

COURTWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter 4

18.1.24

Time has flown and I can't believe that we have already been back at school for two weeks. I hope that you all had a lovely break over the festive period and managed to find time to have a rest and recharge in amongst all the Christmas fun. The children have had a busy start to 2024 with them quickly settling back into routines for lessons, clubs and general school life. We now have a newly formed choir and are getting ready to join the Croydon Music Service Festival of Music 2024, with our first rehearsal next week!

Attendance

National Expectation for whole school attendance is currently **95.2%**. Attendance has dropped in the run up to the end of term.

Whole School	93.6	Year 3	93.9
Reception	93.7	Year 4	95.2
Year 1	93.3	Year 5	92.6..
Year 2	94.5	Year 6	92.0

PTFA

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the PTFA for all their hard work. This year, the PTFA have funded a selection of workshops, an author visit, iPad cabinets, new copies of the 11 before 11 books (for every year group) and have kindly supported the fit out of the Music Room. Please look out for upcoming events! **The PTFA play a key role in supporting the school and any support that you are able to offer would be very welcome and will benefit the children.**

Free School Meal

Please follow the link to see if your child is eligible for Free School Meals. [Free School Meal Eligibil-](#)

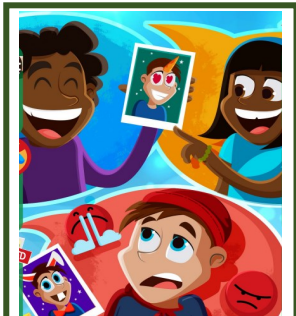
Road Safety and Parking

Please can we ask that you drive and park safely and responsibly in the local area to support the safety of the whole community. The zebra crossing is a way for children to safely cross the road. **Please do not stop at the crossing for your child to exit the car, park on the zig zag lines or reverse out onto the zebra crossing. This is dangerous and increases the risk of an accident.**



ESAFETY—Group Chats

Group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage and communicate with their peers online. Involving, by definition 3 or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they can be both fun and useful for helping friends, people with shared interests to communicate, they can also leave young people feeling excluded or bullied. **The age limit for WhatsApp is 16. The age limit for WhatsApp is 13.**



How I feel In The Yellow Zone



Zones of Regulation — Yellow - Click on the link

When we are in the **Yellow Zone**, we have higher levels of energy and stronger emotion, such as feeling excited, fidgety, anxious, or frustrated. This isn't always a bad thing, and you typically still have some control when you're in the yellow zone.

Year 4—Italian Day

Last half term, Year 4 had fun learning about Italy. During which the children learnt about the many different aspects of the country: the culture, language, geography and food. Towards the end of the half term, the children enjoyed an 'Italian Day' where they came to school dressed in the colours of the Italian flag, made pizza and built their own leaning Towers of Pisa.



Reading Event

We are excited to launch our Reading **for Pleasure event**, which will take place on **Friday 2nd February**. Please help your child select a text that they would like to share at school and complete the 'Book Talk' sheet that they bring home. Look out for our future events!

Reading for pleasure opens up new worlds for children. It gives them the opportunity to use their imagination to explore new ideas, visit new places and meet new characters. Check out some of our top tips below, including articles on how to build a culture of reading at home, how to help your child choose books and more via the [link](#)



Importance of Reading

Child A	Child B	Child C	Child D
Reads 10 minutes a day, 7 times a week	Reads 10 minutes a day, 5 times a week	Reads 10 minutes a day, 3 times a week	Reads 10 minutes a day, once a week
Child A reads 2,730 minutes in a school year	Child B reads 1,950 minutes in a school year	Child C reads 1,170 minutes in a school year	Child D reads 390 minutes in a school year
Child A reads 19,110 minutes by the time they leave Courtwood Primary	Child B reads 13,650 minutes by the time they leave Courtwood Primary	Child C reads 8,190 minutes by the time they leave Courtwood Primary	Child D reads 2,730 minutes by the time they leave Courtwood Primary
Child D reads the equivalent of what Child A reads in 1 year			



LOOKING FOR FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour, and act on their views.

[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK](https://parentingsmart.org.uk)

Children's Mental Health Week

Monday 5th February sees the start of Children's Mental Health Week. The theme this year is '**My Voice Matters**'. 1 in 6 children and young people now have a diagnosable mental health condition. By taking part in Children's Mental Health Week, we are helping children and young people across the UK feel listened to, and know that they're not alone. Please click [here](#) for more info.

General Reminders

- **No clubs will be running on Wednesday 24th January due to staff twilight training.**
- Please remember to label your child's clothing so that it can easily be returned.
- All children must come to school with a coat and jumper or fleece every day.

Important Dates

- **Thursday 25th Jan** – PTFA Cake Sale
- **Friday 2nd Feb** – Courtwood's Book Talk Event
- **Friday 2nd Feb** – PTFA Valentine Disco
- **Friday 9th Feb** – Break up for half term