



# NEWSLETTER

## Spring Term

### 01234 740100

office@cottonendforestschool.co.uk

17th January 2025



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the first newsletter of 2025.

The children have settled back really quickly into the routines of school this term. I have been really impressed with some of the work the children have shared with me already.

It is lovely to see that so many children scoot or cycle to school, our cycle shelters and racks are often full. We encourage these physical activities to enhance our healthy lifestyles and we have welcomed the Bikeability team into school today who have been supporting groups of children to develop their cycling skills and safety awareness.

We are looking forward to seeing parents of children from Eagles and Oak classes at our celebration assembly next week where the children will share some of their learning.

I know that lots of children have booked onto the movie night planned for next Thursday, there are still a few places left if anyone has missed the message.

It is with great sadness that we say a fond farewell to Mr O who is leaving us today to embark on a new career. We will all miss him and wish him every success for the future.

We have welcomed Ms McGregor and Mrs Ojuri to our team this term as we continue to grow.

I have received several holiday requests this week and I must remind you that we follow DFE guidance and cannot authorise holidays in term time. The expectations around school attendance have been tightened further as we have explained previously and this includes the increased charges for penalty notices. Moving forward, you will be receiving regular updates about your child's attendance levels for information purposes. If we need to speak with you about this, we will contact you individually.

Please remember that if fines are issued, schools do not receive the funds!!!

Mrs Headland

### Public Health

Due to an increase in winter illnesses and following advice from public health, we are continuing with **the 48 hour incubation period for the foreseeable future**. If your child suffers even one bout of sickness or diarrhea **please do not send them into school**. We kindly ask that you do please respect this decision and assist us in keeping all our children safe and healthy.

Thank you.



### Term Dates



#### Spring Half Term

Last day before half term -

14th February 25

Return to school - 24th February 25

#### Easter Break

Last day of term - 4th April 25

Return to school - 22nd April 25

Bank holiday - 5th May 25

#### Summer Half Term

Last day before half term - 23rd May 25

Staff training day - 2nd June 25

Return to school - 3rd June 25

#### Summer Break

Last day of term 18th July 25

2025 / 2026 dates coming soon.

**Reminder—Any holidays taken in term time will trigger a fine in line with Bedford Borough Council guidelines.**

### Attendance

W/C 13/1/25

Oak	95.0%
Willow	97.7%
Owl	97.0%
Wagtail	95.2%
Skylark	96.9%
Woodpecker	95.0%
Kingfisher	99.0%
Nightingale	94.1%
Eagle	97.9%
Falcon	91.8%
Osprey	98.5%
Harrier	92.5%
Kestrel	94.7%

Well done to Willow class from EYFS and KS1 this week with 97.7% and Kingfisher from KS2 with 99.0%. The whole school is 95.2%.



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## Extra Curriculum

Badminton - Year 3-6  
Wed 8th January -  
Wed 12th February 25



Volleyball—Year 3-6  
Thurs 9th January—  
Thurs 13th February 25



Musical Theatre—Year 3-6  
Mon 13th January -  
Mon 10th February 25



Cheerleading—Year 2-4  
Tues 14th January -  
Tues 11th February 25



Jam Coding—Year 3-6  
Thurs 9th January -  
Thurs 13th February 25



Lego Club—Year R-6  
Wed 15th January -  
Thurs 12th February 25



## SEND Coffee Morning

The SEND coffee morning for this half term will be held on Wednesday 22nd January 9am—10.15am.



The theme is emotional regulation. We have a guest speaker attending from Bedford Borough SEND Advisory Team, to talk to parents about emotional dysregulation and strategies to support your child.

Please feel free to come along for a cuppa and a chat! We look forward to seeing you all next week! Mrs Catchpole

## Any Other Business

### P.E. & Forest School Kits

Please could we ask that all P.E. and Forest School kits are returned to school on the first day after a school holiday.



### Movie Night

Cotton End Forest School are hosting a Movie Night on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 3.30pm-5pm. Year R-6. Light snacks will be provided. £6 per child. Spaces are still available and bookings will be open via ParentMail until midnight on Monday 20th January.



### Pastoral Support

If you have any information of a sensitive or pastoral nature, please email the following address and we will ensure that the information is shared with the relevant members of staff.



[keepintouch@cottonendforestschool.co.uk](mailto:keepintouch@cottonendforestschool.co.uk)

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