



The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge welcome back to all of you! I hope that all of you managed to have an enjoyable summer with your children and, like us, are looking forward with great excitement to the new, academic year ahead. It has brought my Deputy: Mrs. Ashwell, Assistant Head: Mr. Laight and me a huge amount of pleasure to stand on the gates at the beginning and end of the day in order to welcome both our children and their families. From the school point of view, your children have returned brilliantly. They look really smart and their attitude has been fantastic. You can be really proud of them all! Well done children - a great start to the year!



Linked to the above, I sincerely hope that your children have come home feeling positive about the way that Nursery and School has started for them. If there have been any wobbles though, please remember that it is early days and that things always tend to settle once the children are used to new routines and faces. However, if this doesn't happen after a week or two, please speak to your child's Class Teacher and we can talk about what additional support can be put in place.

Parent and Carer Information Evenings next week:

We are greatly looking forward to seeing you all at next week's Parent and Carers information evenings for Years 1-6 where you will receive all of the information that you require regarding the year ahead e.g. your child's class timetable, vital curriculum information, homework expectations and trip details. I can't stress enough how important these sessions are in fully understanding what your child's year is going to look like. These sessions will prepare you fully and enable you to ask any questions you may have as well as ensuring that you aren't 'in the dark' about anything which is the last thing that we would want. Entry to school will be through the front office.

The days and timings of these sessions, **which will be held in your child's classroom**, are as follows:

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| Year 3: Tuesday 9 th September | 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm |
| Year 4: Tuesday 9 th September | 6.10 pm – 6.40 pm |
| Year 1: Wednesday 10 th September | 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm |
| Year 5: Wednesday 10 th September | 6.10 pm – 6.40 pm |
| Year 2: Thursday 11 th September | 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm |
| Year 6: Thursday 11 th September | 6.10 pm – 6.40 pm |

***Please note that these information evenings are for Parents and Carers only - we are unable to accommodate children as well or provide childcare. Out of fairness to other Parents and Carers, please ensure that you adhere to this stipulation. If for some reason you can't attend, please speak to your child's Class Teacher as soon as you can - thank you. ***

The Coppice Way:

This week in school, all of your child's teachers and me, through my assemblies, have again started the year by talking to the children about our whole-school behaviour approach, which, as you know, is called '**The Coppice Way**'. Your child may well have mentioned some of this learning at home and it's great if they have.

As you know, at The Coppice, we work hard to ensure that all of our children have a clear and consistent behaviour approach and expectation that they all understand. Therefore, importantly, we spend a lot of time explaining to the children **WHY** we have the routines, values and expectations that we have as a school i.e. ensuring that our school is a calm, safe, happy place where everyone has the conditions they need to all learn without distraction and where everyone has equal respect for one another. This means equal respect for all of the adults in school (whatever their role) and for all other children regardless of whether they are their year - group peers or not.

The whole system is based around ensuring that our children understand exactly what being '**Ready, Responsible and Respectful**' means and what these values actually look like in all aspects of school life. Alongside these '**3Rs**', we have other distinctive school mantras that run alongside these e.g. '**Dress to impress**', '**Fantastic walking**' and '**First time every time**' so that the children hear the same consistent messages.

I have also talked to the children in my assemblies this week about our **Coppice 'drivers'**, which are the elements that we strive to ensure all of our children achieve and demonstrate during their time with us. These are to '**Aim high**' (have ambition); '**Know more**' (seek and gain knowledge); '**Ask questions**' (be curious); '**Keep Going**' (be resilient); and '**Be kind**' (show empathy).

Please discuss these aspects of school life with your children and, where possible, reinforce the importance of them for your child to achieve their potential and be the best version of themselves that they can be every day.

In my assemblies, I also talked to the children about their hopes and dreams, both in the short and long-term. We talked about how it's great to dream big and strive for these dreams, and how for some people e.g. our ex-pupil: Lloyd Glasspool, who won a Wimbledon Doubles title this summer, they can come true! What I impressed on the children though is that you have to be prepared to work hard enough for your dreams - they don't just happen! So many children this week have caught me to tell me their hopes and dreams, which has been a real highlight of my week!

OPAL Play - Our Second Year!

In assemblies next week, Mrs. Ashwell and Miss. Carter will be speaking to the children about the continued implementation of our OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning) provision which we will be continuing with over the course of this academic year. Those of you who came to the OPAL Open Days last academic year, will know that the overriding aim of is to provide a fantastic lunchtime play experience for all of the children in our school through a much greater range of activities and play opportunities.

The majority of the new editions on our playgrounds e.g. storage sheds and climbing domes have been provided by our wonderful Parents and Teachers Association (PTA), which is why it is so important that you continue to support these events or even volunteer your time to help at events.

OPAL really has been a fantastic addition to our school and it has revolutionised the playtime experience for our children. The great news too is that we are only one year in! We signed up for a three year journey so there is still much more to come and you will continue to visually see and hear about new changes as they are implemented. Another exciting year of playground and playtime developments awaits your children!

That just leaves me to wish you all a lovely weekend with your children. Welcome back and we look forward to working closely in partnership with you all over the course of the year and seeing you all at next week's Parent Information Evenings.

Kind regards,

Mr. Hutt (Headteacher)

Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate

***The first 'Star of The Week' hot chocolate reward with Mr. Hutt and Mrs. Ashwell (Reception to Year 6) will be on Wednesday 17th September.**

This means that the first class 'Star of The week' will be decided by Class Teachers on Friday 12th September.*

Mr. Hutt and Mrs. Ashwell once again look forward to celebrating with the 'Stars of The Week' and to the children again voting on who gets to do the washing up! :-)

Music Listening and Appreciation

This week's playlist was -

New Beginnings:

- 1) Matthew West - Day One (2015)
- 2) Willow Smith - I Am Me (2012)
- 3) Lira - Feel Good (2006)

Next week's playlist is -

Time Signatures:

- 1) Patti Page - Tennessee Waltz (1950)
- 2) Mikis Theodorakis - Zorba's Dance (1964)
- 3) The Beatles - All You Need is Love (1967)
- 4) Aretha Franklin - I Say a Little Prayer (1968)