



14th June 2024

Dear parents / carers

Lectio Divina

Children in years 3, 5 and 6 took part In Lectio Divina this week. Lectio divina is a method for praying with the Scriptures. The Latin phrase "lectio divina" may be translated as "divine reading." The Scripture we reflected on this week was from **1 John 3:23**.

And this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us.

Lectio is a lovely activity to do as a family at home as it helps bring the Word (Bible) to life. One person reads the passage aloud followed by another who also reads the same passage aloud. All involved then read the passage for a third time, in their heads, to themselves. All then quietly reflect and meditate on what they have just read. After a period of quiet reflection, those who wish to, say a word, or phrase, that stands out to them aloud (no need to say why, just say the word or phrase aloud). After a further period of quiet reflection, the same, or different people can say why the part they thought of stands out to them and what it means to them. There are no right or wrong answers, it is a personal reflection. Finally, all involved share a prayer. The response from our children are always super – do try this at home and let us know how you find it.



Welcome New Families

We held a super Welcome Evening for families joining Reception in September 2024. It was a delight to welcome all 60 new families and show them their child's new classroom. Feedback was incredibly positive. As you know, we were one of a few Brighton and Hove schools to be oversubscribed by first preferences. We are very lucky given the current circumstances schools face with not enough children to fill spaces across the city. Every empty space results in a financial loss to the school which of course impacts what can be offered. We are in an even rarer position where we have a waiting list for the new Reception of 19 children. A true testament to all that our school community offers. Thank you for all your words of positivity about the school to prospective parents.



Spaces in the current Year 4 and maybe in the current Reception and Year 5

For September 2024, we have two places available for our current Year 4, moving to Year 5. This cohort never filled hence why we have the spaces.

We may also have one place for the current Reception, moving into Year 1 and possibly one in Year 5, moving to Year 6 although these can't be guaranteed.

If you know anyone new to the area who may need a place, please do ask them to get in touch as soon as possible. Thank you for all your help.

Heathy Eating

This week was Healthy Eating Week. Reception have been learning all about healthy food choices and how to have a balanced diet. They made links with their Design and Technology focus of using tools safely and efficiently in order to prepare their own fruit kebabs. Children worked in small groups to learn how to hold a knife correctly as well as having a go at chopping up different fruits. Children then all sat together and enjoyed them. Yum!



Summer Fair – we need your help!

Please support for our Summer Fair on Friday 12th July.

We are excited to announce that our amazing PTA team, Friends of Cottesmore Primary (FOCP), is hosting our annual Summer Fair for our children and their families.

The event will be held on the school field on Friday 12th July 3.10pm - 5.00 pm. In preparation for this, we have some important dates of upcoming events to share.

Upcoming events:

- Friday 28th June - Please bring in a bottle of wine (or other). Please leave these in the shelter on the KS2 playground.
- Friday 5th July – Please bring in boxed chocolates and leave in the shelter on the KS2 playground.

If you would like to help out in any way at these events, including ideas for stalls, helping run a stall, helping setting up or clearing down, please email:

friendsofcottesmoreprimary@gmail.com

Thank you for all your continued support. We cannot wait to enjoy this exciting event with you all!



Thank you for all your support. Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Change to School Day start time from Sept

Government recommendations note that our school day (8.45am – 3.10pm) should be lengthened by 5 minutes in order to fall in line with national expectations.

From September, our school day will be changed from 8.45am - 3.10pm to 8.40am – 3.10pm.

Basically, starting the school day 5 minutes earlier.

Radinden Manor gate will be opened at 8.30am for a free flow into school and will be 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. Pick up at 3.10pm remains as usual as do all club pick up times.

 **School Term Dates 2024/25**

	Autumn 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Autumn 2025
Monday	5.9.24	1.12.24	1.3.25	1.10.25
Tuesday	6.9.24	2.12.24	2.3.25	2.10.25
Wednesday	7.9.24	3.12.24	3.3.25	3.10.25
Thursday	8.9.24	4.12.24	4.3.25	4.10.25
Friday	9.9.24	5.12.24	5.3.25	5.10.25
Saturday	10.9.24	6.12.24	6.3.25	6.10.25
Sunday	11.9.24	7.12.24	7.3.25	7.10.25

	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
Monday	1.1.25	1.2.25	1.3.25	1.4.25
Tuesday	2.1.25	2.2.25	2.3.25	2.4.25
Wednesday	3.1.25	3.2.25	3.3.25	3.4.25
Thursday	4.1.25	4.2.25	4.3.25	4.4.25
Friday	5.1.25	5.2.25	5.3.25	5.4.25
Saturday	6.1.25	6.2.25	6.3.25	6.4.25
Sunday	7.1.25	7.2.25	7.3.25	7.4.25

	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025
Monday	1.5.25	1.6.25	1.7.25	1.8.25
Tuesday	2.5.25	2.6.25	2.7.25	2.8.25
Wednesday	3.5.25	3.6.25	3.7.25	3.8.25
Thursday	4.5.25	4.6.25	4.7.25	4.8.25
Friday	5.5.25	5.6.25	5.7.25	5.8.25
Saturday	6.5.25	6.6.25	6.7.25	6.8.25
Sunday	7.5.25	7.6.25	7.7.25	7.8.25

	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025
Monday	1.9.25	1.10.25	1.11.25	1.12.25
Tuesday	2.9.25	2.10.25	2.11.25	2.12.25
Wednesday	3.9.25	3.10.25	3.11.25	3.12.25
Thursday	4.9.25	4.10.25	4.11.25	4.12.25
Friday	5.9.25	5.10.25	5.11.25	5.12.25
Saturday	6.9.25	6.10.25	6.11.25	6.12.25
Sunday	7.9.25	7.10.25	7.11.25	7.12.25

 Half-term
 School holidays
 Bank holiday
 First day of each Half-Term

Phonics Screening and Times Table Check plus lined homework reminders

Well done to children in Year 1 who took part in their Government arranged Phonic Screening Check this week. In addition, well done to children in Year 4 who took part in their Government arranged Multiplication Tables Check. We will share their results with you by the end of the school year (we are yet to hear). A reminder that we ask all children in Reception and Year 1 to engage with the phonics videos that are sent home weekly. These videos are excellent as they are mini lessons that don't require a great deal of parental input. Completing these a couple of times a week, benefits children hugely. Our Times Tables RockStars app is also a really useful tool for helping children to learn their tables, and the inverse operation eg division fact, rapidly, which is what they need to do for the screening. We ask that all families work on times tables (from Year 2 upwards), daily. You may prefer to do this by rote. We encourage all families to engage with phonics videos and times tables regularly. Being able to recall phonic facts and times table facts rapidly helps with fluent reading or fluent maths no end. In order to minimise screen time, we suggest swapping these for a game that your child plays at home as these are much more beneficial to their education.

Uniform

Thank you for sending your child to school in the correct uniform. A reminder of some aspects that sometimes seem to be the most problematic for families are -

GREY SOCKS

- GREY socks or GREY tights when wearing grey trousers, skirts or shorts.
- White socks are permitted for those wearing the checked summer dress.
- Socks must be knee length or just above the ankle. Sports socks and trainer socks are not permitted.
- GREY socks are to be worn for PE also.
- We suggest that families buy a pack of at least 5 GREY pairs of socks so they have one pair for every day of the week. For families who are potentially unable to do this, please do get in touch so we can offer support.

BLACK FOOTWEAR

- Plain smart BLACK shoes or trainers that are BLACK in their entirety eg no white logos or coloured names or markings.
- Parents of children wearing trainers with coloured logos or words will be contacted and expected to provide a pair that are completely black.
- Canvas shoes are not permitted. Black boots, ankle or full length, are also not permitted and again, families will be asked to provide alternatives if these are worn. For families who are potentially unable to do this, please do get in touch so we can offer support via stock from our seconds uniform shop.
- In winter, boots can be worn to school however, children will then need to change into their school shoes when in the building. During summer, sandals may be worn. Sandals must have covered toes and straps that secure the ankle. These must be worn with socks.

NAVY PE BOTTOMS

- NAVY shorts or tracksuit bottoms for PE. For families who are potentially unable to do this, please do get in touch so we can offer support via stock from our seconds uniform shop.

The PTA 'second hand uniform shop' takes place every half term and nearly new items, at incredibly reasonable prices, can be purchased. We are also here to help any families who may need help sourcing / funding uniform. Please get in touch if you need.

Labelling Uniform - My Nametags

For all uniform, we suggest that all items (tops, bottoms, shoes, book bags, water bottles etc) are clearly named and we recommend stickers from My Nametags www.mynametags.com. With My Nametags, you can design iron on or sticker labels that don't come off. A sheet of 21 Labels costs £11.95 with additional sheets costing £9.95 per set. **If you order from here, please use our School ID: 22539 as we get money back for every purchase made**



MONDAY 17th	Islam fortnight (17th – 28th June)
TUESDAY 18th	
WEDNESDAY 19th	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (19th – 21st) - Year 5 St Josephine Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa Forest School pm
THURSDAY 20th	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (19th – 21st) - Refugee Day
FRIDAY 21st	- Year 6 – Residential trip to Marchants Hill (19th – 21st) - New Reception Starters Teddy Bear's picnic 1.30pm – 2.30pm
MONDAY 24th	
TUESDAY 25th	Year 5 Activity Day at E3 Adventures
WEDNESDAY 26th	- Class / Leaver photos with JP Photographic - Sussex Police Youth Team Officers visiting Year 6
THURSDAY 27th	
FRIDAY 28th	- Year 5 Swimming - Please bring in a bottle of wine (or other) for the Summer Fair. Please leave these in the shelter on the KS2 playground. School uniform worn as usual.
JULY	
MONDAY 1st	Year 5 Cycle Bikeability
TUESDAY 2nd	Year 5 Cycle Bikeability
WEDNESDAY 3rd	- Year 5 Cycle Bikeability - New Reception storytime sessions. Group A 10.30am – 11.30am and Group B 1.30pm – 2.20pm - Year 6 St Maximilian Forest School am - Year 1 St Teresa & Year 1 St George Forest School pm
THURSDAY 4th	- Year 5 Cycle Bikeability - First Holy Communion Mass and breakfast for children in Year 3 and 4
FRIDAY 5th	- Year 6 Transition Day with secondary schools - Year 5 Cycle Bikeability - Reports and new classes to go out - Please bring in boxed chocolates for the Summer Fair. Please leave these in the shelter on the KS2 playground. School uniform worn as usual.
SATURDAY 6th	Faith in action Mass Arundel
MONDAY 8th	
TUESDAY 9th	First Holy Communion Buddy Mass for all in Years 2, 3 and 4. 9am. Parents welcome.
WEDNESDAY 10th	- Year 4 St Lewinna Forest School am - Year 6 St Benedict Forest School pm - Meet new teacher sessions
THURSDAY 11th	Year 3 Beach School
FRIDAY 12th	- Year 6 Dress Rehearsal to School - Summer Fair 3pm - 5pm.
SATURDAY 14th	
MONDAY 15th	
TUESDAY 16th	Year 6 show to parents at 1.15pm and 6pm
WEDNESDAY 17th	Honeypot Party
THURSDAY 18th	- PTA uniform sale after school – items between £1 and £2 - Sports Day sessions for KS2 (parents welcome) 9.15am – 10.45am Year 3 and 4 1.15pm – 2.45pm Year 5 and 6
FRIDAY 19th	- Sports Day sessions for KS1 (parents welcome) 9.15am – 10.15am Reception 10.30am – 11.30am Year 1 1.30pm – 2.30pm Year 2 - Year 6 leaver's disco 4.30pm until 6pm (children only unless parent helpers)
MONDAY 22nd	
TUESDAY 23rd	9.15am – 10.15am Year 6 Leavers mass, followed by a picnic until 12pm - Last day of term – school closed for summer