



Coombe Bissett School News



Letter from the Headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers,



At the end of the first full week of term, I would like to say welcome back and welcome to 2024! The year promises to be a very promising one if this week is a reflection of what is to come! The children have been very busy with their learning from Spring Walks in Oak to Ukulele playing in Ash, the school is abuzz with such energy and enthusiasm.



Our value in the Spotlight this term is 'Commitment' and we have talked about how we can show commitment to our school through our attitude to learning, looking after school equipment, wearing our uniform with pride and committing ourselves to making our school and the people in it the best they can possibly be.



We are also showing a commitment to helping people in the wider world by joining Chalke Valley Churches in collecting pencils for children at Cueibet Church Primary School in South Sudan. Rev Jenny's husband will be visiting the school (which is supported by the Chalke Valley Churches) at the end of this month and will be taking the donations to the children. I was so very impressed by the children this week, as we already have pencils in our collection box! This means that they listened carefully to Rev Jenny on Monday when she explained that these children value education so highly, but cannot afford even a pencil, and then showed initiative and compassion bringing pencils from home without waiting for a newsletter, or message from school. The children are aiming to fill our box, so please, any donations of new, unused pencil would be very gratefully received. I have already been blown away by the generosity of our school community to those less fortunate than ourselves and this really is a worthwhile cause where we can really make a difference to the lives of others all for the cost of a pencil.

Please refer to the car parking at school guidance which can be found via the following link <https://friendsofcb.co.uk/car-park/>



As it is a new term, it is always beneficial to remind everyone of the arrangements for parking. It is very important, not only for the safety of our children, but also for the continuing good relationships with the village that everyone adheres to these and always parks safely and responsibly. With this in mind, we appear to have an increasing number of parents who are coming into the school car park to drop off and pick up, may I politely remind you that, unless you have made a prior arrangement with the school, the school car park is not to be used for dropping off or picking up. The car park is not large enough to accommodate this and quickly becomes unsafe. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.



I have also attached a guide to age restrictions for social media and video games. I know that many children may have had new devices, or games over the holidays and helping to keep them safe can be a minefield for parents. The better informed we are, the easier this is, so this term, I will be sending a range of information home on a Friday that we hope will help support you with this. If you ever do have any questions or concerns about your child's online safety, or appropriate and safe use of devices including phones, please do not hesitate to talk to one of us.

Attendance at school is VERY important—I know that it can be difficult to make medical appointments, but where possible, please try to ensure that these are out of school time—thank you!

Dates for your diary

17.1.24: Bags to School
19.1.24: Parent and Toddler Group
22.1.24: Wiltshire Air Ambulance
23.1.24: School Nurse—Reception Checks
30.1.24: Life Education Sessions
31.1.24: Key Stage 1 Oral Health talks
2.2.24: Sale of Sales
5.2.24: Theme Day: Church Learning Day
9.2.24: Children IN school as normal
HALF TERM
19.2.24: INSET Day
20.2.24: Children back to school

Please note all dates are subject to change

Please make sure that your child has their coat and wellies in school EVERY day!



Have a

What are we learning?

Oak Class



Oak Class went for a lovely bright and chilly walk around Coombe Bissett on Wednesday for our science topic learning. We looked for signs of winter such as ice, snow, hard ground, berries and bulbs



Elm Class have had lots of fun this week learning about rhythm.

Fir Class



Fir Class have been sorting rocks and classifying them.



Ash Class



In our science topic 'Sound' we have been making string telephones and learning how sound travels through solids, liquids and gases. Next week we will be making soundproof boxes. If anyone has any cardboard boxes, tins, foam, styrofoam or packing peanuts at home that you could bring in to help us it would be much appreciated.

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TEAM POINT TOTAL



Welcome to the
Coombe Bissett Family
Otilie and Evie and
their families. We are
so pleased to have you!

Stars this week
**Congratulations to our Pupils of the
Week: Spencer, Petru, Max, Maisy,
Florence, Mia, Toby, Leo W, Leo B,
Bethan, Tilly, Mattias and Ted**
**Congratulations to for sharing their out
of school achievements: Gracie-Mae**
**Congratulations for earning Haworth
Hearts: Alfie and Matilda**
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to who celebrated
their birthday: Abigail, Bertie, Petru,
Ruby C, Mattias, Charlotte, Jessica,
Danica and Chloe**

PARKING REMINDER: If you are parking on the hill outside of
school, please make sure that you are doing so safely and that
you DO not park below the Grit Box. This is for your children's
safety, but also to allow access for rubbish and recycling collec-
tion. Thank you for your cooperation.



Pencils for Cueibet – can you spare some?



The last visit to our Deanery's link Diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan was made by Dr Sherwood Elcock from Nunton and our Rural Dean, Revd Mark Hayter in November 2019. Because of Covid and Bishop Elijah's visit to the Lambeth Conference and our Deanery, there has been quite a gap. So, there will be a lot of catching up to do when Geoff Taylor and the Revd Ali Alexander from St Thomas's Salisbury fly out on 29th January. One highlight will be to revisit the Cueibet Church Primary School funded by our Deanery and furnished by the Chalke Valley! They won't be carrying much baggage, but they will have room for pencils. The pupils of Coombe Bissett School are already collecting to help their counterparts in Cueibet. If you would like to join in, you can leave pencils* in a box in the Hub Café or give them to Ruth or Jenny when they are whizzing up and down the Valley.
* for lots of good reasons, please don't give your chewed ones or your favourite crossword stub – a simple HB wooden pencil will do – not even the luxury of rubber on the end!

ADVERSE WEATHER

At this time of year, there is always a risk of snow and whilst we never want to disrupt the children's learning, conditions may require us to close the school. Please know that this decision is never taken lightly, but the safety of our children and staff must always be our number one consideration. In the event that school is closed, we will communicate this to you as soon as we are able (by 7.30am at the latest) by email, website and SMS.



SERVICES THIS WEEK

14 January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolvern
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Charlton All Saints	Rhoderick Voremberg
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	All Age Service	Alvediston	Biddy Trahair
	3.00pm	Evening Prayer	Fifield Bavant	Biddy Trahair

'Soar on wings like eagles, run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint' Isaiah 40:31