



The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a good week and are looking forward to the weekend with your children. It's been a really exciting week at The Coppice and there is a great deal to share with you all.

Science Day and Wild Workshop:

On Tuesday, it was impossible not to notice the enthusiasm for Science from all the children who were fully engaged in practical experiments and investigations that teachers had planned for each year group. Thank you to all the staff involved for arranging such an engaging day, especially our Science Leaders: Miss. Dixon and Mrs. Robinson.

As part of our Science Day celebrations on Tuesday, we had an exciting visit from **Wild Workshop**, a minibeast focused company. The session allowed pupils to get up close to spiders, a toad, and mice while learning fascinating facts and understanding why these tiny creatures are so important in keeping our natural environment healthy.

The children discovered that while some animals, like the mouse, may seem especially cute and easy to love, others might not appear as appealing at first glance, but these play an important role in the food chain. However, they learned that every creature plays a vital role in the ecosystem.

The key message of the visit was that all living things, even the "ugly" minibeast, deserve our kindness and respect because each one helps sustain the balance of British wildlife.

If Parents and Carers want to learn more about supporting British Wildlife or ideas to encourage observing environmental changes, accessing the *Wild Workshop Community* page on social media is a great place to start!



Science Projects:

It has been wonderful to see so many optional science projects coming into school over the course of the past week and it is clear just how many children we have who are extremely passionate about science. I think you will all agree from looking at the photos below that there has been a fantastic response to this competition from the children and the range of projects from across the school has been wonderful to see.

As I always say, this is testament to the children's own passion for science but also the fantastic job that we do as a school in terms of our science curriculum and wider scientific opportunities.



Science Project Winners:

Because of the huge response that we had to the Science project competition, it was a VERY difficult task to decide on the winners. Thankfully, I had the help of one of our school Trustees: Jack Stables, who oversees our Science provision in school, and Miss. Dixon to support me with this task. Eventually, after much deliberation, we were able to decide on this year's winners. The winning entries and names of the children can be seen below:

Early Years (N and YR):



**Alice H
RKB**

KS1 (Years 1 and 2):



**Oscar
W
1D**

Lower KS2 (Years 3 and 4):



**Norah
C
3K**

Upper KS2 (Years 5 & 6):



**Freya
D
5GB**

Author Serena Patel visits The Coppice!

On Monday afternoon, author Serena Patel visited our school to talk to our Year 3,4,5 and 6 children. Serena is the author of the *Anisha, Accidental Detective* series, which has won the Sainsbury's Children's Book Award, The Week Junior Book Award and the Crimefest Best Novel for Children. Recently, she launched her new series, *Pia's Pet Club*, and was a featured author for this year's World Book Day.

In our assembly, Serena discussed several topics, including the inspirations for her books, the journey of a story from idea to publishing, her experience of being an author with ADHD, and why family is a central theme in her stories.



Afterwards, Serena signed books for children whose families had ordered them. She was full of praise for the Coppice children: she was impressed by the thoughtfulness of the questions she was asked, and she described our children's rendition of "When I Grow Up" as making her very emotional.

We are hugely grateful to Serena Patel, Usborne Publishing and to our friends at Bookwagon, who organised the visit, for giving the children an inspiring afternoon to remember. We are also hugely grateful to our Reading Lead: Mr. Laight for organising this visit.

Georgia to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital in memory of Joshua.

Georgia C from 6D is going to be completing a fundraising challenge for Birmingham Children's Hospital in memory of our former pupil: Joshua Hillstead who we sadly lost in the summer of 2024.



Georgia is going to be climbing Mount Snowdon in Wales with her Mum: Jen, Dad: Simon and big brother Sam on 25th April. If you would like to support her with this wonderful, selfless act of kindness, please visit:

[Georgia's Just Giving Page](#)

Coppice Gymnasts Shine Bright!

This last week we saw the breadth of experience from our School Gym Club's fantastic gymnasts: from Year 2 & 3 children taking part in their first ever internal competition on Tuesday, to our squad gymnasts competing at National level last Friday.

Bravely performing their vault and floor routines, individually in front of judges and 50-60 Parents & Carers, our Year 2 and 3 gymnasts showed true Coppice grit and wowed their audience with their skill progression and determination. I'm sure we witnessed many future competition squad gymnasts in the making! A massive thank you goes to Mrs. Waterson, Mrs. Thorne, Mrs. Murray, George, Zara and Layla for all their support with helping Miss. Carter to coach all of these gymnasts.



Elsie from 2P proudly displaying the medal that she

Squad Gymnasts blow us away at National Finals!^{won!}

Our current squad gymnasts once again blew us away with their discipline and quality of performance at the Milano Team National Finals and, as you can see from the photos below, I had the absolute pleasure of attending to witness this event firsthand. All I can say is that these children were absolutely incredible and a credit to themselves and their school - I was one very proud Headteacher!

All the gymnasts below contributed to securing the West Midlands a second place finish across the whole of the country. Our mixed team, along with the team from Deanery won bronze medal for the region and out of all the boys teams nationally our Coppice boys placed second. What a day!

- Under 11 Girls: Poppy, Ivy, Isla and Sienna**
- Under 11 Mix: Leighton, Aria, Isobel and Emmie**
- Under 11 Boys: Myles, Cian, Isaac**



We are so proud of each and every one of the children and are very grateful to all the coaches and staff members who have helped them along the way. Thank you Miss. Carter, Kirsty, Kieron, Nicole, Alana, Ella and Dougie (competition squad)



Celebration Time

Amazing Year 4 persuasive writing!

I was wowed by four pupils from 4W (Havana, Cali, Lorcan and Heidi) last week when they came to me to deliver the persuasive speeches that they had written. They were seeking to persuade me that school should close at 12.30 pm on a Friday! They all came up with some very persuasive arguments and delivered their speeches clearly and articulately - I was very impressed with their written presentation too. Although I told them I couldn't agree to their request, I was still super proud of all these four children.



Fantastic achievements by Helen and Mara!

Congratulations go to Helen (left in photo) from 5W who came second place in her '1 minute swim as far as you can' competition. Helen managed 25 meters - a great achievement Helen!

Congratulations also go to Mara (also from 5W) who has achieved her 50 and 100 metre swimming badges - well done Mara, we are super proud of you!



Wonderful swimming achievement by Alice!

It was lovely to be able to celebrate Alice from 4TR on Wednesday when she proudly came to show me the 800 metre swimming award which she had achieved at George's Swim Academy recently. I'm not surprised at all that she wanted to share this achievement as 800 metres is a long way! A huge well done to you Alice!



Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate



Attendance Figures

TOP ATTENDANCE 2nd - 6th March (last week)

	2T 2W	99.33%
	4DR	99.03%

TOP ATTENDANCE 9th - 13th March (this week)

	2T	100%
	4TR	98.28%

Music Listening and Appreciation

This week's playlist was:

Piano

1. Meredith Monk - Ellis Island (1981)
2. Chopin - 'Raindrop' Prelude (1839)
3. Yann Tiersen - Comptine d'un autre été, l'après-midi (2001)
4. Erland Cooper - Holm Sound (2020)

Next week's playlist is:

St Patrick's Day - 17th March

- 1) Traditional - She Moved Through the Fair (unknown)
- 2) Frederic Weatherly - Danny Boy (1913)
- 3) Traditional - John Ryan's Polka (unknown)
- 4) Thin Lizzy - Whisky in the Jar (1972)

That just leaves me to wish you all an enjoyable weekend with your children. We look forward to seeing all of the children, and you, bright and early on Monday morning.

Kind regards,

Mr.Hutt (Headteacher – The Coppice Primary School)