



CG SCHOOL NEWS

Acceptance Perseverance Respect Independence Achievement

Oct 2026

DIARY DATES

October

Friday 2nd – Year 3 Portsmouth Historic Dockyard Trip
Monday 5th – 5G Queen Elizabeth Country Park Trip
Tuesday 6th – 5W Queen Elizabeth Country Park Trip
Friday 9th – World Mental Health Day
Monday 12th – Y5 Forces Workshop
Tuesday 13th – Y1 Geography Local Walk
Wednesday 14th – Nursery Come and Play (AM 10–11AM, PM 2:00–3:00PM)
Thursday 15th – Y2 Parent Assembly
Friday 16th – Disco Tickets Deadline
Monday 19th – Maths Parents Workshop
Wednesday 21st – YR Open Day 2–3PM, KS1 Disco 4–5PM, KS2 Disco 5:15–6:15PM
Friday 23rd – Poetry Competition
WEEK BEGINNING 26th – HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 31st – Secondary School Application Deadline

November

Monday 2nd – CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL
Tuesday 3rd – YR Open Day 9:15AM
Wednesday 4th – 6C Fort Nelson
Friday 6th – Individual School Photographs
Monday 9th – 5G Winchester Science Museum Trip
Tuesday 10th – 5W Winchester Science Museum Trip, 2B Cumberland House Butterfly Museum & Gardens Trip
Wednesday 11th – Remembrance Day; 2C Cumberland House Butterfly Museum & Gardens Trip
Thursday 12th – YR Health Screenings
Friday 13th – 6F Fort Nelson
Week Beginning Monday 16th – Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 16th – YR Open Day 4–5PM
Friday 20th – Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need; Whole School Flu Immunisations; Y6 3D Printing Workshop
Monday 30th – Whole School Panto: Cinderella, Year 4 Anglo-Saxons History Workshop



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers and Wonderful Children,

The new school year is now well underway, and it has been a pleasure to see our pupils settling quickly into their new classes, growing in confidence and embracing new challenges. Classrooms have been full of purposeful learning, and it is lovely to see pupils taking pride in their work and supporting one another.

This month, we are also inviting parents and carers to help shape the future of our school by completing our Vision and Values survey. Your views are incredibly important to us, and we would be grateful if you could take a few moments to share your thoughts. By working together, we can ensure that our values going forward reflect the aspirations of our pupils, families and wider community.

As the weather becomes cooler, please ensure that children come to school with a suitable coat each day and that all items of clothing are clearly named. This helps us return lost property quickly and keeps children comfortable during outdoor activities.

A reminder too that regular attendance is vital in helping children make the best possible progress. Being in school every day gives children the best opportunity to learn, develop friendships and make the most of everything on offer.

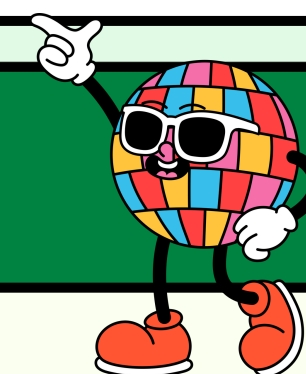
I wish all our families a wonderful October and look forward to celebrating another month of achievements across the school.

With my warm regards,

Mr Branscombe



School Disco



We will be holding our KS1 and KS2 school discos on 21st October 2026! These popular events are always a highlight of the school year, giving children the chance to have fun with their friends, enjoy some music and dancing and create special memories that will last for years to come.



The timings are as follows:
KS1 (Y1–3) – 4:00–5:00PM
KS2 (Y4–6) – 5:15–6:15PM

The tickets are £3.00 per child and can be purchased on the Arbor Parents App, under School Trips. If you have any technical issues with this, contact the school office and they can help. The deadline to purchase tickets is Friday 16th October.

Have a look at the poster attached to this newsletter to learn more about the activities to expect for the children to enjoy!

World Mental Health Day



Friday 9th October is World Mental Health Day. To spread positivity, we invite all children to wear a crazy hat or hairstyle to make people smile!

Our Mental Health Ambassadors will also be running a poster competition. Children are invited to design a poster that promotes positivity, kindness and good mental health. Top tip – make sure children write their name and class on the back of their entry before giving theirs to Miss Light by Thursday 15th October.

@COTTAGEGROVEPRIMARY

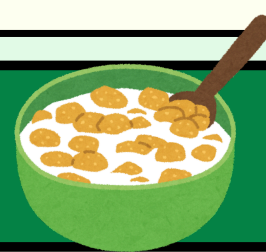


Check Your Junk/ Spam Email Folders!

We have heard from many parents that, since the summer holidays, some school emails are being delivered to their Junk or Spam folders rather than their main inboxes.

Our Gateway Trust IT team is currently investigating the issue and working towards a resolution. In the meantime, we strongly recommend for parents to keep checking your Junk and Spam folders to prevent you from missing out on important school communication.

Free Breakfast Club



Our free breakfast club has been up-and-running for a month, and it has been a really positive start! The children are really enjoying their time starting the day with their friends and a yummy bowl of cereal.

We still have spaces for more children to attend, so if you would like to try it out and see if it is a good fit for you and your family, we welcome you with open arms!

To register, all you need to do is complete a free breakfast club form. These can be found in the school office. Once registered, you can book your child's breakfast club sessions on the Arbor app.

Staffing Update – Welcome to the Team!

We are delighted to welcome our new Learning Support Assistant, Mrs Sultana, who will be working with the children in 4P. Mrs Sultana joins a dedicated and supportive team who are pleased to have her part of our school community, and we know the children will look forward to getting to know her!

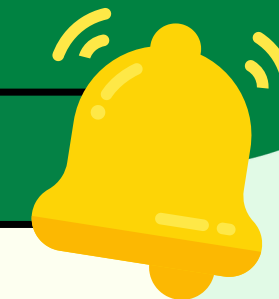
Kids With Bricks After-School Club



Bookings are now open for our Kids With Bricks after school club running from 3:15–4:15 every Wednesday for 7 weeks from 4th November 2026. This club is for Years 2–6 and there is a maximum of 20 places available. This club is organised, administered, and supported by Kids With Bricks Ltd, an external provider who deliver after school clubs across the UK.

The club costs \$4.50 +VAT per child per session and is paid for termly in advance. All club places are reserved and paid for online. Just go to www.kidswithbricks.com to book your child's place.

Secondary School Applications



A reminder that the window for secondary school applications is now open.

The closing date for applications is Friday 31st October 2026. Applications **MUST** be completed by then in order to guarantee your child a place.

Applications can be made online via the Portsmouth City Council website – this can be found [here](#).



Vision and Values

If you would like to collaborate with us to help shape our school's Vision and Values for the future, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Parents interested in joining our working group are invited to contact the school office at admin@cottagegrove.co.uk.

We have also shared a [survey](#) with parents asking for your feedback. We are really grateful for your support!

Open Days – Year R

September 2026 may seem like a long ways away, but if you have a child who is due to start school then, you may find that the time goes by in a flash!

We are holding a set of Year R open events that will give prospective parents an opportunity to visit the school to see what we can offer. These will take place on:

Wednesday 21st October: 2PM

Tuesday 3rd November: 9:15AM

Monday 16th November: 4PM

Thursday 14th January: 11:00AM

Please see our attached Open Day flyer for more details. If you would like to book session, please let the school office know.

October Half-Term

Remember that school is closed for the week beginning Monday October 26th for our annual October half-term break. Pupils will return to school on Monday 2nd October.

We hope you enjoy a safe and pleasant week with family!





COTTAGE GROVE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
& NURSERY

Cottage Grove Primary School and Nursery

Is your child due to start school in September 2027?

Arrange a visit to come and see us at one of our open days and see how we can support your child and you during their time at school.



Wednesday

21st October, 2:00



Monday

16th November, 4:00



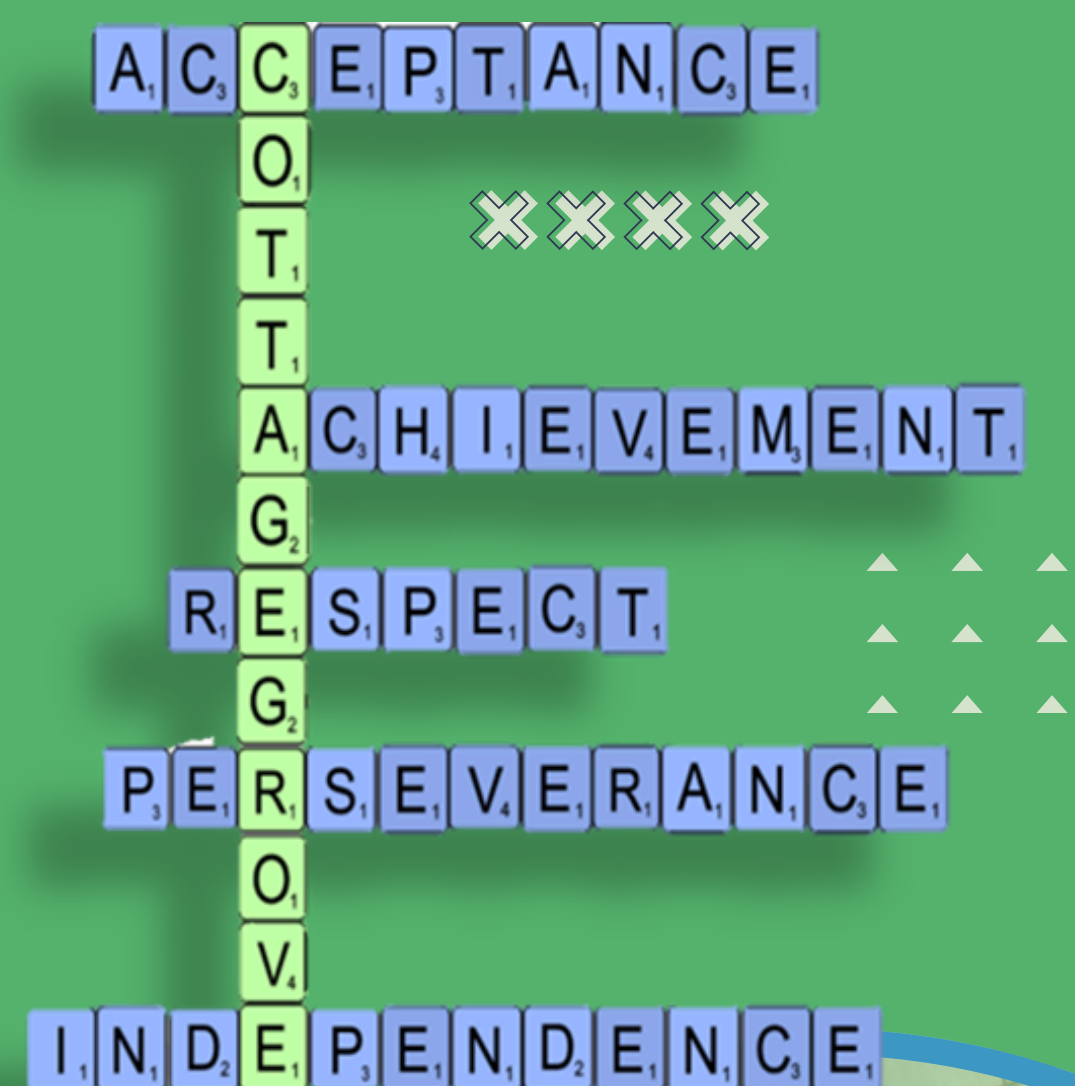
Tuesday

3rd November, 11:00



Thursday

14th January, 11:00



TO BOOK...

admin@cottagegrove.co.uk
02392 341133



www.cottagegrove.co.uk

Website



Social Media



LET'S DANCE! DISCO!



Wednesday 21st

Years 1/2/3 = 4 - 5pm

Years 4/5/6 = 5.15 - 6.15pm

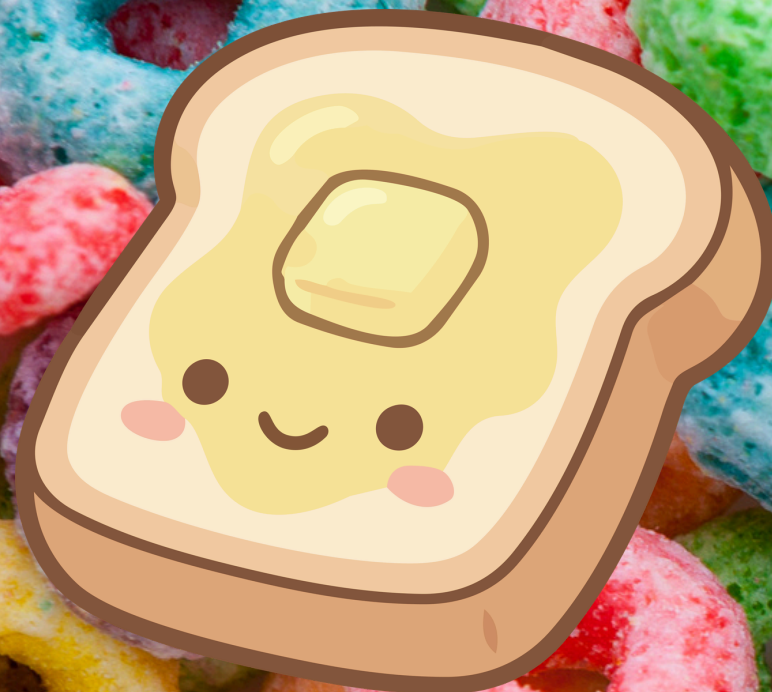
Tickets available on Arbor.

**All tickets must be purchased by
Friday 16th October.**

Disco, face painting, nail painting, temporary
tattoos, games, glow sticks, sweets and much
more!

Bring spare change with you!

£3 PER CHILD



COTTAGE GROVE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
& NURSERY



**FREE
BREAKFAST
CLUBS**



**Funded by
UK Government**

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB

Free for *ALL* YR-6 children!

Starts 8AM before every
school day in the main hall.

**Registration forms available
in the school office. Please
complete this before your
child attends.**



CHANCE TO SHINE
STREET

FREE STREET CRICKET IN PORTSMOUTH

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 8-16

Girls Only Soft Ball

Mondays 4:30-5:30pm

Tom Prince Sports Centre at Priory School
Fawcett Road, PO4 ODL

Ages 8-12 Soft Ball

Fridays 5-6pm

Tom Prince Sports Centre at Priory School
Fawcett Road, PO4 ODL

Ages 12-16 Tape Ball

Tuesdays 5:30-7pm

Tom Prince Sports Centre at Priory School
Fawcett Road, Portsmouth, PO4 ODL

To register or for more information, please contact **Sam Moss**
via sam.moss@utilitabowl.com or call **07384115633**