

The Coppice Whole School Newsletter Friday 29th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers.

I hope that you have all had a good week and are looking forward to the weekend with your children.

The Coppice has achieved its Primary Science Quality Mark!

I am thrilled to announce that The Coppice has achieved its Primary Science Quality Mark (Gilt level)!

This is an amazing level of award to have achieved and is fantastic recognition for the incredible work that Science Lead: Mrs. Tomkinson, ably supported by her science team: Miss. Dixon and Miss. Cox, has done with this subject over a number of years! Science is a huge strength of our school and this is because of the passion and sheer hard work that has gone into it. We have brilliant science teaching here at The Coppice as well as a plethora of extra-curricular science opportunities and I'm obviously thrilled that the hours and hours of hard work have been rewarded in this way. Well done everyone!

Below you will see the logo that we will be able to proudly display on our letters and website. We will also receive a plaque for our school entrance hall. Below is the wording that the email we received to confirm our award began with:

'We are delighted to inform you that your submission for a Round 22 Autumn Primary Science Quality Mark Gilt was successful. Congratulations! The reviewers have been very impressed by the high quality of the submission we have received. The commitment to leading science at The Coppice over the last year has been outstanding and the positive impact on teaching and learning is very clear.'



Two further quotes we received from our assessment were:

'The Final Questions document is a wonderful summary of the fantastic impact the PSQM process has had on all stakeholders at the school. It must have been wonderful to write this, looking back over all the brilliant things that have taken place as a result of the hard work of the science leaders and the wider staff team. There is so much here to be proud of!'

Thank you for sharing your PSQM journey - this has been a wonderful submission to review! Staff, pupils and parents are enthusiastic about science learning thanks to the varied and exciting provision on offer. The science team, supported by SLT and the wider staff team, work hard to identify and address strengths and areas for development, resulting in continuous improvement in science learning.

The Coppice Primary School is a great place to learn (or teach!) science. Well done!

RAAC survey confirms that our school is safe.

I'm sure you all know that I would have communicated with you all well before now if we had had any concerns that our school was affected by RAAC (Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete). As a school, when this situation broke, we straight away made sure that we liaised with the companies who assess and deal with our school buildings and they confirmed that they didn't believe that our school contained RAAC based on their in-depth knowledge of it. However, to double and triple check things, I asked for a full RAAC survey to be carried out and this has confirmed that our school contains no RAAC at all. Please be reassured, therefore, that our school is a very safe place for your children to be.

Link with the Hefei Thomas School in China!

Over the last couple of months, through my increasingly close liaison with Woodrush High School, an opportunity came our way for The Coppice to forge a link with a school in China through the setting up of an extra-curricular Mandarin Club. We have therefore linked with The Hefei Thomas School, which is located in Hefei: the provincial capital of Anhui province, in eastern central China. The Hefei School teaches children from Nursery through to age eighteen.

Both schools were very keen to make this link through something called the 'TalkPal' scheme, which is run by a United Kingdom-based group called the Ambright Insitute who look to create links with schools in other countries. The club is currently for eighteen Year six children, who were chosen for the club due to the aptitude that they had shown for languages last year through their Spanish lessons but also their interest in learning about other cultures.

The 'Mandarin' club allows the children in the club to learn some of the Mandarin language and to then use it when speaking directly to children of a similar age in China i.e. their TalkPal via Zoom. This will be a reciprocal relationship with the Chinese children benefiting from speaking English to our pupils. They will also get to participate in activities involving sharing information about interests and culture verbally. We also hope, in time, to give opportunities to write letters, postcards and send emails.

We are very lucky that Mrs. Sissi Chen (the Mandarin teacher at Woodrush) is giving up her time every week to teach the children and to support Miss. Caddick (Year 5 teacher) in running the club. We therefore send our thanks and appreciation to Mr. Barber and Woodrush for allowing her to do this. Mrs. Chen has so far been extremely impressed with our children's ability to learn new words and phrases, which was great to hear.



On Tuesday morning at 8.30 am, we had the first live Zoom call to China which allowed everyone, including staff and the two Headteachers to introduce themselves. This was hugely exciting for all concerned and we are already looking forward greatly to the next session and to seeing where this club takes us in the future. Our Mandarin Club children are pictured left just prior to the first live link where you can clearly see how excited the children were about this!

Email Protocol for contacting the school and teaching staff:

Once again, I do need to mention our email protocol for contacting members of our teaching team and the school in general. I have become aware from talking to some teachers this week that they are still receiving emails that break this protocol. For example, one member of staff received an email at 10 pm at night when they were trying to get some rest for the next school day.

We very much strive to be a school that is open and has clear lines of communication with you all. However, for this to continue to be effective, the protocol really does need to be respected in order to maintain a healthy work-life balance for the very hard-working and dedicated Coppice teaching team. As with everyone, they are entitled to switch off, get some rest and be with their families and friends without disturbance outside of the protocol. Based on what has been said to me this week, I have therefore decided to re-issue the protocol (see below). You will notice that we have made some small changes to it in order to make even clearer and to avoid grey areas. The protocol is:

Unless urgent in nature, please avoid sending e-mails outside of these designated times:

-Monday to Thursday: 7.00 am - 7.00 pm

-Friday: 7.00am - 5.00 pm

-Saturday, Sunday and school holidays: No emails at all

If you need to write an email outside of these times, please use 'schedule send' to make sure it arrives during a designated time.

Please note that whilst teaching or preparing for the School Day, Teaching Staff do not use their e-mail – urgent messages should instead go to the office (see below)

During teaching hours (8.30 am – 3.15 pm) any emails requiring immediate action need to be sent to the school office so that they can assist in the first instance. For example:

- end-of-day pick-up arrangements
- attendance/lateness notifications
- medical information
- requests for teachers to call Parents/Carers

Please understand it may take 48 hours, excluding weekends, for a reply from a Teacher.

Please also note that teachers are available for face-to-face discussions at the end of each day and we encourage you to use this method of communication as much as possible because, in our experience, this is a far more effective way to communicate.

Parent Trustee Ballot - please vote!

We have received two excellent nominations for the vacant post of Parent Trustee: Danielle Butler and Bethany Reid, who are both current parents in the school. Both of these candidates have a real strength in Early Years education, which is what I was looking for, and I know that whoever is appointed will be an asset to our Board of Trustees. You all received notification earlier in the week of the voting process and I encourage you all to do so. The ballot closes on Monday (2nd October) so please make sure that you have cast your vote by then.

Free books!

As a school, we have received many donations of books from thoughtful Parents and Carers. However, we now have so many that we can't use them all but we still want them to go to a good home if possible. Therefore, after school on Friday next week (6th October) we will be displaying all of these on the playground for Parents, Carers and children to take home. No money will be needed as they are all FREE! Please come along and take as many as you'd like!

That just leaves me, as always, to wish you a restful and enjoyable weekend. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Kind regards,

Mr.Hutt

(Headteacher – The Coppice Primary School)

Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate



Attendance Figures

TOP ATTENDANCE	18th-22nd September (Last week)		
	RB	98.93%	
8 60 8	3L	100%	
	4R	100%	

TOP ATTENDANCE	25th-29th September (This week)	
	1D	99.33%
9	3L	99.67%

October dates for your diary

Friday 13th - 5RB Class Assembly - 2.30pm, Infant Hall

Tuesday 17th - Restart- A- Heart CPR training for Y5 & Y6 -more details to follow

Friday 20th - 5F Class Assembly 2.30pm, Infant Hall

Tuesday 24th - Individual Pupil photographs - more details to follow

Thursday 26th - Sibling photographs - more details to follow

Friday 27th - Author visit for KS2 - more details to follow

Friday 27th - School closes, normal time, for half term holiday (One week).

Coppice Job Vacancy

<u>School Business Manager</u> - Full Time / Permanent - The position will be 37 hours per week. Number of weeks to be negotiated - between Term-Time only plus 5 TED days to Full-Year

Start Date: As soon as possible (Interim person currently covering role)

Application Deadline Date: Monday 6th November 2023

The application form and supporting job requirements can be found below:

- Application form School Business Manager
- Job advert School Business Manager
- Job description & Person Specification School Business Manager

Coppice Open Mornings

We have been experiencing some technical issues with the QR code booking system.

There are places still available

Please call the school office on 01564 826709 to reserve your place.



Community News







BENTLEY HEATH OCTOBER HOLIDAY CAMP!

Premier Education are pleased to announce that we will be running a Multi-Activity Holiday Camp at Bentley Heath Primary School this October. Children will need a packed lunch, a water bottle and appropriate clothing for plenty of FUN activities!

VENUE	DATE	AGE	TIME	PRICE
Bentley Heath Primary School, Widney Close, B93 9AS	October – Friday 3 rd November	4 -11 years old	9am - 4pm	£21.54 (20% off)

*4-year-old children are welcome and can attend our camps between 9 am - 1 pm (£12.30)

WHAT TO EXPECT: There is always a wide range of new and engaging activities on our camps! From Dodgeball, Dance and Archery to Arts and Crafts, Fencing and Football. There really is something for every child, with plenty of opportunities to learn new skills, make friends and create memories:



SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE LINK TO BOOK: HTTPS://FAMILY.PREMIER-EDUCATION.COM/ADD-COUR

FOR ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT: GTERRY@PREMIER-EDUCATION.COM





Year 6 Parents



Wednesday 11th October 4pm to 7.30pm

Come and visit Christ Church Church of England Secondary Academy and see what we can offer you and your child in our inspiring learning environment.

Christ Church Secondary Academy opened in September 2021, welcoming the first cohort of students into year 7 and is growing year on year into a 11 - 18 Church of England academy.

The vision is for all to flourish together within a Church School community. We are one community: students, parents and carers, staff and governors learning together and serving the community of Yardley Wood and beyond. At Christ Church we aim to provide an exceptional education, supported by excellent pastoral care with an insistence on securing the highest standards in everything we do. We value each student as an individual, recognising their different talents and needs, and in working together we aspire for each one to be courageous, confident, and successful in all they do.

WELCOME FROM THE NEW HEADTEACHER MISS JOY LANGLEY AT 4.15pm • 4.45pm • 5.15pm • 5.45pm • 6.15pm • 6.45pm



Daleview Rd, Yardley Wood, Birmingham B14 4HN www.christchurchsecondary.org.uk info@christchurchsecondary.org.uk • 0121 393 3678













OPEN EVENIN

Wednesday 11th October 2023 4pm to 7.30pm

DALEVIEW RD, YARDLEY WOOD, BIRMINGHAM B14 4HN

Thank you for reading our Whole School Newsletter. Now click on the link below to access your Year Group Newsletters.

Click here