



## 'Everyone Successful Everyday'

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17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are enjoying looking at all the children's learning on Tapestry. We love capturing them working hard and sharing their learning with you. Please feel free to make comments and like our posts.

As part of celebrating the diversity of our community and our Religious Education curriculum, we have been teaching the children about Diwali - a festival celebrating the triumph of light over darkness enjoyed by millions of people of Hindu, Sikh and Jain faiths. The word Diwali comes from the Sanskrit word Deepavali, which means "rows of lighted lamps".

We were thrilled to welcome some special visitors into school this week. Kushi and Aadit's mum spoke to Year 2 and 4 about how her family prepare for and celebrate this special occasion. Mrs Doshi explained several traditions to the children and created mehndi patterns with henna. She explained how homes are cleaned and new clothes are worn. Outside their homes, people draw rangolis - traditional designs made using colourful powders - to bring good luck and positivity into their lives.



Musicians from the South Asian Arts UK also visited school and played some traditional Indian music. The children listened intently and really enjoyed hearing the sitar and tabla drums.

Our music curriculum offers the children the chance to listen to live performances regularly and we aim to expose the children to many different genres of music. You can see our full curriculum offer on the school website: [Colton Primary School - Red Kite Learning Trust - Music](https://colton.org.uk/redkite/learning-trust/music)

### **Parents' Evenings and RSE Consultation**

Next week, we will be discussing your child's progress, setting targets for the year and giving ideas for how you can support their learning at home. Some of the children's books will be displayed in the hall for you to look at.

As part of these evenings, we would also like to consult parents and carers regarding our Relationships, Sex and Health Education curriculum (RSE) which is part of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE).

In 2020, we reviewed the RSE policy, sharing the themes, lessons and vocabulary with parents to get their feedback on what was being taught. We would like to do this again as we now have lots of new families. During Parents evenings, there will be a display of books, resources and copies of our current curriculum and policy for you to look at. We will send out a separate letter with more details about this. You can access the policy and curriculum on the school website here: [colton.org.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3406](https://colton.org.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3406)

If you have already had an Assess, Plan Do Review meeting, you are still welcome to come into school to look at your child's books and review the RSE policy.

### **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 safeguarding, behaviour and attitudes of the children (which includes attendance) but many aspects of the framework are new. We still feel our school offers a fantastic education – both academically and personally for our children. Our 'Curriculum for Life' is carefully designed to offer a wide range of subjects and



experiences. We want everyone to be successful at school. Whenever we get 'the call,' we hope you will join us in celebrating how fantastic Colton Primary school is.

### **School Attendance and Absences**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance this week</b>	<b>Attendance so far this year</b>
<b>Year Reception</b>	<b>96.7%</b>	<b>95.2%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>96.7%</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>100% - well done!</b>	<b>98.2%</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>97.5%</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>100% - well done!</b>	<b>96.2%</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>100% - well done!</b>	<b>96.3%</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>96.6%</b>	<b>96.5%</b>

Most of our children love coming to school and attend really well, meeting our attendance target of 97% or above by the end of the year. We have a duty to inform families who are at risk of their child becoming persistently absent – where attendance has fallen below 90%. There is a clear link between attendance at school and academic performance and we naturally want the very best for all our pupils. If you would like any help or support with attendance, please speak to your class teacher, Mrs. Beard or Mrs. Johnson. This week, the Attendance Shield went to Year 5 with 99.62%.



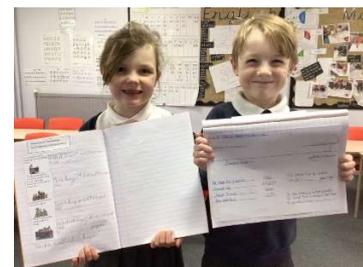
### **Children In Need**

The School Council have done a fantastic job raising money for Children in Need with their Bun sale and dressing spotty or in non-uniform. Thank you so much to all the grown-ups who sent in contributions of buns or cakes and for your donations and money for a bun. We have raised in excess of £320. Which is amazing.

### **Curriculum Celebrations**

This week we have been presenting our Best Geographer and Best Historian Awards. The children shared their learning in assembly. It is wonderful to see the progress in each subject across the school. Pupils can explain what they have learned using technical vocabulary which is fantastic!

Courtesy Cup this week was presented to Felicity Hardy. Well done, Felicity.



### **Christmas Arrangements**

We are currently finalising arrangements for the Christmas Performances. Please look out for an update shortly.

- Tickets will be limited to 2 per child in the first instance.
- Ticket will be available to purchase on ParentPay from 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 12 noon.
- Tickets will cost £2.50 each – including refreshments.

### **PTA**

A huge thank you to the PTA and to all our parents who support the events they organize. We are really lucky as this really enhances the experiences the children receive at Colton. We are thrilled to announce that the PTA are able to fully fund theatre visits for upper KS2 in January. Children in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will be going to see a performance of 'Oliver' at The Playhouse. We are currently looking into a suitable performance for Year 1, 2 and 3. Your support really does make all the difference as we simply couldn't afford to fund this from our school budget. If anyone has a little bit of spare time and wants to get more involved, we would love to hear from you.

Thank you once again to everyone involved.

*Mrs Caroline Johnson*  
Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

Date	Activity
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 Curriculum Celebration
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Reception and Nursery Parents Evening
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Parents and Carers Target Setting Meetings
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception Stay and play session – 9am NHS Height and Weight Checks Y6 & Reception Y4 Murton Park Visit
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Christmas Pop Up Shop
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Christmas Concert 9:30am Y4/5/6 Christmas Production 1:15pm Y1/2/3 Christmas Production 2:15pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Y4/5/6 Christmas Production 9:15am Y1/2/3 Christmas Production 10:15
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	'Elf Run' in aid of Simon On the Streets
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Carols at Whitkirk Church (10am TBC)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	PTA pop up shop on the playground at the end of the day School Closes for Christmas holiday
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	School Closed: Training Day
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	School reopens

