

Vice Principal's Message

Hello to you all! What a pleasure it is to be writing to you in my first message as Vice Principal of the primary phase. Lots of you will have already met me at various events or on the playground gates in the morning but for those who don't yet know me, my name is Andy Fisher and I took over from Mrs Patterson at the beginning of this term. Some of you may already be familiar with me as I have been Vice Principal in the secondary phase of the school, responsible for Teaching and Learning for 4 Years. I am enjoying getting to know our primary children and am eager to further develop exciting and inspirational learning experiences for all students.

Looking forward to term 4, we have a number of exciting things coming up. We are pleased to announce the return of Spotlight on Learning class assemblies where our parents are invited into school to watch a special assembly for each class, to find out all about their learning. Further details about these assemblies will be sent out once they have been confirmed.

In sporting news, we are starting to think about the Year 3/4 Strictly competition. Auditions took place last week and we were all very impressed with those children who took part. Children have now been selected and details about training sessions and the competition date will be sent to parents shortly. We will also be running Bikeability sessions for children in Year 5/6 who have signed up to take part. After half term, Bikeability will be returning back to CCS to run sessions for children in Foundation Stage on the balance bikes.

I would like to draw your attention to the important information listed below regarding the school car park and drop-off zone. We have seen a number of unpleasant and sometimes dangerous incidents recently so I think it's important that everyone is clear on the correct manner for the use of both the car park and drop-off zones; please take some time to read through this information carefully so that we can ensure a safe school environment for all our children.

Finally, as we head into the last week of this term, I'd like to wish you all a pleasant and stress-free half term. With longer days and hopefully warmer weather on the horizon, I hope you are able to get out into the fresh air and spend some quality time with your families.

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P School Car Park / Drop-off Zone

We have seen a number of issues arising around parents and the use of the school car park so we'd like to remind you of the rules regarding who can use the car park and at what times:

- **Our car park is primarily for the use of staff, nursery parents and those with a valid blue badge.**
- **Permits can be issued to parents of children in Year R and those with an EHCP. Permits entitle you to use the drop-off bays in the car park, in the morning.**
- **You MUST show your parking permit to the MITIE operative on entering the car park.**
- **IF you have a permit, you should park in the drop-off bays ONLY (these are now clearly signposted) and not in staff parking bays - our staff need to be able to park and get to work on time.**
- **CCS/MITIE reserve the right to refuse entry to the car park to parents who do not have either a valid parking permit or blue badge.**
- **Abuse to either CCS or MITIE staff, both verbal and physical will NOT be tolerated.**
- **Temporary parking permits may be issued in exceptional circumstances. Please contact the Primary Office if you need more details.**
- **If you do not have a parking permit, please feel free to make use of the drop-off point outside the school gates and walking bus service, or alternatively, park on Wooldale Road and walk your child into school.**
- **The drop-off point is staffed from 8:30 until 8:45am. Please do not arrive before this time and park; it causes congestion for those trying to access the car park.**
- **Please observe all speed limits in the car park.**
- **Please DO NOT double park. Members of staff have been unable to leave at the end of their working day because parents have blocked their car in.**



Have your circumstances changed?

In these very difficult times, we are aware that financial circumstances have changed for lots of families. If this applies to your family, there is help available that you may qualify for. We would encourage you to visit the GOV.UK website to check if your changing circumstances mean that you are now entitled to one or more government benefits.

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits, you may also be entitled to apply for pupil premium funding for your child:

- Universal Credit (annual net income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying)

Pupil premium funding is additional school funding for disadvantaged children. It is paid directly to school to improve the quality of education for that pupil. This funding could be used to pay for free school meals, items of school uniform, school trips, additional learning support and other things.

To find out more information and to apply for this funding for your child, please visit the [Free School Meals and pupil premium page](#) on the West Northamptonshire Council website.

Cost of Living Support

West Northamptonshire Council now have a Cost of Living Support Team who can provide help, advice and information about lots of different things like warm spaces, help with childcare, foodbank locations, keeping utility bills down and much more.

You can find out more information about their services by visiting [Cost of Living Support](#) or by calling 0300 126 7000

DID YOU KNOW?

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

CAN INCLUDE:

- HOUSEHOLD BILLS**
(SUCH AS GAS AND ELECTRICITY)
- RENT**
- COUNCIL TAX**
- HELP WITH BUYING FOOD**
- CHILDCARE COSTS**

AS WELL AS OTHER IMPORTANT DAILY ESSENTIALS

THERE ARE PEOPLE ON HAND TO SUPPORT AND ADVISE YOU, SO PLEASE GET IN TOUCH TODAY.

For more information on cost of living support, visit: westnorthants.gov.uk/cost-of-living call 0300 126 7000*
*Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

West Northamptonshire Council

*This term, we are focusing on the value of being
Hardworking learners who are **resilient** and **determined**.*

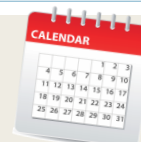


Dates for Your Diary

Year 5/6 Bikeability (selected children)
Children's Mental Health Week
CCS Friends meeting
Year 5/6 basketball tournament (selected children)
School closes
School reopens
Year R Bikeability
CCS Friends Year 3 cake sale

Monday 6th - 9th February
Monday 6th - Friday 10th February
Tuesday 7th February
Thursday 9th February

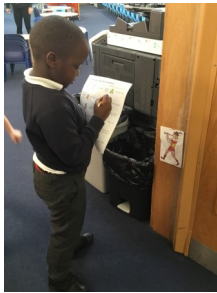
Friday 10th February
Monday 20th February
Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd February
Friday 24th February



Term 3 Roundup - Foundation Stage

This term has been busy for our Foundation Stage children. They started the term with Superhero Day and what a collection of superheroes we had! They used their mathematical powers to solve a number of problems and performed the Superman song and dance for parents.

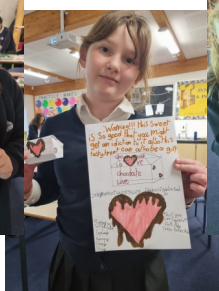
Children have been also been learning about Chinese New Year where they tried some noodles and painted some Chinese numbers. In PE, they have been practicing their jumping and balancing as part of a gymnastics unit.



Key Stage 2

In Year 3, their Sensational Start was based around learning about the Stone Age. Their favourite part was experiencing what it was like to paint in a cave by creating our own cave art under the table in the classroom with the lights off! Year 3 have also been learning to master the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, as well as find out about the different periods of history by creating their own timeline.

In Year 4, they have been learning about the elements. They started the term by working in teams to make their own earthquake-proof building using junk modelling. The children worked as teams to come up with some very creative structures.



Key Stage 1



Year 1 have been following the journey of the Gingerbread Man across the UK to visit traditional tale characters. As part of their Sensational Start, they took part in a scavenger hunt around the KS1 hub to look for all the fairytale characters.

Year 1 have also been learning about the properties of different materials. They used this science learning to design their own strong house for one of the little pigs to live in.

In Year 2, children have been finding out all about life in the Tudor times. They have learned all about what it was like living life as a Tudor child, as well as the battle of the Tudor rose and how it links to the local area.

In maths, they have been practicing 2, 5 and 10 times tables, as well as learning about simple fractions.

In keeping with the learning theme of 'Innovation and Industry', Year 5 started the term by designing and creating their own prototype of a new chocolate product. They had to come up with a name, slogan and other elements, as well as a poster to help advertise the product.

Year 6 have been learning about China and Japan for their 'Enchanting East' learning theme. As part of their Sensational Start, they made origami frogs, designed some Manga art and took part in the chopstick challenge!

Young Voices Concert

60 of our primary children across Years 3-6 travelled to Birmingham last week to take part in the Young Voices experience – the largest children's concert in the world. Over 5600 children took part, singing some classic tunes including a Nile Rodgers disco medley and a Spike Milligan mega-mix.

We were also really excited as the children's tv programme, Blue Peter, were also in attendance on the day that we went. Presenter Mwaksy Mudenda led part of the rehearsal and joined in with the choir for the evening concert. Our performance will very excitingly feature in the episode of Blue Peter due to be broadcast on Friday 3rd February and will also be available to view in BBC iPlayer. Children who took part can now apply for their music badge on the BBC website. Blue Peter badge holders allow the holder to get in free at over 200 attractions around the country.



After arriving and eating lunch, the children took part in an afternoon of rehearsals led by Young Voices conductor, David Lawrence where all the songs and dance moves were practiced. There was a quick break for tea then back to the seats for the main performance. Also featuring alongside the children's choir were The Beatbox Collective and street dance group Urban Strides. The concert culminated in a rousing rendition of the song 'Proud', acting as backing vocals to Heather Small from M People!

The children put a huge amount of work into rehearsing both the songs (including a Welsh song!) and dance moves and we were very proud of their performance on the night.



CCS Friends

We are very pleased to report that the CCS Friends cake sales have once again been huge successes.



Year 5 raised £181.81 in November and Year 4 raised a massive £211.38 last month; thank you so much for all your support in raising this vital money which will be used to support our school.

The next cake sale, in conjunction with Y3 will take place on 24th February.

A quick reminder that you can still purchase good quality uniform from our pre-loved uniform shop. Use the following link to visit the online shop:

[CCS Friends Pre-Loved Uniform Shop](#)

We'd also like to remind you that the next CCS Friends meeting will take place on Tuesday 7th February from 7-8:30pm in the Primary staff base. All are welcome to come along; we love to see new faces.



Children's Mental Health Week

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. As we all know, supporting the mental health of children and young people is now more important than ever. This week, coordinated by children's mental health charity Place2Be, aims to shine a spotlight and raise awareness of the importance of wellbeing for children.

This year's theme is 'Let's Connect' and is about making meaningful connections for all, during Children's Mental Health Week – and beyond. People thrive in communities, and this connection is vital for our wellbeing. In school, this week is being coordinated by our House Team.

During the week, we will be running a carousel of wellbeing activities within our key stages. Each class teacher will choose an activity to promote wellbeing. This may be a physical activity like outdoor games, it may be a mindfulness activity like yoga, or an activity which links to this year's theme. The theme will be explored further in classes during the week.

We had a launch assembly on Monday to start just gone so kids are aware. More details about the activities taking place will be put onto each year group's Teams site towards the end of the week as part of the weekly news updates.

If you would like to find out more about Children's Mental Health Week or the Place2Be charity itself, you can visit [Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

