



'Everyone Successful Everyday'

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Johnson
NPQH BSc Cert Ed SLE AST
Tel: (0113) 2647514
Email: info@cps.rklt.co.uk



Colton Primary School
School Lane
Colton
Leeds
LS15 9AL

15th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

We would like to extend an extra special welcome to our new families, joining reception, nursery and higher up school too. We have had a great start to the new term and the children have settled back into school very well. They have been carrying out 'Investors in Pupils' learning where they consider a wide range of topics such as daily life in our school and what might make the perfect classroom. They think about jobs they might like to do and choose targets to work towards. The class get extra rewards when they achieve them! We find that the 'Investors in Pupils' learning is a really positive way to build effective relationships and set expectations for the year ahead.

Staffing news

Miss Flint has accepted a new position over the summer, working to support a family. We know she will do a fantastic job and wish her all the best for the future. Mrs. Waite will be leaving us at October half term. She has decided it is time to put her feet up and have a rest but promises to pop back if we need her. We would like to thank them both for all their hard work and the kindness they have shown to children and colleagues alike. We will miss you both.

National Test Results – Summer 2023

Children take various national tests and assessments throughout their time at primary school. We are extremely proud of what our children achieved in the summer. We are absolutely thrilled as our results are above the Leeds and national averages for most subjects, significantly so for maths. Well done to all our children and the staff for all their hard work. Full results are available to view on our website: www.colton.org.uk.

School Uniform

As we set off into the new school year, we want to make sure our standards are maintained. The children need to be in full school uniform. If you are having difficulty sourcing or affording school uniform, please speak to Mrs. Beard or the school office.

We have a small amount of good quality spare, second hand uniform which you are more than welcome to take.

Children do not have to wear any branded uniform with our logo. Supermarket uniform is absolutely fine. Children need to come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day. The children do not need a pencil case or a huge school bag. Please ensure all belongings are named or labelled as we gather a huge amount of lost property through the year and we can easily return named items.

Children need to look smart, including having their shirts tucked in. If classrooms are particularly hot, staff will let the children untuck their shirts, and this is also okay for breaktimes. Pupils can wear **plain, black trainers** or black school shoes. You can find the Uniform Policy on the school website or by following this link: <https://www.colton.org.uk/for-parentscarers/uniform>

Uniform Requirements

- Dark grey skirt or pinafore / trousers / shorts
- White blouse / shirt or navy/white polo shirt
- Navy cardigan or sweatshirt (school wear range and not hooded)
- Smart black shoes or plain black trainers (no logos or trimmings) for outdoors
- Optional school tie
- Plain navy, black, grey or white socks
- Plain grey tights
- All shirts/blouses should be tucked in.
- If a child needs a belt, this should be plain in style and black/blue/grey/white in colour
- All Reception, Year 1 and 2 children need a 'Book Bag'.
- Smart, flat sandals for summer (with socks)
- Blue and white checked/striped dress in summer
- Sunhats and suncream (rollerball / stick) can be brought into school in the summer months – sunglasses are not allowed.

PE Kit

- Navy plain PE shorts.
- White T shirt (no buttons or accessories) either plain or with the Colton star on.
- For indoor: black pumps or bare feet.
- For outdoors: sturdy trainers, plain navy tracksuit top and bottoms but not football
- strips.
- Long hair must be tied back and no jewellery can be worn for PE sessions.
- **Appearance**
- Hair should be neat and the child's natural colour.
- No patterns or shapes shaved into the hair.
- Hair must be at least grade 2 in length.
- Long hair (below shoulders) should be tied back. Decorative hair accessories should be
- small, discrete and in the school colours of navy, grey, black or white.
- No nail varnish, tattoos or makeup is to be worn by our children.
- ☒ **Small stud earrings can be worn but must be removed for PE.**

Communication

At Colton, we strive to communicate effectively with all our families. Many of you will already be familiar with Tapestry, as we have used this platform in our Early Years classes. If you are new to Tapestry, you will receive an email with login details. This is only live for 24 hours, so please can you set up your account promptly. If you already have an account, or have more than one child with us, you will not receive an email. Older siblings will be linked to your existing account. Once up and running, please feel free to message staff at whatever time is convenient for you. Staff will aim to respond between 8am and 5pm on the next working day.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Child protection is at the forefront of our school culture. Each year, we update our policies and procedures in line with the Department for Education's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' guidance. Our updated policy is available in the safeguarding section of our school website at www.colton.org.uk. If you have any concerns about a pupil, or member of staff please speak to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Beard, Mrs Johnson or Mrs Leverett in the school office.

We also update and publish our Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policies and all of these are reviewed by our Governing Body.



Welcome meetings

Next week, we would like to invite all parents and carers into school to meet the new teachers, see the classroom and hear all about how this year is going to feel for your children. Important information will be given out about the year ahead and how you can help your child to learn. Working together, we can make sure your child has the best possible experience at Colton. We look forward to seeing you then – dates are on the calendar of events.

School Attendance and Absences

As we come through autumn and into winter, there will be lots of coughs, colds and tummy bugs around. It can be hard to know when to keep your child at home and when to send them into school. In general, we say that if your child has been vomiting or has diarrhea they need to stay at home for 48 hours after the last incident. Usually, it is okay for your child to come to school with a mild cold or cough. It is so tricky as sometimes they seem really poorly and then 'perk up' once they aren't coming to school. If that happens, you are welcome to bring your child to school for the afternoon. Please see the link below which you may find useful:

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Calendar of Events

We are sending out a calendar of events to give you a bigger picture of what is happening throughout the year. These dates are subject to change and any updates will be shared on Tapestry and newsletters. We will do our best not to change the dates we have provided. This will be sent next week.

Autumn 1 Curriculum Themes / Topics

The main themes this half term will be History and Geography. Classes will also cover art, science, music, Design Technology, PE, computing alongside maths, reading and writing this term. We are also making use of local history and geography throughout the year. Please see the school website for more details:

<https://colton.org.uk>

AUTUMN 1				
YEAR GROUP:	Nursery This is me	Reception All about me/families Seasons	Y1 What is the past? Significant <u>nurses</u>	Y2 Are polar bears and <u>penguins</u> friends? Do polar bears and penguins live together? Do penguins prefer cold or warm weather?
History/ Geography	To talk about members of their family and their relationship to them. To talk about their own home and what their own house is like. To begin to think about different houses and how they differ to their own – Link to Temple Newsam House . To begin and notice differences between people and cultures.	Pupils begin to make sense of their own life story and family history. They can discuss how their family has changed over time. Pupils use the language of time when talking about past/present events, and celebrations in their own lives and in the lives of others. To know that our school is in Colton, Leeds, England and identify some of the key features of where they live.	My timeline, family history. The compare pictures of themselves at different stages of their life – talk about what has changed. To learn about and compare three significant nurses- Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole & Edith Cavell.	Arctic and Antarctica study. The poles and the equator.

AUTUMN 1				
YEAR GROUP:	Y3 Bob the builder in the Stone Age Who were Britain's first builders?	Y4 Bear Grylls survival academy: Rainforest challenge Do all places in the world have the same climate as us?	Y5 The Viking who came to tea Were the Vikings <u>really</u> vicious?	Y6 What would the Earth say if it could talk? What is it like to live through an Earthquake?
History/ Geography	Changes in Britain - Stone Age to Iron Age	<u>Climate zones and longitude latitude effects</u> <u>Looking at biome of rainforest and teaching of water cycle</u> <u>Vegetation belt</u>	To study how the Viking invasions affected the Anglo Saxons Viking trip – Royal Armouries	<u>Earth matters – natural disasters</u> <u>Or focus on flash flooding?</u> <u>Earthquakes</u>

Outdoor Learning

Mrs Orchard is our Level 3 Forest School leader and as part of our Curriculum for Life, we want to encourage the children to be able to communicate effectively, solve problems and think independently. This fits perfectly with outdoor learning and the Forest School ethos. We also want to foster care for the environment and an understanding of sustainability and our place in the wider world.

Each class will have Outdoor Learning with Mrs Orchard every term. The children will be outside whatever the weather and a separate letter will follow with dates for each class. Wellies and a warm coat are a must for autumn and winter sessions. If it is extremely cold or windy, the woods can be unsafe and so the activities may be transferred inside. However, we will always endeavor to go outside and enjoy Windmill Woods, observing how it changes through the seasons.

Class Curriculum Celebrations and Stay and Play

We regularly invite parents into school to see what their children have been learning and how they are progressing with their work. When it is your child's curriculum celebration, you can drop them off as usual and walk around the front of the school. The office staff will then ask you to sign in, and you will be escorted to your child's classroom, or the hall for the activity. Don't worry if you are unable to attend, please feel free to invite a grandparent, uncle or family friend to come and watch instead. Early Years Stay and Play or phonics sessions are held in your child's classroom. More details to follow.

After School Clubs

Booking for clubs is through Parent Pay and on a first come, first served basis. We have lots of lovely activities on offer so it might be hard to choose just one.

2022-23 Training days (School closed to pupils)

Monday 8th January 2024 Thursday 28th March 2024 Friday 5th July 2023 Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July 2024

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year and thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Caroline Johnson

Headteacher

