



**COALWAY COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL**

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# Newsletter: January 2023

As this is our first newsletter of 2023 may we first wish all of our families a very



## Happy New Year!



We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas break with family and friends. We are delighted to be back in school again and are looking forward to another busy term and year!



### Class Topic Plans

Parents' class topic planners will be added to the Class page of the website, to give parents an outline of the work which their child will be covering in class this term. We hope that you will find this informative and helpful, and would encourage parents to practice those ideas identified by staff that may help the children at home this term.

Our class topics this term are as follows:

Classes 1 and 2

Our Wonderful World

Classes 3 and 4

Journeys

Classes 5 and 6

Lift Off!

The staff would be delighted to hear from any parents who have artefacts or expertise relating to their child's topic which would further support the children's learning.



### Attendance

Thank you to all parents who telephone or email to let us know of their child's absence. This is a significant help to the staff and ensures that appropriate absence records are kept for your child. If your child is unwell and cannot attend school please could you inform the School Office as early as possible (preferably by 10.00 a.m.) on the first day of absence. As part of our attendance procedures Mrs. Nash or Mrs. Edwards may contact you via telephone or ParentMail if we are unsure of a reason for absence.

To raise parents' awareness of their child's attendance to date this academic year we will be sending home a printout of their attendance shortly. This identifies their percentage attendance since September and the number of authorised and unauthorised absences which your child has. Also listed is the number of sessions your child has attended - remember that there are two sessions per day, a morning and an afternoon session.

We will continue to monitor reasons for absence and regularity of lateness and absence carefully during the year. For parent's information, the Government figure for persistent absence is an attendance rate of below 90%.

We would also ask that all parents ensure we have 2 up to date contact details within the School Office to ensure that we are able to contact you in an emergency, such as your child becoming ill during the school day.

### **School Intake and Junior Transfer September 2023**



Reminder... applications for admission to the Infants and Junior School for September 2023 should be completed on-line by midnight Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

### **Big Schools Birdwatch**

We have registered to take part in the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch this month and will let you know our results in due course!

### **'Bend the Rules' Non-Uniform Day**



On the last day of term, **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February**, your child may come to school in clothes other than their uniform, put gel in their hair, wear trainers and even wear nail varnish.... 'bending the rules' for a day **for £1.00**.

### **School Lunches Menu**



Copies of the menu were emailed home before the holiday and are also available on the school website and School Office.

### **Christmas**

We were very proud of our Reception children for producing such a fantastic concert for their parents and families last term, and also to all classes for a lovely re-telling of the Christmas story through readings and songs. Well done children!

The children had a really enjoyable end of term, especially when Santa visited their parties with special individual gifts.

**Thank you!** We raised **£58** through our end of term Christmas Jumper Day for 'Save the Children'.

Thank you also for your generous donations to the Forest Food Bank to support them over the Christmas and winter period.



### Adverse Weather Conditions

As winter approaches, please can we remind you about our general procedures regarding possible school closure in the event of severe weather:

1. Closure of the school will be posted on the school website [www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk)
2. If there is heavy snowfall overnight you will be contacted by ParentMail by 8.15 a.m. the next day informing you of closure of the school.
3. If you have not received a ParentMail message you may check by telephoning the school after 8.30 a.m. to check if the school is open.
4. Listen to Radio Gloucestershire - FM 104.7 and/or Heart Gloucestershire (formerly Severn Sound) - FM 102.4; AM 774. They will give news about school closures.
5. Access the Gloucestershire website to view the list of schools that are closed [www.glosclosedschools.com](http://www.glosclosedschools.com)
6. It may be necessary for the school to close during the course of the day. In that case, it is very important that we have an emergency contact number as a ParentMail message will be sent in the first instance.



### Head Lice

Information on Head Lice is published in the newsletter at the beginning of every second term in line with the advice issued by the Gloucestershire Health Protection Unit. **It is each parent's responsibility to check hair at least once a week and to treat if necessary.** Please find below Local Authority information which we advise parents to read carefully.

The advice, briefly, is as follows:-

- An attempt should be made to remove the head lice by repeated combing of wet hair using a plastic head louse detector comb. Combs are available from pharmacies. Plastic head louse detector combs must be used.
- If this fails to clean the headlice infestations, parents should contact the Health Centre (0300 4218850) for a recommended lotion or further advice can be obtained from the school nurse via the same number.

It is most important that ...

- you check your child(ren)'s hair on a regular basis and follow this advice
- long, loose hair should be tied back to reduce the risk.

### Term dates

School finishes for the holiday on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 3.00 pm.

<b>Half Term – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>
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Term 4 starts Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Term dates for the remainder of this academic year are available on the school website.

## Vacancy

A COMMUNITY SPIRITED PERSON URGENTLY WANTED

For approx.  $6\frac{1}{4}$  hours per week at £10.90 ph. School term only

A School Crossing Patrol is urgently needed at Coalway Schools.

If you're reasonably fit and are available at the start and end of the school day, then the Head Teacher would be very pleased to hear from you.

Could you be responsible for the safety of children?

If you're interested, then please contact

Coalway Community Infant School or Tel: 01594 833457

