

# Coteford Junior School

Newsletter 32

21<sup>st</sup> May 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:

**3EB: All of 3EB**

**3TH: Jackson** for excellent effort in PSHE

**4LF: Anaya** – good luck

**4IW: Rayyaan** for a great attitude to assessment week

**5DJ: Veera** for great attitude to assessment week

**5EP: Max** for a great attitude to assessment week

**5RC: Star** for becoming a brave swimmer

**6KB: Jessie** for working hard on her writing

**6SP: Albie** for excellent writing

**6UQ: Liam** for respectful choices

**Mrs. Eckley: Harley 4IW** for good behaviour

**Miss Martin: Maya 4LF** for a positive attitude

A huge well done to them!



Be Ready  
Be Respectful  
Be Responsible

## ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

Year Group	Percent
Year 3	92%
Year 4	88.4%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	89.8%
Whole school	91.7%



### Supporting Wellbeing Over Half Term

Last week we shared the exciting news about our new partnership with the **Charlie Waller Trust**.

One of the key frameworks we will be drawing on is the **Five Ways to Wellbeing**. These are simple, everyday actions that can make a real difference to how children (and adults) feel.

#### ★ The Five Ways to Wellbeing

- Connect** – spend time with people who make you feel good
- Be Active** – move your body in a way that feels enjoyable
- Take Notice** – pause, look around and appreciate the moment

**Keep Learning** – try something new or practise a skill

**Give** – do something kind for someone else

With half term coming up, it's a great opportunity to try some of these at home. Here are a few easy ideas:

- **Connect:** enjoy a device-free meal or play a board game together
- **Be Active:** go for a walk, scooter ride or visit a local park
- **Take Notice:** go on a "noticing walk" and look for colours, sounds or signs of nature
- **Keep Learning:** try a new recipe, craft or borrow a book on a new topic
- **Give:** make a card for someone, help with a small job or donate a toy or book

Small actions can have a big impact. We hope these ideas help families enjoy a positive, restful and connected half term.

### Ready, Respectful, Responsible – A Reminder for Our Final Half Term

As we head into the final half term of the year — always one of the most fun and exciting — we want to take a moment to revisit our core school values: Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. These values help us finish the year positively, keep our learning on track and ensure everyone feels safe, included and able to do their best.

This year we introduced Reflections as part of our restorative approach. If a child needs time to think about a situation, they spend a short part of lunchtime with Miss Martin or Mrs Eckley. Together, they talk through what happened, what went wrong, how relationships can be repaired and what support the child might need. It's a calm, supportive space that helps pupils learn to take responsibility for their actions — an important learning curve as they grow.

We are also incredibly grateful to our families who support our Reflections approach and reinforce the same messages at home. When school and home work in partnership, children make the strongest progress, and this shared consistency helps them grow into ready, respectful and responsible young people.

## Respectful Language

### Respectful Language – A Focus for This Half Term

One area we would like to continue strengthening is the use of respectful language towards all staff. Our whole team — teachers, support staff, office staff, lunchtime staff, site team and everyone in between — works incredibly hard every day to make our school a safe, happy and successful place for children. Every role is important, and every member of staff deserves to be spoken to with kindness and respect. We are asking all pupils to remember that being Ready, Respectful and Responsible includes the way they speak to every adult in school. Using polite, calm and considerate language helps create a positive atmosphere where everyone feels valued in their place of work.

With your support at home, and our consistent expectations in school, we're looking forward to a really positive final half term.



### Wellbeing Workshops – Summer Term

This year, the workshops will take place inside the **SCARF LifeSpace** – an immersive, interactive learning environment that brings the themes to life in a fun and memorable way. We are excited to introduce this new experience to the children. These sessions support our PSHE curriculum and help children learn about wellbeing, healthy relationships, staying safe and developing positive life skills. The cost is **£3.75 per child**, now live on Parentmail.

#### Workshop Focus

- **Year 3:** Mental Wellbeing – exploring self-acceptance, empathy and coping with things beyond our control
- **Year 4:** Online Behaviours
- **Year 5:** Online Behaviours

### Wellbeing Warriors in the Online World (Years 4 & 5)

Children will learn to:

- Understand how online behaviour affects wellbeing
- Recognise how influencers and advertising shape decisions
- Develop critical thinking about online content
- Make positive, safe choices when interacting online

### Parent Workshop

We would also like to invite all parents and carers to a short **SCARF Parent Workshop** on **Tuesday 16th June, 3:05–3:25pm**. This session will give an overview of the themes covered and offer practical ideas for supporting children's wellbeing at home. **Mrs Eckley will supervise children** during the session. Please email to confirm your place: [reckley.312@lgfmail.org](mailto:reckley.312@lgfmail.org)



### A Fond Farewell to Mr Spence

Today, we say goodbye to **Mr Spence**, who is leaving us to take up a well-deserved promotion at a school very close by. During his time at Coteford, he has worked with so many children across the school and has become a firm favourite with pupils and staff alike.

He brings **creativity, flair, calmness and genuine care** to everything he does, and his ability to connect with children has made a real difference to their school experience. We know the children will miss him greatly, and so will we.

We are incredibly proud of him and delighted that he is moving on to the next step in his career. His new school is very lucky to have him.

We wish Mr Spence every success and happiness in his new role.

### Assembly Focus: Managing Emotions

This week, our assemblies have centred on **understanding and managing emotions**, using two much-loved stories from our SCARF programme: **The Angry Roar** and **Worry Boots**.

- **The Angry Roar** helped pupils explore what anger feels like in the body and how to recognise the early signs before emotions become overwhelming. Children reflected on strategies such as taking a pause, using calm breathing and choosing safe, respectful ways to express big feelings.
- **Worry Boots** supported pupils in thinking about worries—how they can sometimes feel heavy, how they can grow if we keep them to ourselves, and how sharing them with a trusted adult can make them feel lighter. Pupils practised identifying “small worries” and “big worries” and talked about what to do when they need help.



These assemblies form part of our ongoing whole-school work on **mental wellbeing**, helping pupils build resilience and healthy coping strategies.

**UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Information:</b>
23/04/26	Y4 Hampton Court Palace
27/04/26	5EP Swimming starts
28/04/26	Class photos
04/05/26	May Bank Holiday – School closed
11/05/26	5RC Swimming starts
22/05/26	Inset day (school closed to children)
25/05/26-29/05/26	Half-term
04/06/26	Y4 Synagogue
17/06/26	Sports day
26/06/26 – 29/06/26	Y6 PGL Trip
21/07/26	Term ends 12 noon