



Coxhoe Communicator

April 2018



I am proud to say welcome back to you all as the new Head Teacher of Coxhoe Primary School. It has been a pleasure to work as a Deputy Head Teacher alongside Mr Jones for several years, striving to provide your children with the very best possible education and experience throughout their primary school journey. However, it is very exciting to have the opportunity to lead our school as we continue to grow and move forward.

As an experienced teacher, I will work with the fantastic team of staff to ensure that standards remain high and your children are always challenged to do their best.

As a parent of two teenage daughters, I am well aware of the challenges that today's society places on our children. In this climate, it is even more important to help our children become resilient and prepared for those challenges – through their experiences here in our school family.

The community around Coxhoe Primary School is one of its many strengths and I value it hugely. The support we have from parents is second to none and I urge you to continue that honest and open dialogue; we will make many decisions as a school and all have the children at the heart of them. If you have queries or concerns about any aspects of school life – please make sure that you come and talk to us. Likewise – when you are particularly happy with something at school – its also lovely to hear about that too!

I will endeavor to ensure that your children leave Coxhoe Primary School having had fun, accomplished their best and feeling proud of their achievements; this will allow them to be ready to face the next challenges, not only in their education, but also in their life.

Mrs Bartle

Ceilidh

Key Stage 2 children certainly danced a jig in March. They learned traditional ceilidh dances to live music. Their faces were a picture – why not ask them to show you some moves? Watch out for family night in the future.

Year 3 took part in a climate change workshop with the OASES team. They explored how the Earth is affected by climate change. They looked at the different ways animals and their habitats are affected. They researched different countries and what specific environmental difficulties they are facing e.g. coral bleaching in The Great Barrier Reef. They also investigated the rate at which the polar ice caps have melted over the last thirty years due to global warming. The visitors were impressed with the mature way in which the children contributed to discussion.

Mathletics – Going for Gold!

In March, we celebrated great achievements by over seventy pupils in Mathletics by hosting a special assembly with medals and trophies. We will have another assembly in the summer term so keep working hard! During the month, pupils attained 1.6 million points and over 730 certificates!

School Attendance

Our school attendance for the 2nd half of the Spring term was as follows:

Class 1: 94.45%	Class 7: 97.26%
Class 2: 95.99%	Class 8: 96.28%
Class 3: 97.51%	Class 9: 97.39%
Class 4: 98.30%	Class 10: 96.15%
Class 5: 94.81%	Class 11: 96.60%
Class 6: 95.49%	

Well done to Class 4 for their excellent attendance.

We are always proud of the high level of attendance and feel that this reflects what a happy place our school is. May we respectfully remind parents that any Leave of Absence during term time must be applied for in advance and can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. The Local Authority Attendance Improvement Team may issue each parent a Fixed Penalty Notice where the absence is not authorised. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Easter Fun

To celebrate Easter, our children enjoyed the traditional activity of decorating hard boiled eggs. It is fantastic to see how creative our children can be – some very interesting use of materials. Winners were awarded a delicious chocolate egg – I am sure they shared it with their families!

Farewell Mr Jones

Some very *secretive* rehearsals took place over the last few weeks of term as the children prepared for an assembly to say farewell to Mr Jones. They worked extremely hard to make sure it was a fabulous assembly to say thank you for the many years of hard work, dedication and - most importantly – care, that he has shared with us all at Coxhoe Primary School. Wow – it was most certainly a showstopper and a tearjerker! We showcased a whole range of talent – including woodwind, singing, rapping, poetry and some impressive use of technology, including a hilarious imovie about Mr Jones and the staff here at school. He was delighted with the talents on show and it made him feel very proud.

Sporting Success

The 'Beast from the East' put pay to a number of sporting events but lots of teams still managed several noticeable achievements. The New-Age Curling teams finished 2nd and 5th while the Tag Rugby team managed a 5th place finish in the County Finals at North Durham. Also, both football teams are unbeaten in the Spring league so far, with the A team wrapping up the title and the B team currently top of their league. Keep it going!

This year, the Football A Team managed to win the Premiership League Trophy for the fourth time in five years. The B Team have also won all of their games in the Championship League and will hope to emulate the A team in the final round of games on the 19th April.

We are now looking forward to an action-packed summer term. Upcoming events include:

- Cross-Country Finals (23rd April)
- Y3/4 Multi-Sports event with Thornhill (27th April)
- Y5/6 Girls Football (3rd/10th/17th May)

Foundation of Light Programme

We are really looking forward to this opportunity for classes 9 & 10. They will work with staff from Sunderland football club on their literacy skills for a number of weeks. This also involves the opportunity to visit the Stadium of Light and interview a key member of staff to inspire their writing. We will keep you updated.

Security

We would like to thank parents and governors for their support in handling the security alert during the last week of term. We liaised closely with the Police throughout the day and followed their guidance to ensure the highest level of safety. We have received positive feedback from many parents as well as the local police officers.

Visits and Visitors

Classes 6, 7 & 8 visited The Oriental Museum to work on Ancient Egypt. They were able to handle real artefacts, viewed a mummy and took part in a drama activity of 'The weighing of the heart' ceremony. It was a fantastic opportunity and the children really enjoyed themselves. As always, the children impressed the staff with exemplary behaviour and were a credit to the school. Thank you to our adult helpers who supported us on our visit. Staff felt that it was a perfect example of how educational visits can really add to the children's learning.

18.4.18 - Class 4 & 5 visit Durham Cathedral
19.4.18 - Class 9,10,11 visit the Great North Museum
19.4.18 - Football B team Sedgefield
20.4.18 - Castle Team Challenge
23.4.18 - Cross Country Final
26.4.18 - Class 9 Assembly
27.4.18 - School Direct Interviews
27.4.18 - Multi-skills Festival Year 3-4
30.4.18 - School Nurse drop in
1.5.18 - Go Run for Fun
3.5.18 - Class 6 Assembly
4.5.18 - Class 5 Outdoor & Adventure Hardwick Park
May - Y2 SATs period
10.5.18 - Class 7 Assembly
11.5.18 - Class 8 Outdoor & Adventure Hardwick Park
14.5.18 - Y6 SATs week
18.5.18 - Art Day
15.5.18 - Change for Life Celebrations
24.5.18 - Class 1 & 2 Assembly

25.5.18 - Primary Athletics
4.6.18 - PD Day – school closed
5.6.18 - Science Week
5.6.18 - Year 6 cricket
6.6.18 - Year 6 residential visit Weardale House
8.6.18 - Teddy bear's Picnic for new starters
11.6.18 - Year 6 Enterprise Week
12.6.18 - Sedgefield Dash
14.6.18 - Class 10 Assembly
15.6.18 - Enterprise Day – Year 6 for whole school
19.6.18 - Quad Kids
26.6.18 - Primary Olympics
2.7.18 - Sports week
3.7.18 - Art Day
4.7.18 - KS1 Sports Day
5.7.18 - KS2 Sports Day
9.7.18 - Relationships week
11.7.18 - Optional Parents' evening
17.7.18 - Year 6 Leaver's Performance