

## Cottingham Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Ashley Scott

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Dear Parent/Carer,

### Welcome Back

It is almost time for the children to return to school for the 2023/24 academic year. The staff and I have been preparing for their return over the last week or so. You will be pleased to hear that during our two INSET days, the staff were brought up to speed with relevant safeguarding training amongst other important information sharing. The school has been cleaned, classes prepared and is ready to welcome the children back. We also welcome Mrs McGeown to Ash class and have new pupils joining in year 3 and year 6. I am sure that they will all receive an amazing Cottingham welcome.

During INSET, I discussed pupil numbers with staff and explained that we are FULL in KS1 and that I have had to turn away new children of whom some are on the waiting list. Having an almost full school (Places in years 3 & 6 available) comes with hard work and is testament to the Cottingham community all working together. I have also had requests for tours for children starting in September 2024!! Please do spread the word.

I am sure that the children, just like the staff, have mixed emotions regarding to starting school tomorrow. I am excited to begin my seventh year at Cottingham, a time that I have shared with most of the year 6 pupils. I remember there just being 12 back in reception. Currently, we have 18 year 6 children on roll. As always, the staff will ensure that the children are looked after and leave school tomorrow with happy faces after a busy first day back. Looks likely to be a warm one!

I hope that you all had amazing holidays and I will endeavour to discuss memories with the children. I was fortunate to spend a lovely holiday in a very hot and sunny Crete. I then spent some day camping in both Kent and Norfolk during which time I luckily dodged the rain. Maybe some of you visited Hamerton Zoo during the break? Mrs Southcombe has been busy today finalising details for the KS2 visit there on Monday. Thank you for the payments received thus far. Please do remember to pay and return permission slips this week. Due to the early departure on Monday, we will not be able to ring around chasing permission etc.

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COMMUNITY



WINNER

GOLD WINNER



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Our IT technicians are busy behind the scenes working on all things IT. This included updating Teams and Parentmail etc. Normally, class news and termly planners etc would be uploaded to Teams. I am unable to do that currently. In the meantime, please access your child's class news or termly planner and spellings via the school website. The [links below](#) will allow you to navigate to the various documents (Y1-6). Although all staff are keen to begin teaching and learning in full tomorrow, do not worry if you have not quite managed to get PE kits together for example. Children will be able to join in with PE where in their kit or not this week. If you have any questions, please do catch up with your child's class teacher. The documents will be uploaded to Teams, when possible, to do so.

During the Autumn term, Mrs Wason and Mrs Lloyd will be trialling a new spelling programme that will allow interactive learning to take place at home to coincide with what is being taught in school. You can find the spellings for this trial via the link below. For the time being, children in Willow, Ash and Oak will follow the spelling lists also available via the link. Staff will begin to bring in weekly assessments ('tests') of the children's spelling knowledge so any support at home will assist with the progress that the children make. As always, thank you for your support.

Class News - [Newsletters - Cottingham Primary](#)

Termly Overviews - [Medium Term Overviews - Cottingham Primary](#)

Autumn Spellings - [Literacy - Cottingham Primary](#)

It won't be long before I am sending the first weekly news of the term which I look forward to doing so. Please note that there will be no certificates handed out at our special worship on Friday. If the children would like to share any awards received during the holidays, then we would love to see them. As always, you are invited to worship on a Friday from 2:45 (2:55 start). Please be reminded of the earlier start to a school day of 08:45/08:55 and the later end of the school day at 3:25.

See you all soon!

Mr Scott

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