

# Coteford Junior School

Newsletter 06

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Welcome to our weekly newsletter, here we will keep you up to date with important information and upcoming events. Please also keep an eye on your year group newsletters and our school website: <https://www.cotefordjunior.org.uk/>

## Merit book:

The following children are in the merit book this week:

**3DJ: Arpita** for a fantastic traditional tale

**3LM: Haidee-Rose** for working hard

**4LF: Sanaa** for fantastic help at the fair

**4RC: Isac** for reading beautifully to Ms P

**5EP: Chloe** for an excellent week

**5IW: Lillie** for being a great member

**6KB: Jasmine** for being kind and helpful

**6SP: Ali** for working hard

**Miss Martin: Primrose** for being a great member of board games club

**Mrs. Eckley: Grace, Sia, Arun & Rose** for their amazing crafts

**Miss Bowerman: Chelsea** for growing in confidence

*A huge well done to them!*



**Be Ready  
Be Respectful  
Be Responsible**

## ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

| Year Group   | Percent |
|--------------|---------|
| Year 3       | 97%     |
| Year 4       | 93.8%   |
| Year 5       | 89.1%   |
| Year 6       | 93.6%   |
| Whole school | 93.5%   |

## Autumn Fair Success... Now It's Time to Vote! 🗳️

It was wonderful to welcome so many families to our Autumn Fair. We hope you enjoyed visiting the classrooms, taking part in the crafts, and seeing all the exciting activities on offer. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces throughout the event, including some of our former pupils who came back to visit. It is always a pleasure to hear what they have been up to and to welcome them back to school.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along, bought a cake, played a game, or supported the event in any way. Your enthusiasm and support helped make the afternoon such a success and reinforced the wonderful sense of community we are so proud of.

Don't forget to cast your vote for your favourite wheelbarrow display! Please complete the Google Form and let us know which creation you think deserves the top spot. Thank you for taking part and supporting all the hard work that went into this year's competition. 🗳️

<https://forms.gle/wipSZ8Y5PgLoG2Bg7>



## 🍁 Autumn Craft Competition Winners 🍁

A huge well done to all of our children and families who took part in this year's Autumn Craft Competition. We were amazed by the creativity, effort and imagination shown in every entry. Our families really are so inventive!

**Congratulations to our winners:**

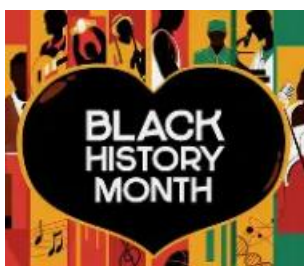
🏆 **Grace - Design on a Plate**

🏆 **Sia S - Terrarium**

🏆 **Rose - Vegetable Animal**

🏆 **Arun - Pumpkin Design**

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the competition such a success. The entries brought lots of smiles to our school and were a wonderful celebration of creativity and family teamwork. We are incredibly proud of you all!



## Celebrating Diversity, Equality and Black History Month

This month, we are proud to be celebrating Black History Month, providing a valuable opportunity for our children to learn about, recognise and celebrate the achievements, cultures and contributions of Black people throughout history and in our communities today. It is a time for reflection, understanding and appreciation, helping children to develop a deeper understanding of equality, kindness and inclusion.

As part of our learning, we have been sharing the wonderful story *Mixed* by Arree Chung. This colourful and engaging book tells the story of different colours learning to live together, celebrating what makes them unique while discovering how much stronger they become when they are united. Through the story, children explore themes of belonging, friendship, diversity and acceptance, encouraging them to value differences and recognise that everyone has an important place within our community.

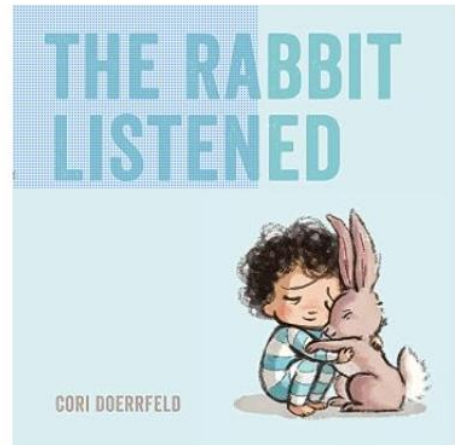
Alongside this, we have been exploring the principles of equality in an age-appropriate way, helping children understand that everyone deserves to be treated with respect and fairness. A particularly important message within our school is that nobody should ever be treated differently because of the colour of their skin. We want every child and family to feel welcomed, valued and proud of who they are.

These messages link closely to our school's 3Rs. *Mixed* promotes Respect by encouraging children to appreciate and celebrate one another's differences. It develops Responsibility by reminding us that we all play a part in creating a kind, inclusive and welcoming community. It also builds Resilience, showing how understanding, empathy and friendship can help overcome barriers and bring people together. Through our wider learning, we encourage children to celebrate diversity, challenge unfairness and ensure that everyone feels they belong.

### ♥ World Mental Health Day ♥

Last week, we marked World Mental Health Day by sharing the lovely story *The Rabbit Who Listened*. The book reminds us that sometimes the best way to help someone is simply to listen.

We talked about the importance of sharing our feelings and being good listeners when others need support. We want all of our children to know that their feelings matter and that there is always someone at school who will listen and help. This links beautifully to our 3Rs through showing Respect for others' feelings, taking Responsibility for being a kind friend, and being Responsible for our mental health by talking about worries and asking for support when we need it. ♥



### Retirement news:

After 27 years at Coteford Junior School, Mrs Boffey will be retiring at the end of this half term. Over the years, Mrs Boffey has worked in all year groups, making a significant contribution to the attainment and progress of over 800 children.! She has been subject leader for a number of curriculum areas, most recently music and has led the school's focus on our higher attaining pupils. Mrs Boffey has always been a warm and calm presence in our school. She has also been a great colleague and friend to all of us and we will miss her. However, we all wish her a long and happy retirement.

### Sports News:

On Wednesday, the school football team played in a match against Newnham. It was a 4 - 1 Victory for Coteford! The team could not have hoped for a better start to the match - There was great togetherness with, the way in which they attacked and defended. From the first minute, the team took the game Newnham with a string of precise passing, this positive start to the game was rewarded with two goals - one from a shot outside the box and the other from a corner. The second half was trickier start as the opposition had good chances, but the team worked really hard defensively to maintain their advantage. This led to the opposition being caught on the counter attack with two second half goals.

My player of the match is Tomas he worked really hard defensively and he was also instrumental in setting up the attacks.

Well done to: Tomas, Veer, Arthur, Charlie, Franklin, George, Teilo and Nathaniel.

Mr Belinga

**UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

| <b>Date:</b>      | <b>Information:</b>           |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 07/10/26          | Year 5 Visit to temple        |
| 07/10/26          | Non uniform day (Y3, Y4, Y6 ) |
| 08/10/26          | Non uniform day for Y6        |
| 13/10/26-16/10/26 | Book fair                     |
| 13/10/26          | School photos (individual)    |
| 14/10/26          | Autumn fair                   |
| 23/10/26          | Staff training day            |
| 26/10/26-30/10/26 | Half Term                     |
| 18/11/26          | Y6 Visit to Battle of Britain |
| 19/11/26          | Y6 visit to Battle of Britain |
| 02/12/26          | Y3 Stoneage workshop          |
| 11/12/26          | Christmas Panto               |
| 17/12/26          | Christmas Service             |
| 18/12/26          | Term ends at 12pm             |