeling Good - some guidance for us and our children to help feel our best as we move from a long winter season into the brighter days of spring.
Click for the link https://www.annafreud.org/media/3194/year7_help4pupils.pdf

Pastoral Care and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) is a big part of Tockwith School and is practised throughout the school everyday. From Reception reading the Colour Monster Book - increasing the children's understanding of their emotions - through to year 6 discussion on Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships. This work helps our children now and prepares them for the future - understanding themselves and others is vital and helps the children become happy and successful.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns
Have a lovely half term break
Sarah Slack
pastoral@tp.ebor.academy



Bus transport to cut down traffic outside

North Yorkshire County Council provide a bus service for children that live in Bilton-in-Ainsty, Cowthorpe or Bickerton. To help reduce the number of vehicles outside school at drop off and pick up time, we would like to encourage children living in those areas to contact NYCC in order to get a bus pass for this service.

To add to this, we obviously strongly advocate walking to school as well. It is good for you, helps the environment and means that you do not have to deal with the parking situation outside of the school.

Parking Outside School

Before and after school can be very hectic outside the school especially with the congestion of cars. If you can park in the Sports field car park, it makes the outside of school so much safer and less congested. The problem with cars parked outside school is the opening of doors onto pedestrians and if cars are parking forwards I have noticed people mounting the pavements. They also reduce visibility for people crossing. I have invited the Parish Council to come and have a look at the front of school to see if they have any suggestions.

More importantly, if you can walk, bike or scoot to school it is great for you and for the environment.



School Website

Why not log on to the school website and subscribe for updates so you're always kept up to date with things going on at school! The website is packed full of useful information about Tockwith Primary. Find our website at:

Tockwith.ebor.academy

Click 'subscribe for updates' on the front page to never miss out again!

Twitter

If you want to keep up with live updates from the school and use twitter, please give the school account a follow @tockwithcofe . We also retweet all the teachers' updates, but please give them a follow as well please

OFSTED

We are in the OFSTED window. Your feedback is always incredibly useful for us and for them. Could you please fill in the questionnaire, it is very simple to do.

Healthy Snacks

Please can I remind you to send in healthy, nut free snacks with your children please?

We are having a couple of bags of crisps and chocolate bars slipping through the net.

I will also speak to the children about prematurely dipping into their packed lunches rather than taking their snacks.

The NHS have some great ideas on their website.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/#:~:text=1.,spread%20or%20a%20fruited%20teacake.>

Play equipment outside

Please can you keep your children off the play equipment, especially the ones in the bigger playground as we have had a couple of incidents this term with children playing on them out of the sight of their guardians.