



## 'Everyone Successful Everyday'

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9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure you will agree that the children have learnt a huge amount this half term. The topic themes were History based and the children can tell me lots of interesting facts and information they have found out. Tapestry has some fantastic science, maths, history and many other subjects for you to see.

### **Bikeability**

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed bike ability last week. They learned the rules of the road, safe places to position themselves for turning into and out of major and minor roads, how to stop and start efficiently, and which important safety checks are needed on their bikes. They did a fantastic job; the instructors were very impressed with how hard they worked!



### **Parents' Panel**

Thank you so much to the parents who attended the Parent Panel meeting. We looked through the Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum, including mental health lessons using Mindmate, Circle Time and anti-bullying. Parents looked at some of the work the children have done and felt the session was really helpful. If there are any topics parents would particularly like to discuss, please let us know. If there is something you feel pleased with, or that we might need to improve on, do come along and let us know. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. There could be further industrial action by NEU members on that day so we will confirm or reschedule once we have more information.

### **Staffing Update**

Mrs Walker, who has worked at Colton for over 10 years, will be leaving us next term. She has supported many children over the years, including tutoring groups before and after school. Mrs Walker is moving out of education and taking on a completely new role. We wish her every success and thank her for all her hard work at Colton.

Mrs Westmoreland will be leaving us at the end of the term. We would like to thank her for all her hard work, both in the classroom and on the playground at lunchtimes. We wish Mrs Westmoreland all the best for the future, supporting children in another school.

After only being with us for a short time, Mrs Swallow has also decided it is the time to have a change in direction. She is going to become an Attendance Officer and support children and families who are finding school challenging. I am sure you will join us in wishing her every success in her new career and thanking her for her contribution at Colton.

### **Attendance**

Attendance in school is currently 96%. Our target for the year is 97.5% so we have a little way to go. Congratulations to Year 1 with the highest attendance this week at 98.7%.

| Nursery | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 91.1%   | 98%       | 98.7%  | 93%    | 98.3%  | 96.7%  | 97.3%  | 95.9%  |

We have noticed a number of families taking holidays in term time and removing children from school in the afternoon for appointments. Where possible, please arrange medical appointments out of school time. Holidays are not 'Exceptional Circumstances' and will therefore be an un-authorised absence from school.



It is great to see how many children and families chose to access this year's flu immunisation programme. We had 80% take up which is brilliant. This should help keep everyone healthy and support attendance through the winter months when the 'bugs' might strike.

**Can you help?**

Does anyone have access to these lovely big cable reels? We are looking for some more to use in and around school.



Does anyone have any garden storage or small sheds they no longer need? We are hoping to sort our resources and desperately need storage.

If you think you might be able to help, please contact the School Office on [info@cps.rklt.co.uk](mailto:info@cps.rklt.co.uk). Thank you in advance.

**OFSTED update**

As you may know, when we became an academy with Red Kite Learning Trust, we effectively became a new school. Colton was last inspected in 2012 and gained the outstanding grade under the old framework and criteria. We are very proud of our school, and we have a very strong curriculum offer for our children. Ofsted will still consider many of the same things such as the behaviour and attitudes of the children but many aspects of the framework are new. We still feel our school offers a fantastic education – both academically and personally for our children. Whenever we 'get the call,' we hope you will join us in celebrating how fantastic Colton Primary school is.

**Reading Workshops**

Next term we are going to run a Reading Workshop for parents, carers or relatives to attend instead of our usual class assemblies. Reception and Year 1 will have a stay and play session, which may include reading and phonics too.

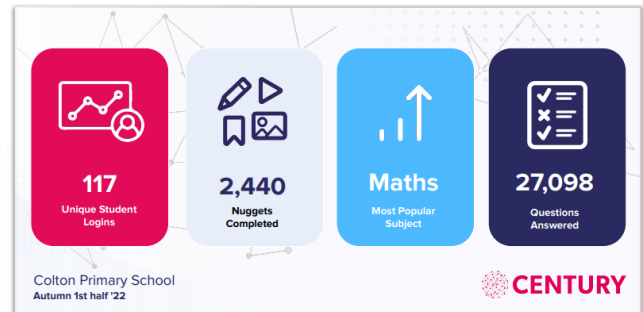
We are really looking forward to sharing how we support the children as they learn to read and understand stories, biographies and a whole host of other texts. Do you know your VIPERS? Come and join us to find out. Please see the dates section of the letter for details of the sessions.

**Home learning**



We love to see learning the children have completed at home. Year 6 have been learning about World War One and Lewis has created a wonderful model of a WW1 trench. The detail is superb. Well done Lewis!

We have lots of apps to support our learning such as Times Table Rock Start, Oxford Owl, Epic and Century Tech. Children have answered nearly 30,000 questions on here – amazing!



**Year 3 School's Football League Results**

Huge thanks to Mr Coello and all the parents for supporting the children to attend this terms matches. Latest results are:

1-2 loss vs St Benedict's

2-0 win vs St Teresa's

9-0 win vs Shakespeare

This puts our team at the top of the league with 2 matches remaining on 22<sup>nd</sup> February & 5<sup>th</sup> July. Well done, boys!

### **NSPCC Assemblies and Workshops**

We are pleased to announce that the children will be taking part in the Speak Out. Stay Safe programme. All children will have an assembly. NSPCC volunteers run a follow up workshop Year 5 and 6. Please see separate letter emailed on Arbor or Tapestry for full details.



### **Dates for your diary**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February – ‘Break the Rules’ day  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – School Closed (Training Day Attachment and Trauma training)  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February – School re-opens  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Y6 Reading Workshop  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February – Possible NEU strike day / Parents’ Panel – 2:30pm hall  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – World Book Day  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Y5 Reading Workshop  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Y4 Reading Workshop  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Possible NEU strike days  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Y3 Reading Workshop and Red Nose Day

Wishing everyone a wonderful half-term holiday – see you on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Kind regards,

*Mrs Caroline Johnson*  
Headteacher

