



Dear Parents/Carers,

This term seems to be flying by, with lots of fantastic learning taking place! I'd like to extend my gratitude to everyone who has supported our healthy eating initiative—the children have been thrilled to show me their healthy snacks. Thank you for your continued encouragement.

As we move forward, here are some important dates and events happening next week:

- PTFA Break the Rules day- Tuesday 4th February
- Wear Any Colour Day - Wednesday, 5th February
- Year 3 Overnight Stay - Thursday, 6th February
- Number Day - Friday, 7th February

## FORUM



## PARENT FORUM

Mrs Lucas will be holding the next Parent Form meeting on Monday 24th February at 9:00am. We would love to have a representative from each year group. If you are interested in becoming a rep for your child's year group, please contact us via the office email address- [office@cotongreen.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@cotongreen.staffs.sch.uk) and Mrs Lucas will get back to you. Thank you

## Y3 SLEEPOVER

To safeguard the children going to the overnight stay on Thursday 6th, we will not be tweeting any pictures on Thursday evening. We will instead send an update via MCAS with photos attached! This is to ensure the children stay safe and location isn't shared.

Pictures will be shared on Twitter on Friday when the children are back at school.



## SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on Tuesday, 11th February and provides an opportunity to focus on the online safety and wellbeing of children and young people. This year's theme is: 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.'

Every class will participate in activities designed to explore how to stay safe online, including discussions about what personal information should and should not be shared.

For more information, please visit [saferinternet.org.uk](http://saferinternet.org.uk)

Safer  
Internet  
Day 2025 | Tuesday  
11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

[saferinternetday.org.uk](http://saferinternetday.org.uk)

# A WEEK AT COTON GREEN...



Reception- This week in EYFS, the children have enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year. They have listened to the story of the Zodiac, and learnt about many ways that people may celebrate Chinese New Year. The children have really impressed us with their writing in English, having a go at writing simple words and sentences about Chinese Money Wallets. In Maths, they have been comparing numbers up to 7, looking at which group of objects has more, and which group has fewer. To bring our Chinese New Year celebrations to end, we have all enjoyed trying a range of Chinese food, including rice, noodles, spring rolls and prawn crackers. Another great week EYFS- keep it up!

KS1-

Year 1 have had another super week! In English we have been asking questions about our story 'hibernation hotel' using question words and a question mark. In our maths this week we have been writing the inverse to our number sentences as well as learning how to double numbers. In art we have been enjoying mixing colours creating different hues and created a 'snail' in the style of Matisse on our iPads in computing. In our geography we have investigated where the king lives and wondered if we would like to be the King or Queen. Well done Y1 on another week of great learning!

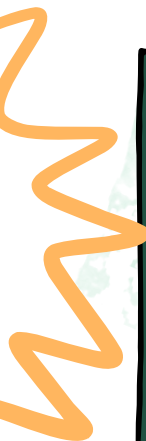
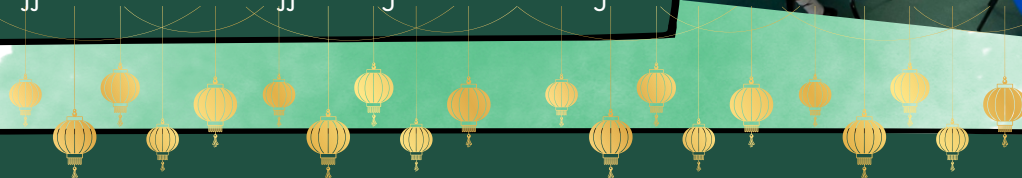
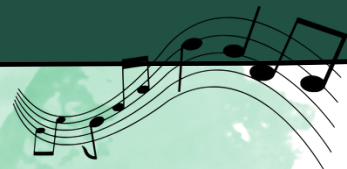
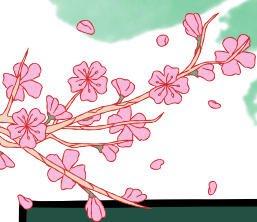
This week Year Two have been busy editing and publishing their narratives about bravery. They then enjoyed reading these to the Year 1 children and thought carefully about their voice choice. In maths, the children have been investigating the relationship between repeated addition and multiplication and have been representing these by using arrays. In our science lesson, we explored what seed dispersal is and the different ways seeds can travel. The week ended with a super assembly all about Chinese New Year, followed by creative activities. What a busy week we have had!

LKS2- This week, Year 3/4 have engaged in some fantastic and creative learning experiences across multiple subjects. We have designed and built our own torches, carefully balancing functionality with aesthetics. Their projects highlighted both their creativity and their grasp of design principles and teamwork.

In Music, we have delved into the emotional impact of sound. The children composed musical pieces to express contrasting moods, such as happiness and sadness or tranquility and anger. By using graphic notation, children visually represented their compositions, experimenting with tempo, dynamics, and instrumentation to convey different emotions effectively. What a busy but brilliant week Y3/4!

UKS2-

This week, in 5/6, we finally found out why there has been a huge, orange boiler suit pinned to a display in our corridor! Our new text is Holes and we were so excited to start reading. In English we have been writing an additional chapter for the story Beowulf - the children designed their own monsters for Beowulf to fight and came up with some remarkable descriptions to describe the events as well as the creature's strengths and weaknesses. Our history lesson was a definite highlight of the week - the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the harsh punishments during Tudor times, but we certainly wouldn't want to experience any of them for ourselves! Let's see what next week brings 5/6!



# THE COTON GREEN PROMISE

Throughout their time at Coton Green, we have made a promise! The promise can be found on every child's iPad in the Enrichment folder.

'We are always striving for better and never standing still.'

## THE COTON GREEN PROMISE

By the time our children leave Coton Green, they will have:

### Participated in:

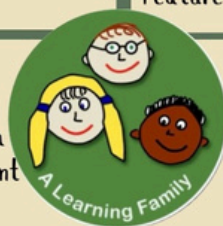
- o A school production
- o Overnight stay
- o Religious festival
- o Sports activities
- o Music event
- o Forest school
- o Wider community event

### Visited:

- o A Museum
- o An Art Gallery
- o A theatre
- o A place of historical history
- o A place of worship
- o A library
- o A local geographical feature

### Opportunity to:

- o Learn to play a musical instrument
- o Sing in a choir
- o Learn to swim
- o Celebrate an achievement
- o Take on a leadership role



### Met:

- o An Author
- o A Musician
- o A Religious leader
- o A Sports person
- o A Historian
- o A Geographer
- o A Scientist
- o A Member of the Emergency Services

# CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to this weeks celebration award winners:



- Reception Chestnut- Brody
- Reception Elder- Amelia
- Year 1 Maple- Jack
- Year 1 Rowan- Halle
- Year 2 Beech- Tori
- Year 2 Hazel- Willow
- Year 3/4 Willow- Jessica
- Year 3/4 Hawthorn- Toby
- Y3/4 Cherry- Finley
- Year 5/6 Ash- Harvey
- Year 5/6 Holly- Neve
- Year 5/6 Sycamore-Theo

# ATTENDANCE

Last week's attendance for school was:  
Our target each week is 97%

The class attendance winners this week are:  
KS1- Hazel class- 100%  
KS2- Willow class- 98%

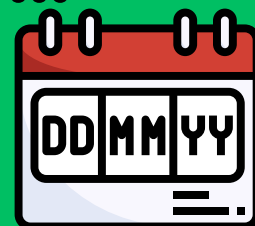


# PARENT CONDUCT POLICY

Please find a link to our Parent Conduct Policy on the ATLP website. Our priority is to create a safe and supportive environment for our staff. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

- Monday 3rd February- EYFS Maths Inspire Parents workshop
- Tuesday 4th February- PTFA Break the Rules day!
- Wednesday 5th February- Wear a colour!
- Thursday 6th February- Year 3 overnight stay
- Friday 7th February- Number day- wear a number!
- Tuesday 11th February- Safer Internet Day
- Monday 10th February and Wednesday 12th February- Parent Consultations
- Thursday 13th February- PTFA Valentines Disco



# PTFA NEWS

We'd love to invite the children to our PTFA's Valentines Disco on Thursday 13th February. Come as something you love!!

Cost- £5 per child which includes a drink, packet of crisps and a gift!

KS1- 3:45pm- 4:45pm

KS2- Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6- 5:15pm- 6:30pm

Letters have gone home with the children- please can you return them to school with the money by Friday 7th February.

Coton Green

## Sports Report

### U11 GIRLS - FOOTBALL COUNTY FINALS

On Monday 20th January 2025, we went to Stafford Town FC to participate in the U11 Girls' Football County finals after winning the School Games competition at Rawlett.

It was an early start as we departed school at 8am. Despite the weather and near-freezing temperatures, we played with smiles on our faces and fought hard in our three tough group-stage matches against: St Annes Girls, Rykneld Girls and St Johns Girls.

Highlights of the day have to include:

- Holly saving a goal with her face.
- Our defence getting stronger and stronger each game.
- Playing against fair, honest and talented teams.
- Trying new positions - Alycia in goal for the first time.
- Fantastic clearances by: Zorka, Alycia, Mya, Lily W, Holly and Chloe.
- Dangerous attacks by Jayda, Lily O and Georgia.
- Many demonstrations of resilience and teamwork during every single match.



Unfortunately, we did not make it to the semi-finals but have had such a fun experience with some of the girls even looking to join football clubs out of school.



We have learnt so much from this experience and are excited to continue our football experiences either next year at Coton Green or as we progress to secondary school. Go team Coton Green!

Read  
all  
About it





# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

**1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**  
Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

**2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**  
The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.

**3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES**  
Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

**4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME**  
Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.

**5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING**  
Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

**6 EMPOWER THE CHILD**  
When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.

**7 TEACH EMPATHY**  
'Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect'. Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship, to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

**8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS**  
Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.

**9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES**  
One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belonging to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.

**10 SPOT THE SIGNS**  
We can't always supervise young people; sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

### Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

friends



## An open writing competition presented by Andre the Angry Alligator!



Your invited to share with me your best animal related short story. This could be about a family pet, a Beluga Whale in the Ocean, or a Pride of Lions in the wild of Africa. Any Animal related story is welcomed, one a4 piece of paper maximum. The winner will receive a prize of Andre the Angry Alligator and some of his jungle friends to come home to play, plus a signed book! Runner up prize also! All entries sent to [kshandley@yahoo.com](mailto:kshandley@yahoo.com)

This competition will run throughout February, the winners will be contacted via email shortly after... good luck!

# PTFA EVENT

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## BREAK THE RULES DAY

On this day and this day only, children can choose to do any or all of the following:

- 1: Crazy Hair and/or hair accessories
- 2: Wear a bright top instead of school jumper/poloshirt
- 3: Wear a temporary tattoo
- 4: Wear a hat
- 5: Wear sunglasses
- 6: Paint your nails
- 7: Be known by a different name for the day
- 8: Wear pyjamas to school

Pay £1 to Break The Rules!



**JAN 2025**

START THE WEEK RIGHT!  
EVERY MONDAY 8:30AM

## Wake Up Shake Up!

KS2 YARD - ALL WELCOME!



THE SCHOOL DAY WILL STILL START AT NORMAL TIME.  
PARENTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN CHILDREN UNTIL THIS TIME.