



# Weekly Newsletter



## Friday 17th December 2021

Dear Learning Family,

It has been a very busy final week of the term here at Coton Green Primary School, the children have really enjoyed our Christmas activities and have spent time making some videos of a festive song for the whole community to enjoy and treasure.

Our Songbirds, run by Mrs Hall, have also recorded a virtual carol concert for the residents of a local care home which has been so well received. We have also taken part in a Staffordshire-wide singing concert organised by Entrust which the Songbirds group have contributed to. On Thursday we were all able to join in with this virtually.

On Wednesday, we had a wonderful Christmas dinner with over 240 dinners served and pupils really enjoying the crispy roast potatoes, traditional turkey roast with all the trimmings and even the sprouts! The kitchen staff have also made a delicious brunch today and I would like to thank them.

On Thursday it was great to see children in St. Andrew's get a special treat in the hall organised by the School Council and House Captains for winning the termly house-points competition. Well done to St. Andrew's and thank-you School Council / House Captains – you are really making a difference!

Once again, our Learning Family got fully behind our charity work with our 'Christmas Jumper Day' raising £ for Save the Children, a great achievement. Our PTFA have also organised a special treat and video message from Santa Clause himself. I would like to give my personal thanks to the PTFA for all they do to enrich the pupils' experience at Coton Green.

Within classes it has been good to see the children learning about Christmas and the Nativity and it has been great to see that links to other faiths and festivals of light being made in our assembly programme. The children have really enjoyed our new assembly programme with a theme of 'Diversity' and special thanks goes to Mrs Smith and Mrs Pursehouse for organising and delivering this.

There have also been some Christmas themed food activities in our new studio. It was great to be able to work in a room which is designed for multi-use, including food preparation and we are really looking forward to all our children using this fabulous resource. Many thanks to Mrs Rawlings for organising this for all our children.

The building work is now nearly complete and we are hoping, in the new year, to be able to run more events for both our children and our community. I would like to personally thank the builders, Fords of Blythe Bridge and also the ATLP Operations Department who have ensured that the building work has had very limited effect on the smooth running of the school.

Once again, we are all facing restrictions due to Coronavirus and we have faced some real challenges here at Coton Green, with both staff and pupil absence. We do feel though that our proportionate mitigations, such as keeping pupils in their phase groups as much as possible and limiting adult visitors to school, have helped to limit spread and we have only had a small cluster of outbreaks that can be tracked from the community. We also now also have monitors of air quality in each classroom and this has helped ventilate rooms accordingly – while maintaining more comfortable room temperature's.

This has been a very difficult time for all of us and we are proud to have been able to offer support and signpost families to appropriate outside agencies in these difficult times. Safeguarding our pupils is always a priority. If you are worried about a child's safety and well-being over the Christmas, period then please contact Staffordshire Children's Advice and Support Service on 0300 111 8007.

Thank you Learning Family for your continued patience, understanding and support. Please take some time to view our twitter profile which serves as a media record for you to be able to share a flavour of what has been happening in school:

<https://twitter.com/GreenCoton>

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the staff here at Coton Green who have pulled together during the challenges posed this term. I feel lucky to represent a staff whose commitment to our pupils is second to none. I wish all the staff a very merry Christmas and know they will rest and spend time with their families, ready and refreshed for the new year in which we are optimistic to be able to share more in person with all of you.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Learning Family!

Mr R Osborne.



#### **A Gentle Reminder to Parents and Carers**

**In line with continued Covid restrictions, Parents are kindly asked to please refrain from entering the school without prior arrangement with your child's class teacher.**

**We thank you for your co-operation during continued restrictions.**

**School Opens at 8.45 am**

**Registers close at 8.55 am**

**(Gates will be locked at this time and pupils arriving after this will be signed in late at the school office) Lessons end at 3.20 pm**

#### **Dates for Your Diary**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**INSET Day – School closed for pupils:**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**School opens for pupils**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Y6 Residential Trip**

# SUNFLOWER TIME

**Not all disabilities are visible – that's why Staffordshire Libraries have implemented 'Sunflower Time'.**

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- **What is Sunflower Time? It's an allocated time slot in libraries where we can support you or your child.**
  - **This support may be with sensory overload, visual impairment, anxiety or another hidden disability.**
  - **During Sunflower Time we hope to help you navigate your library visit.**
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- **Sunflower Time in this library will be:**

**Thursdays 5-6pm**

**This is one of the quietest times at the Library.**

**Lighting will be dimmed for a calmer Environment.**



**"WE WANT ALL OF OUR CUSTOMERS TO HAVE THE SAME EXPERIENCES, SO EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY CAN BLOOM"**



## Information for Parents and Carers

🎄 December 2021

We know that the top gift for many children this year will be a digital device such as a new phone or a games console.

We also know that Christmas can be fantastic but it can also be fraught!

We've put together some information that could help you make sure that everyone has a good time and children are safe and happy this Christmas.

### [Online gaming- what parents and carers need to know](#)

This article has lots of useful links to resources and guides about in-game chat, security settings etc.

### [A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings](#)

Information about setting the appropriate levels of privacy for your child

Short [video](#) from CEOP explaining **how to make a report** if something happens to a child or young person online

The [Report Remove tool](#) can be used by any young person under the age of 18 to get a nude **image or video removed** from the internet

[Guidance for parents on social media](#) from Internet Matters to help parents support their child's social media use.

NSPCC and O2's [Net Aware site](#) will be closing down at the end of 2021, but before then you can still get [advice and information on a whole range of social media apps](#), including TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram. There is also [information](#) on supporting your child's mental health online, what to do if you think your child is accessing porn online etc.

[Stop it now website](#), live chat and helpline offers immediate support if you are worried about your own or your child's thoughts or behaviours online.

[Information](#) from Family Links on nurturing everyone's emotional health this Christmas

## Helplines for children and young people

<a href="#">Childline</a>	call 0800 1111
<a href="#">Shout crisis messenger</a>	text 85258
<a href="#">The Mix (ages 16-25)</a>	call 0808 808 4994
<a href="#">Young Minds</a>	text 85258
<a href="#">Is this OK?</a>	online chatbot and 1-2-1 chat

## Helplines for adults

<a href="#">Samaritans</a>	call 116 123
<a href="#">Domestic Abuse helpline</a>	call 0808 2000 247

More helplines and support services can be found [here](#) or [here](#).

Directory of local Stoke-on-Trent/Staffordshire services [here](#)

## Missing children and child exploitation

Call Catch22 Child Exploitation and Missing Services on **01782 237106** and leave a message or email [Catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk](mailto:Catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk) if you have a concern. To report a child missing, call 101.



When parents and carers finally have the chance to spend some quality time with their child over Christmas, many face a familiar struggle to prise their young one's attention away from their phone, console, tablet or computer. Fun family bonding over the festive period, however, doesn't have to exclude devices. There are countless of Christmas activities and ideas online which grown-ups and children can enjoy together. We've compiled our own 'nice list' of seasonal suggestions for how to...

# MAKE THE MOST OF THE ONLINE WORLD THIS CHRISTMAS



## 1 EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Budding bakers will relish helping out in the kitchen with some tasty festive treats. Spend some time together researching what's new this Christmas on your online (the BBC Good Food site is an excellent place to visit), and then you and your little ones can put the up-ingredient list and ingredients list to use in the kitchen. The only thing that's more fun is eating your creations afterwards.

WHEN THE SNOWMEN BRING THE SNOW...

## 4 A WORLD OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW

From surfing on the beach in Australia to roller-skating to Chicago in Wisconsin, Christmas is celebrated in a variety of ways worldwide – many youngsters might enjoy discovering other nations' festive traditions online. Google's Santa Tracker is a brilliant (and free) starting point, with games, activities and animations to help children enjoy learning as they count down to the big day.

## 2 THE OLD SONGS ARE THE BEST?

We've all had that Christmas compilation CD that was almost perfect, if it wasn't irrevocably including one of your best-loved tracks. In this era of music streaming, however, your little nephew can assist you in compiling a reflective playlist of all your favourite seasonal songs – no more playing for the neighbours or wishing for Wizard.

## 5 THE NEAR AND THE DEAR ONES

Between time constraints, distance, the weather and Covid precautions (or a combination of all four) for many families it just won't be possible to physically spend time with everyone they'd really like to this Christmas. Video calling technology, of course, takes some of the sting out of the disappointment by virtually transporting loved ones into your living room.

## 3 DECK THE HALLS

There's no such thing as 'too many' Christmas decorations! Let your child channel their excitement into some creative making, and you'll make decorations as well as your own DIY decorations. These new boards set step-by-step guides online (including video walk-throughs on YouTube) for seasonal decorations like paper plate angels, handprint wreaths and popcorn wrapper Christmas trees.

## 6 KIDS FROM ONE TO 92

If Santa's brought your young ones a console this year (or they already had one), it's a perfect excuse for some quality time while they gleefully trounce you at Risk or Mario Kart. Digital versions of traditional board games like Monopoly and Cluedo are available on most platforms, too – get the whole household together for a members' list on some educational family fun.

## 7 A WINTER'S TALE

Everyone enjoys a story at this time of year, after all, the whole celebration is based on an engaging plot. Filled with no Auralee and an excellent way of entertaining excited young ones, with classic like 'The Snow Queen' and 'The Snowman' and seasonal short stories by Neil Gaiman alongside more contemporary Christmas tales by the likes of Tom Hatcher, JK Rowling and Ben Miller.

## 8 CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THOSE FACES

People love to express their gratitude for a thoughtful Christmas gift with a thank you card or a digital phone call. Not in the digital age, now your relations can see first-hand on video calls how delighted the children are with their presents – and even how they look in that slightly questionable hand-knit hat.

## 9 BROUGHT ME SOME CORN FOR POPPIN'

Struggling up against the winter weather with the family (and a generous helping of chocolate) to enjoy a well-loved movie is a delightful Christmas tradition. The usual streaming services have some classic available as well as *Home Alone* and *The Santa Clause* are on Disney+, while *Arztzeit Prime* has *It's a Wonderful Life* and *North Pole* with *The Princess Switch* and *The Christmas Chronicles*.

## 10 GUESS WHAT I FORGOT?

Friends and family getting their wish against each other on Zoom, Teams or Skype really took off during lockdown, so why not revive the tradition over the holidays? Your questions could be on the biggest news, sport and showbiz stories of 2021, or be Christmas-themed, or you could wish to test general knowledge. Look for those days between Christmas and New Year.



National Online Safety

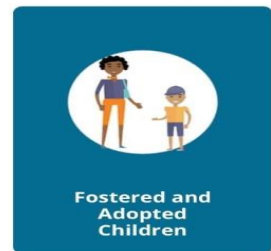
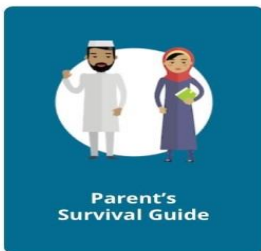
#WakeUpWednesday

# Worried about your Child's Behaviour or Mental Health?

Reliable Resources recommended by Parents and Professionals

HELP IN A CRISIS

WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK: PLEASE CLICK HERE!



The above website has been highly recommended as a useful resource for parents. Testimonials have been very encouraging in giving parents tools and advice to address behaviours and conditions such as anxiety. We hope you find this of good use.

If you have any feedback from using these resources or would like more information, then please contact: [pastoral@cotongreen.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:pastoral@cotongreen.staffs.sch.uk) FAO: Mrs Pegg

Mrs Pegg – Pastoral Support

## **Coton Green Primary School Dates 2021-22**

### **Autumn Term 2021**

**Term ends:** Friday 17 December

**Holiday:** Monday 20 December – Monday 3 January

### **Spring Term 2022**

**Inset day:** Tuesday 4 January (ATLP Focus)

**Term starts:** Wednesday 5 January

**Inset day:** Friday 18 February (ATLP Focus)

**Half Term:** Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February

**Inset day:** Friday 8 April (ATLP Focus)

**Term ends:** Friday 8 April

**Holiday:** Monday 11 April – Friday 22 April

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 17 April

### **Summer Term 2022**

**Term starts:** Monday 25 April

**May Day:** Monday 2 May

**Half Term:** Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

**Inset day:** Friday 1 July (School Focus)

**Term ends: Friday 22 July 2022**

**Holiday:** Monday 25 July – Friday 2 September



## COTON GREEN PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Please see below for the dates and times of the Pre-School Stay and Play sessions



**Coton Green Pre-School Nursery**  
**STAY AND PLAY**

Date & Times - Wednesdays 1:15pm - 2:45pm  
Price - £1.50  
Age - 0-4 years

**COTON GREEN PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY**  
(WITHIN THE GROUNDS OF COTON GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL)  
Kipling Rise  
Coton Green  
Tamworth  
Staffordshire  
B79 8LX  
Tel: 01827 337464  
www.cotongreennursery.co.uk  
cotongreenpreschoolnursery@yahoo.co.uk

Craft and messy play  
Snack time  
Stories and songs  
Make new friends  
Help your child learn through play



### KS2 (Y3-6)

Children in these year groups can bring in money to purchase snacks at morning break. For the moment KS1 will continue with their free fruit options until we can incorporate them at the same time.

We ask that you are patient with school as we try to open up this facility for all our children again.

Snacks and drinks are listed below and purchased with cash only please

<u>Morning Break Sales</u>			
Toast	30p	Veggie Stick	30p
Cheese on Toast	60p	Jam on Toast	35p
Tea Cake	35p	Half Bagel (toasted)	30p
Half Cheese Bagel	45p	Oatcake with Cheese	60p
Fruit Pot/Veggie Pot	35p	Crumpet	35p
Veggie Sticks	35p	Scotch Pancakes	35p
Small Water	30p	Fresh Milk	25p
Flavoured Milk	60p	Orange Shot 85ml	40p
Orange & Apple Juice	35p	Hot Chocolate	50p

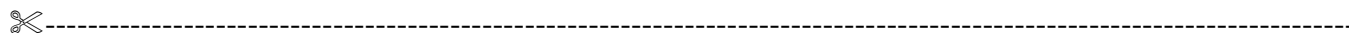
\*\*\* Please remember school meals for KS2 now cost £2.35 per day \*\*\*

Please order your preferred meal choices using the menu below or collect one from your child's class.

Can we ask parents in KS2 to please ensure that their children only order meals that they will be eating, as any meals ordered and not taken will still be charged by the kitchen.

Thank you for your co-operation

\*\*We will be using Week 1 Menu Options this week\*\*



### MAIN MENU

Name		Class			Week 1
<i>Monday</i>	<b>Hot Option</b> Burrito	<b>Hot Option</b> Macaroni Cheese (v)	<b>Hot Option</b> Jacket Potato with Assorted Fillings	Ham or Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Tray Bake	
<i>Tuesday</i>	Chicken Filo Pie with Mashed Potato	Burger with Potato Wedges	Jacket Potato with Assorted Fillings	Ham or Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Tray Bake	
<i>Wednesday</i>	Roast Pork With Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Quorn Roast (v) With Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Jacket Potato with Assorted Fillings	Ham or Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Tray Bake	
<i>Thursday</i>	Beef Bolognese	Quorn Hotdog With Potato Wedges (v)	Jacket Potato with Assorted Fillings	Ham or Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Tray Bake	
<i>Friday</i>	Golden Fish Fingers With Chips	Quorn Dippers and Chips	Jacket Potato with Assorted Fillings	Ham or Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Tray Bake	
Subject to availability					



### ALLERGY AWARE MENU

Name		Class		Week 1
<i>Monday</i>		SD Five Bean Chilli Burrito (v)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	
<i>Tuesday</i>		SD Burger With GF Bun & Potato wedges	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	
<i>Wednesday</i>		Roast Pork With Roast Potatoes, Vegetables & SD Gravy	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	
<i>Thursday</i>		SD Beef Ragu Bolognese With GF Pasta	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	
<i>Friday</i>		SD Fish Fillet and Chips	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese	
Subject to availability				