



Dear parents and carers,

Attendance newsletter:

I am writing to underline the importance of good attendance in school. Pupils who attend well are more likely to grow in confidence and make strong friendships. They are also more likely to achieve higher grades in tests.

At Cotmanhay Junior School we currently describe **good attendance** as **95% +**

Poor attendance is below 95%

Persistent absence is attendance that is below 90%

We also expect pupils to be **on time**. The doors open at 0830 each morning. After 0845 pupils are marked as late. If pupils arrive too late, they are marked as absent for that session.

Rewards

We reward good attendance in the following ways:

- Pupils with 100% attendance are put in to a class prize draw each week. One winner from each class gets to choose a gift from the prize cupboard
- Each full term all pupils with attendance over 95% are put into a prize draw with the winner receiving £100 and ten runners up receiving £10
- Each week the class with the best attendance get extra playtime
- Each term the class with the best attendance get a bigger reward e.g. a film afternoon
- Pupils who attend on their birthday receive a prize – as compensation for being in school on their birthday!!

If your child's attendance falls below 90% we may send you a letter. Our open offer is to work with families to help their child's attendance improve.

We'll look forward to seeing our attendance rise this year and all our children learning more and making great friends in school!

Simon Robinson – headteacher@cotmanhay-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Important Dates



Thursday 1st October
COMPASS MHST – family event

Thursday 15th October
Year 3 and parent/carer reading event 1400-1500

Monday 19th October
Individual pupil photos

Tuesday 20th October
Harvest Assembly parents invited – Y3/4 0900

Wednesday 21st October
Harvest Assembly parents invited – Y5/6 0900

Year 3 trip – Heights of Abraham

Thursday 22nd October
Year 6 trip – Cadbury World

Friday 23rd October
INSET day – school closed

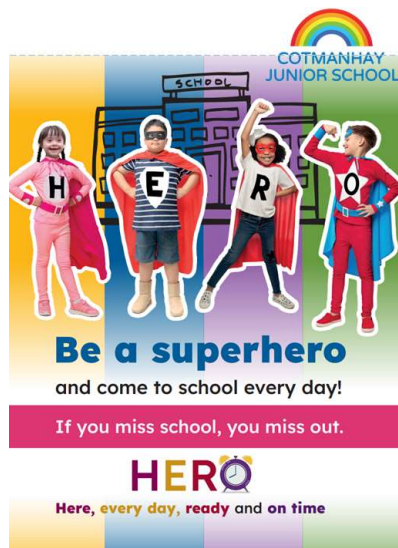
Week beginning Monday 26th October
Half term

Monday 2nd November
First day back – term 2

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Is your child an attendance hero??

Good attendance is **more than 95%**



In order to secure good attendance, it is vital that you do not take holidays during term time.

**Please do not book term time holidays.
There is a good chance you will receive
a penalty notice fine from the council.**

Our target for all pupils is 95% attendance. They should be in school, on time, every day!!!

'Starbooks Cafe'

We have had a great start to our 'Starbooks Cafe'. We have had over 100 customers in week one and 72 in week 2. That being said, there is always room for improvement! **We want ALL children to attend.** This is achieved by **reading at home 4 times per week** and is evidenced through reading diaries being signed by an adult.



Reminder about jewellery

Jewellery in school should be limited to a pair of ear studs. These should be removed for swimming lessons and PE.

No other jewellery should be worn in school. Pupils may be asked to remove overt necklaces, chains, bracelets or rings. As a rule we do not accept tape over earrings for sports.

We thank all parents for supporting this policy. If any parent would like to discuss this on an individual basis, please email Mr Robinson on the email address overleaf.

Term dates for 2026-7

- 4 September 2026 to 23 October 2026
- 2 November 2026 to 18 December 2026
- 4 January 2027 to 12 February 2027
- 22 February 2027 to 25 March 2027
- 12 April 2027 to 28 May 2027 (3 May 2027 is a bank holiday)
- 7 June 2027 to 26 July 2027

Inset days – school closed for pupils:

- Friday 23rd October
- Friday 18th December
- Friday 28th May
- Monday 26th July

Additional dates

Monday 2nd November

Parents' evening

Tuesday 3rd November

Parents' evening

Wednesday 9th December

Cotmanhay Café – Christmas crafts
Christmas dinner

Monday 14th December

Christmas Fair

Thursday 17th December

Last day of term 2