



Headteacher News

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! The timing of the little flutter of snowflakes we had could not have come at a more appropriate time as the year R children were getting ready to film their nativity this morning. Nothing makes you feel more Christmassy than snow and a nativity!!

We have been inundated with support and prizes for our PTFA Christmas raffle which has already raised £500 and counting for the school. New prizes have been added this week including vouchers for beauty treatments and a themed sleepover from Little Dreamers Teepees. Tickets are still on sale, please visit <https://raffall.com/148205/enter-raffle-to-win-coxheath-ptfa-christmas-raffle-hosted-by-coxheath-primary-school>. Our non-uniform day raised over £350! Thank you for your continued support.

This week's announcement that a vaccine has been approved for use in the UK, with rollout expected to commence next week, gives us all hope that the end of the current circumstances is in sight. It was lovely to see our year 1 children return and great to hear how they approached their learning at home with such enthusiasm.

You may have heard or have seen in the press, the ongoing discussion nationally regarding schools potentially finishing early or moving to online learning in the run up to Christmas as a "circuit breaker" for families. The guidance that we have received from Kent is that this will not happen. The Department for Education has made it clear that they want schools to remain open and only to close if staffing levels mean that the safety of the children would be compromised.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind parents of the importance of children attending school. The legal requirement for your child to attend school has not changed and they should only remain off school if they are unwell or if it is linked to COVID. The impact of children continuing to miss school is significant and impacts negatively on their future education. Even though I completely understand your anxieties, it is important to remember this is going to be with us for a little longer and certainly into the new year. We cannot keep children off indefinitely. I appreciate there are individual circumstances that need to be considered and we will work with all families to support you with these.

Giacomo Mazza

Headteacher

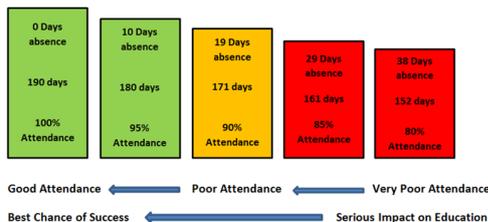
Good attendance means...



Being in school at least 95% of the time (180-190 days a year)

There are 365 days in a year and 190 days in a school year.

This leaves 175 days for holidays, shopping, birthday treats and non-urgent medical appointments.



Dates

Please see dates and times below
Events for parents are identified in red.



Academic Year 2020-2021

Term 2

- 10 Dec - Christmas lunch booking cut off date
- 16 Dec - Christmas lunch/jumper day. Details below.
- 18 Dec - Last day of term

Term 3

- 04 Jan - Staff development day. Children not in school.
- 05 Jan - First day of term
- 14 Jan - Deadline for Primary Admissions applications for Year R 2021

All dates are subject to change depending on Government and Department for Education guidelines.

Christmas Lunch

The children will be having their Christmas lunch on Wednesday 16th December when they can also wear a Christmas jumper if they wish.



Please book all meal requests via ParentPay before midday on Sunday 6th December if possible, this will allow the kitchen enough time to order enough food. You must book your child in for a lunch via ParentPay even if you receive Free School Meals. If you have not yet activated your ParentPay account please do so as soon as possible. Details were sent out again this week to all non-activated accounts. This link may be helpful if you are struggling to navigate the booking system. https://www.parentpay.com/DOCH/school-support/index.html?page_id=9265.html
Christmas lunch cannot be ordered on the day.

Sickness and Diarrhoea

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they must not return to school for 48 hours after their last episode. For NHS advice on treatment for diarrhoea and vomiting, please visit the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/>



Returning to school after absence

If your child has been off school for any reason, they should come to the school office front door for a temperature check on their return to school. Thank you.



Absence

Please can we remind parents that you must call the school office no later than 9am if your child is going to be absent from school. Please ensure you state your child's name, class and reason for absence. This is incredibly important due to the current Covid-19 restrictions in place. There is an absence line available to leave a message should you wish to use it. Please 'press 1 for attendance' on the system options. Using this will save us making any unnecessary calls to parents to find out why children are not in school. Thank you

Childrens Safety

Please Note: Children are not allowed to play on any of the outdoor equipment, climbing frames, playgrounds or outdoor resources at any time before or after school. This is to avoid cross contamination of bubbles.
Thank You. Mrs Evenden

Collecting children from school

For safety reasons we would like to remind parents of the importance of collecting children on time. When parents and carers are late collecting, this means the children have to wait in the reception lobby. We cannot keep children within their year/family bubble if they are not collected from the classroom on time. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.



Weekly Attendance

Dover	93.18%	Leeds	92.48%
Hever	100%	Rye	88.20%
Allington	83.56%	Thurnham	96.62%
Walmer	90.67%	Bodiam	98.66%
Tonbridge	97.47%	Scotney	85.94%
Rochester	90.00%	Canterbury	97.50%
Herstmonceux	n/a	Pevensey	n/a

School Target
97%

Whole School Attendance
92.86%

Remote Learning Safety

With Christmas approaching, many children will have new computer games on their lists. It is worth noting though that not all games on their lists may be appropriate to their age. All games have a rating of 3, 7, 12, 16 or 18. By law, shops are not allowed to sell games with a rating to a child below that age. This is because some of the content is not suitable for them. This can sometimes pose problems if their friends or older siblings are playing the games. If you are considering a game rated older than your child, a top tip is to actually try the game out yourself or play it with your child. That way you can decide whether you are happy with the content of the game. The thinkuknow website has lots of good advice on gaming and what parents should be aware of. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/>
Mrs Webber Online DSL

Water bottles

Please make sure your child has a clearly named water bottle in school every day. Thank you.

Christmas Cards for friends

Please ensure that cards are bought into school by Monday 7th December for Years R-5, and Thursday 10th December for Year 6. This is so that they can be isolated before being distributed. Any cards bought in after these dates will not be able to be handed out in school. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

School dinners

Please book school dinners online through your ParentPay account whenever possible. We are aware there is a cut off time on Sunday for booking meals for the week. Please do not worry if you cannot book after the cut off time, your child can still ask for a hot lunch on the day if required. **Christmas lunch is the only exception to this which must be pre booked.** Instructions for parents can be found here https://www.parentpay.com/DOCH/school-support/index.html?page_id=77.html
If you have any further issues please contact the school office and we will do our best to assist you. Thank you.

IMPORTANT - Nut Allergies in School

We would like to remind all parents that we are a nut free school. There are a number of children at the school who suffer from severe nut allergies, which in some cases could be fatal. Please do not send in food items that contain nuts in your child's packed lunch. **This includes snacks, cereal bars, Nutella, Kinder Bueno bars and peanut butter in sandwiches.** Please check the ingredients list if you are unsure. Many thanks for your help.

Eco tips of the week

- * Keep recycling your inkjet cartridges in our Eco Council class competition to win extra Golden Time for the class!



House Points Total

Farleigh	317	Loose	319
Linton	422	Hunton	471

Primary Admissions for 2021

If you have a child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, primary admission applications for your child to join Year R 2021 are now open. You can apply online at kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions and applications must be submitted before 15th January 2021. National offer day is 16th April 2021 and offers are sent by email after 4pm.

Cold Weather

Please make sure that your child has a coat in school every day. We like to be outdoors as much as possible regardless of the weather conditions. An extra layer such as jogging bottoms and sweatshirt is useful for P.E lessons too. Many thanks.

Learners of the Week

Congratulations to the children who received their achievement certificates in our virtual assembly this week. Well done to them for all their hard work and effort!



Dover	Coming soon	Leeds	Coming soon
Hever	Olivia	Rye	Millie
Allington	Elsie	Thurnham	Jake
Walmer	Adanna	Bodiam	Henry
Tonbridge	Cooper	Scotney	Scarlett
Rochester	Bethany	Canterbury	Reuben
Herstmonceux	Back soon	Pevensey	Back soon

Extended Services

All places for Breakfast and After School club must be booked in advance to ensure the correct social distancing measures are in place. If you do not book your child in we may have to refuse entry. Please email casc@coxheath.kent.sch.uk by 1pm to book your child in for the following day, or at any time if you need any additional information. Payments should be made via the Scopay system. If you have any outstanding debt, please settle this by the end of this term. Thank You.

Medicines in school

We can only administer medicines in school that are issued on prescription, they must have the dispensing label detailing the child's name and dosing instructions. We cannot give any medications without correct parental permission paperwork and pharmacy labelling. Forms are available online <http://www.coxheath.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Forms&pid=53> Please bring all medicines to the school office.

PTFA News!

Christmas raffle

Our Christmas raffle is now live click [here](#) to enter. The raffle will be drawn on 16th December at 4pm. There are now over 40 prizes up for grabs with more being added all the time!

PTFA Committee

Please contact us at ptfa@coxheath.kent.sch.uk if you would consider taking on a role on the committee. Sadly unless committee roles are filled by parents the Christmas raffle will be the last PTFA event for a while.

Online Shopping

When you shop via the easy Fundraising page the PTA could receive a small donation every time you shop at no additional cost to you. Could you become our top fundraiser? It's easy to sign up using this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/coxheathptfa/?invite=ykroze&referral-campaign=s2s>