



## **Cockfield Primary School Newsletter**

### **February Half Term 2021**

#### **Message from Mrs Costello (Headteacher)**

Happy Half Term! It's certainly been an interesting start to 2021 and not the one that we expected, but I think we've pulled together really well and there have been so many positives. I wanted to start by saying a huge thank you to the staff who have been amazing and have worked so hard both in school and remotely to make sure that the children have continued their education in these difficult times.

I also wanted to thank parents and carers for persevering with the remote learning, I know it isn't easy and everyone has their own individual challenges and circumstances, but I have been so impressed with what is happening at home. It's lovely to be able to check in with the children on-line and to see how well they are doing. We currently have over 90% engagement from our children which is fantastic when you think that in January only one class had ever logged in from home.

Thank you to everyone who completed our parental questionnaire on the quality of our remote learning offer, it has been a really steep learning curve for everyone and we are always looking to improve. Your opinions are really helpful and I have posted a response on our school website. For anyone who is still struggling at home please get in touch after half term. This week we ordered a small number of laptops from the DFE to support home learning so if children are sharing at home please let us know and we will try our best to help.

We currently have no further details on what the return to school will look like and I appreciate how frustrating this is for parents. We have been given a date of March 8<sup>th</sup> but no further information has been released as yet, the government have promised us a two week lead in so we are hoping to know more after half term. As with everything since the start of the pandemic, school leaders find out everything at the same time as everyone else from the daily briefings and the guidance follows afterwards. We will share our plans with parents as soon as we have more information. I'm sure like us, you are desperate to have all the children back in school safely and we are really looking forward to welcoming them all back.

There will be no remote learning set over half term – please take the time to relax, unwind and enjoy spending time together as a family. Do remember that the lockdown rules are still in place and we expect families will continue to keep themselves and each other safe by abiding by these rules.

We will remain contactable over the half term break in order to manage cases of COVID. Please use the email address [cockfield@durhamlearning.net](mailto:cockfield@durhamlearning.net) in order to inform school if your child tests positive for coronavirus. We have a duty to continue to report these cases to Public Health England for the purposes of Track and Trace.

Wishing you all a safe and restful half term break,

Take care,

*Mrs Costello (Headteacher)*