



Friday 21st July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are just a few days away from the end of the school year. As I write this newsletter, I am reflecting on my time here at Coombe Bissett Primary. I have had the pleasure of leading an exceptional school with amazing staff, children and families and a phenomenal 'Friends of Coombe Bissett'. I will always treasure the memory of my very short time here.

Likewise, I look at our year 6 children and imagine their journey too. I have seen the growth of the children in our Oak class, and the confidence and individuality of children right across the school shine through. It has been magical! I feel so lucky to have seen this.

The Key Stage Two performance of 'Star Wars' on Wednesday was superb. The staff and children did us all proud. The children had so much fun taking part and no doubt, it will be remembered by all.

I was pleased to have some time with parents and carers at my last Parents' Forum on Tuesday to share developments in the curriculum since our Ofsted inspection.

I was able to report that the school team have:

- Updated and put in place clear progression documentation to support the planning of curriculum subjects across the school.
- Created The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum progression document detailing progression in learning across the 7 areas of learning is now fully in place.
- Agreed the vision for our school curriculum, detailing the purpose of the curriculum we offer here at Coombe Bissett and how we will implement our curriculum and measure the impact. **A copy is attached to this newsletter for you.**
- Listened to the children's views about what they opportunities and experiences they would like during their time at this school and what they feel they should learn in their time here. The school team have created an experiences and opportunities overview detailing what we offer to each class for each term of the school year.

I am most grateful for the support of the staff team and their commitment to the children of Coombe Bissett School. I am confident that the school will continue to go from strength to strength. Emma Haworth, the new Headteacher, and I will still be in communication over the summer break to ensure a smooth handover of leadership. I will remain a friend of this school.

I wish you and your families, blessings and all the very best for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Sandra Miller
Interim Headteacher

Teachers and classes for September 2023

Oak class- Year R & Year 1- Mrs Bowers and Mrs Forster

Elm class- Year 1 & Year 2 - Miss Freeman & Mrs Pendlenton and Mrs Mould

Fir class- Year 3 & Year 4 - Mr Wyatt & Miss Crummack

Ash class-Year 5 & Year 6 - Mrs Gillett & Mrs Faulding and Mrs Williams

Friends of Coombe Bissett School

We have just received the amazing news that the total profit after expenses from the School Fete is a magnificent £2529.87. The KS2 Performance refreshments/cakes and raffle made a profit of £149.80.

Thank you to the FoCBS and to all of you that supported us at the Fete and other events organised.

Attendance Update-

The Secretary of State for Education, Gillian Keegan, wrote to all Headteachers earlier this week. She thanked Headteachers for the work that schools are doing to improve attendance and then said,

“But there is more to do, with absence rates still well above pre-Covid levels. Improving attendance is a top priority for me and the Department. The steps we take now will be critical to the start of the next academic year. I want to ensure that as many children as possible in mainstream and specialist settings are present from day one.

Those first days back really matter. Evidence from a [recent Children's Commissioner report](#) showed that children who miss days 2, 3 and 4 of the new term for unauthorised reasons had a predicted overall absence of almost 45%, or 31 days across the term, compared to children who missed days near the end of term, with a predicted overall absence of 20-30%.

So, I ask you to continue the excellent work you do each day to support children to attend from the first day of term. I want to work with you and others across public services – from social workers and youth workers to GPs and mental health practitioners – to offer the warmest of welcomes to children and families for September, resetting expectations with children and families so attendance levels continue to recover.”

The message is clear, even though this year we have seen an improvement in our attendance rate, all schools are being challenged to keep attendance as high priority, if children are not in school, they are missing out on learning.

Key Stage Two Production

We are sure that all who saw Star Wars would agree that it was absolutely fabulous. The children worked incredibly hard in a short space of time to learn their lines and pull it all together, and the result was fantastic!

We'd like to say a special thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped with face painting, filming, pulling costumes together and to the Friends for providing refreshments for the evening performance.



We are really proud of their efforts and will have the Diddy Squits song stuck in our heads for some time to come!



Tuesday July 25th – The Last Day of Term

The last day of term will be a normal day starting at 8.50am and finishing at 3.15pm and pupils should wear full school uniform. There will be classroom based activities during the morning until the whole school go to St Michaels & All Angels Church, Coombe Bissett for a special Leavers Service at 11am.

Parents of Year 6 children are invited to attend this service.

We will return to school at 12pm for a whole school picnic **(there will be no hot school lunches therefore please ensure your child brings a packed lunch)** Parents of Year 6 children are invited to join us for the picnic as we bid a farewell to our leavers. In the afternoon, The Friends of Coombe Bissett have organised a disco on the school field for the children up until 2.30pm. Your child may bring a £1 donation for a bag of sweets sold by the Friends. School will finish at our normal time of 3.15pm.

We have received the following communication from Wiltshire Council.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Shutts Lane, Coombe Bissett
[Streetview](#)

Following on from highway drainage improvements carried out earlier this year, our contractors are preparing to undertake further improvements on Shutts Lane. The works are expected to take 5 days under a full road closure, with restricted vehicular access for residents only during working hours.

These works have been requested to be completed during the school holidays, we are currently proposing the 7th-11th August 2023. Please could you let me know if these dates would suit the school.

Best regards,
Emma

Emma Biggs IEng MICE
Land Drainage Engineer
Highways Asset Management and Commissioning

Wiltshire Council

Summer Reading Challenge

Please click on the link below to see information about this Summer's Reading challenge. We would encourage all children to take part over the summer break
[Summer Reading Challenge - Wiltshire Council](#)

Key Dates – Term 6

Tuesday 25th July – Last Day of Term 6 normal finish time.

Inset Dates 2023-2024

Inset Dates for the next academic year have been confirmed as follows:

Friday 1st September 2023

Monday 4th September 2023

Friday 9th February 2024

Friday 28th June 2024

Monday 1st July 2024

Team Point Totals for this week:

Well Done to everyone awarded a Team Point or Green Card, with particular congratulations to Blue House the winners this week with an amazing 166 points.


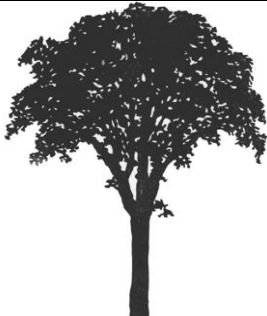




Team Points	153	164	98	166
	Red	Yellow	Green	Blue

Team Point Running Totals for the Year so far

5753	5563	5384	5425
Red	Yellow	Green	Blue

Green Cards by Class

			
45	27	25	52
Oak	Elm	Fir	Ash

There was a non-uniform day for Ash Class on MONDAY 24th July 2023. Please ensure children wear clothes and shoes appropriate for the school day.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Attendance figures for each class for this week, will be published in next Friday's Newsletter.

Ash class – 93.2%
 Fir class – 99.7%
 Elm class – 97.5%
 Oak class – 96.0%

Rewards

A Reminder about Team Points & Green Cards

- **Team Points** are awarded for a pupil's school work
 - **Green Cards** are based on school values (this term's is commitment)
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