



13th September 2024

Dear parents / carers



Year of Prayer In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope", 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. Pope Francis asks us all to join in a great "symphony" of prayer, "to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him." There is a particular focus on the Our Father and this presents us with a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer. This week, in assembly, we spent time reflecting on the meaning of each line of the Our Father. When we pray, we direct our thoughts toward God. This helps us to think less about life and more about God: His power, His love, and His work in our life. When we pray, we turn our thoughts to God and let Him into our minds. Our Heavenly Father wants to hear from you and talk to you. When you pray, He listens. Then He answers your prayers in the form of thoughts, spiritual feelings, scripture, or even the actions of other people. **We encourage you to take time to pray.**

Anti Racism - This summer saw significant public disorder across several UK cities following the circulation of misinformation, wrongly associated with what had happened in Southport. These attacks will have had a significant impact on members of our communities. As ever, it is vital that we come together to look after each other and ensure that our school is a safe and supportive place for all. Throughout the year, we will continue our Racial Literacy and Anti Racism work. We host a meeting for parents with regards to this later on in the term. In the meantime, please visit our Racial literacy / Anti Racism page on our school website for useful book lists to use at home.
<https://www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk/page/antiracism/>

Recorder lessons This week, we have had some very excited Year 4 children as they started taking part in their first whole class recorder lessons. Children will be learning recorders for a term in both Year 3 and Year 4, giving them a wonderful opportunity to learn a woodwind instrument with lots of transferable skills that can put to use in the future. Each child will have their own recorder to use at school each week. Some parents may wish to purchase a recorder for their child so that they may continue their learning at home during the week – they can use this instrument at school too. Our music room is looking fabulous at the moment, especially when filled with lots of excited young musicians.



Reading At Cottesmore We aim to foster a love of reading and are keenly planning a year of events to promote this, as well as our regular guided reading lessons. This week, children received their reading books and journals. Please visit your Ping account for helpful tips to support reading at home. Reading books are changed on a Monday and we ask and encourage you to sign the journals weekly to document reading taking place at home. As always, please contact the class teacher with any questions regarding your child's reading at home. We truly believe that reading opens doors for children, and ask that they read and enjoy books daily.



Platinum Sports Award We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Platinum Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. As part of the award, the PE team created a case study outlining all the wonderful sporting opportunities offered to the children at Cottesmore. If you would like to read this case study, this can be found in the sports section of our school website. As ever, we look forward to participating in numerous sporting events this year.



Forest School Year 6 and Year 1 have enjoyed Forest school and helped pick some of the lovely tomatoes and courgettes we have grown in our poly tunnel. Year 6 learned how to make a batter and fry the courgettes on the forest fire. They also tried battered broccoli. The verdict was that both vegetables tasted fantastic, especially when dipped in hot sauce! Year 1 made fairy and pixie dens and little figures to go inside them.



It has been another great week and the school is awash with enthusiasm. Have a lovely weekend. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Autumn Termly [first half] Overviews Half Termly Overviews for the 1st half of the Autumn Term have been published on the relevant year group pages on our school website. These overviews give you detailed information about the upcoming topics and, whether it's exciting science topics, creative art projects, or language learning opportunities, there's something for every child to look forward to. We encourage you to find out, and have conversations with your child, about what they will be learning at school: perhaps you would like to investigate further, provide background reading or extra practice/support at home. If you have any questions about forthcoming topics, please speak to class teachers.



Fairtrade Fortnight As part of Fairtrade Fortnight 2024, the Fairtrade Reps will be running a Fairtrade Cake Sale on Friday 20th September after school. We would love for children and families to have a go at baking at home using at least one Fairtrade ingredient, for example, sugar, chocolate, bananas, cocoa powder. Please can children bring their creations in on the morning of Friday 20th September. Follow the links in Ping for some recipe ideas and a helpful list of Fairtrade ingredients that you could choose to include. You may also wish to incorporate Fairtrade designs when decorating your cakes, eg blue and green icing or Fairtrade flags. All the proceeds of the cake sale will be donated directly to the Fairtrade Foundation. An activity will be sent to every class with some recipe ideas and an opportunity for children to share the recipe they used as well as upload some photos of themselves creating their Fairtrade goodies. Happy Fairtrade Baking!



September 2025

If you are currently a member of our school family and have a younger child due to start school in September 2025, don't forget that, in addition to completing the online Brighton and Hove admissions form, you must also complete the school Supplementary Information Form (SIF). This can be found on the school website and is required to be delivered to the school office. We encourage you to complete the SIF form sooner rather than later, especially if you require a priest's signature. A reminder that the deadline for Reception applications is 15th January. Sometime off but good to start thinking about it now.

Change to School Day start time from Sept

A reminder that our school day is now 8.40am – 3.10pm.

Radinden Manor gate is opened at 8.30am for a free flow into school and is locked at 8.40am. All children are expected to be in class, not coming through the gate, by that time. Anyone coming through the gate eg at 8.39am may be marked as late if there is not enough time for them to be in their actual classroom in time for the 8.40am register. Anyone coming after the gate is closed, will have to enter via the main school office and will also be marked as late. Please can all parents ensure that they too are out of the gate by 8.40am. Pick up at 3.10pm remains as usual as do all club pick up times.

Nut free school

Due to allergies, we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL. We ask all to not give children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches. Caterlink, who provide our school lunches, ensures that all they provide is nut free. Please do not give children nuts, nut products or snacks / bars containing nuts for break time snacks or as part of a packed lunch. We do acknowledge that many foods are labelled as 'may have been produced in a factory handling nuts' or 'may contain traces of nuts'. Such items can be brought into school, we are referring to those that identify that nuts are present.



Safety in Radinden Manor

There is an unofficial one way system began down Radinden Manor. This was to help prevent the congestion that can sometimes occur at pick up. Please refrain from driving up Radinden Manor (from the direction of The Old Shoreham Road) and instead, drive down from the direction of Dyke Road (so that the school gates are on your left). This may take some families on a longer route but it would help with traffic. Obviously this isn't something that the school can enforce hence just raising it.



In order to ensure safety of all, please also refrain from pulling in on the zig zags at drop off and asking children to jump out of the car. Please park in a designated place.



One final request, is to also kindly park with respect to our neighbours and don't park or stop (even if still in your car) across their drives, not to mention not parking on double yellow lines. I have had three emails from our neighbours this week, each with photos. From next week, we will share such images in the hope this prevents people from parking without consideration for those who live in Radinden Manor Road.





Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement of parents who believe childhood's too short to be spent on a smartphone

We're on a mission to

01.

Bring parents together to start new and positive conversations about the problems of smartphones in childhood

02.

Empower parents to take collective action in their local communities - agreeing to delay giving their children smartphones until at least 16

03.

Demonstrate that parents are demanding change at scale, and therefore force the government and tech companies to act

Why we're doing this now

We've been put in an impossible position by the tech companies. It's a lose lose - either allow our children access to something all the evidence tells us is damaging, or say no and risk alienating them among their peers at a crucial stage of their social development. **We believe something needs to change, and it starts with all of us.**



Scan to find out more

This movement will always be digital first. But we recognise the irony, and we know not everyone who needs to know about this issue is online as much as we are.

This flyer is free to download so you can print it and hand it out at the school gates, social clubs, or any IRL situation.

How you can get involved

Join your regional WhatsApp group.

You'll find the links to all regional groups at linktr.ee/smartphonefreechildhood

Start a WhatsApp group for your school to begin a conversation with your community

- we've put together a toolkit to help you smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/resources

Follow us on Instagram

[@smartphonefreechildhood](https://www.instagram.com/smartphonefreechildhood)

Sign up to our newsletter. We'll be sharing all our plans, advice and inspiration here as the movement grows.

smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/subscribe

Please:

- Keep to A4 size, fit to page, black and white single sided print
- Only print what you need, and use FSC certified paper if possible
- Don't attach to public or private property without consent
- Be mindful of 'no unsolicited mail' notices

MONDAY 16 th	Fairtrade Fortnight
TUESDAY 17 th	Reception meet the new teachers 8.55am – 9.20am
WEDNESDAY 18 th	- Year 5 St Oscar Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 19 th	
FRIDAY 20 th	- Year 5 Swimming - Fairtrade cake sale after school
MONDAY 23 rd	
TUESDAY 24 th	
WEDNESDAY 25 th	- Year 5 St Josephine Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm - Diabetes Screening for the whole school (must give consent)
THURSDAY 26 th	Year 2 Beach School Stone Age man visiting Year 3 in School Hall European Languages Day - celebrating languages spoken in school
FRIDAY 27 th	Year 5 Swimming
SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER	OCTOBER = MONTH OF THE ROSARY and BLACK HISTORY MONTH
MONDAY 30 th	
TUESDAY 1 st	PTA AGM 7pm - school hall. All welcome
WEDNESDAY 2 nd	- Year 4 St Cuthman Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 3 rd	Year 4 trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace
FRIDAY 4 th	Year 5 Swimming
SUNDAY 6 th	Grandparents Day
OCTOBER	
MONDAY 7 th	
TUESDAY 8 th	
WEDNESDAY 9 th	Year 4 St Lewinna Forest School am Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 10 th	- World Mental Health Day and World Homeless Day - Year 5 Beach School
FRIDAY 11 th	Year 5 Swimming Year 2 Beach School PTA Reception Welcome Disco 4.30pm – 5.45pm
MONDAY 14 th	Choir school trip to Glyndebourne
TUESDAY 15 th	9am - Reception Harvest. Forest School, parents welcome
WEDNESDAY 16 th	9am - Year 1 Harvest. Forest School, parents welcome - Year 3 St Martin Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 17 th	9am - Year 3, 4 and 5 Harvest mass, parents welcome (school uniform) - Flu Vaccination – all years
FRIDAY 18 th	9am - Year 2 Harvest. Forest School, parents welcome - Year 5 Swimming - Show Racism the Red Card Day - wear red today - Possible Year 3 & 4 PTA, after school film show – new addition. TBC
MONDAY 21 st	
TUESDAY 22 nd	- Year 6 Harvest Mass (with other schools), Newman. Children only (school uniform) - Parent Consultation phone calls and SEN 3.20pm - 6pm
WEDNESDAY 23 rd	Honeypot celebration - home clothes for selected children / class.
THURSDAY 24 th	- Individual and sibling school photographs - all to wear school uniform eg no Forest school or PE clothes - PTA uniform sale after school - items between £1 and £2 - Parent Consultation phone calls and SEN 3.20pm - 6pm - PTA Halloween Cake Sale after school – please bring in shop bought / homemade donations and leave them in the KS2 structure before school. Nothing containing nuts.
FRIDAY 25 th	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
THURSDAY 31 st	Closing date for secondary school applications
HALF TERM HOLIDAY Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November Outdoors Project Holiday Club on school field	

NOVEMBER	
MONDAY 4 th	
TUESDAY 5 th	9am -10am School Tours for Reception 2025
WEDNESDAY 6 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025 - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 7 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025
FRIDAY 8 th	- Year 5 Swimming - Donations of wine for the PTA Christmas Fair - Possible Year 1 & 2 PTA, after school film show – new addition. TBC
SUNDAY 10 th	World Science Day
MONDAY 11 th	- Anti-Bullying Week - wear odd socks - Remembrance Day (Remembrance Sunday is Sunday 10th) 9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025
TUESDAY 12 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025
WEDNESDAY 13 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025 - World Kindness Day - Year 2 St Patrick Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 14 th	
FRIDAY 15 th	- Year 5 Swimming - PTA Year 3 Welcome to KS2 Welcome Disco 4.30pm – 5.45pm - Children in Need - non school uniform in exchange for money towards collection
MONDAY 18 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025
TUESDAY 19 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025
WEDNESDAY 20 th	9am - 10am School Tours for Reception 2025 - Year 2 St Monica Forest School am - Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 21 st	
FRIDAY 22 nd	- Year 5 swimming - Year 5 and 6 PTA film show, after school. - Donations of toys, books etc that can be used at th PTA Advent fair
MONDAY 25 th	
TUESDAY 26 th	
WEDNESDAY 27 th	- Year 3 St Cecilia Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm - Choir to Brighton Centre (rehearsal in day and show in evening)
THURSDAY 28 th	1.30pm Years 3 – 6 Beauty and the Beast pantomime at school
FRIDAY 29 th	- Year 5 swimming - Donations of Christmas boxed biscuits and chocolates that can be used at the PTA Advent Fair.
DECEMBER	
MONDAY 2 nd	Advent begins
TUESDAY 3 rd	
WEDNESDAY 4 th	Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 5 th	Interactive Fairy Tale Show for Reception - Year 2. Fairytale costumes or party clothes for children in Reception only
FRIDAY 6 th	- Reception and Year 1 parent / carers Phonics workshop. School hall. 8.50am. - PTA Advent Fair, school hall and outside, 3.15pm – 4.45pm. School uniform day (or PE kit is usual PE day). Please bring donataions of cakes and sweet treats.
MONDAY 9 th	
TUESDAY 10 th	
WEDNESDAY 11 th	
THURSDAY 12 th	
FRIDAY 13 th	
MONDAY 16 th	Year 6 Nativity - 2.30pm
TUESDAY 17 th	- Year 2 Nativity - 9.15am - Year 5 Nativity - 2.30pm
WEDNESDAY 18 th	- Year 1 Nativity - 9.15am - Year 4 Nativity - 2.30pm - Christmas Dinners: KS2 (these year groups wear Christmas jumper / colourful clothes). All children in KS1 to bring a packed lunch this day. - Honeypot celebration
THURSDAY 19 th	- Reception Nativity - 9.15am - Christmas Dinners: KS1 (these year groups wear Christmas jumpers / colourful clothes). All children in KS2 to bring a packed lunch this day. - Y3 Nativity - 2.30pm - PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2
FRIDAY 20 th	- Class parties for all school and Father Christmas to visit Reception – Year 3. - School finishes for Christmas holidays
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January	