

The Coppice Whole School Newsletter Friday 4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had a lovely half-term holiday with your children and that this week has gone well for you all.

War in Ukraine.

Obviously, the last few weeks have been very upsetting from the world news point of view with the Russian invasion of Ukraine. No one can fail to have been affected by the terrible scenes that have been relayed on our television screens and on social media. I therefore feel that I need to communicate the school's view and standpoint on this.

Obviously, as the Headteacher of a primary school, I have to give great thought to how this situation, and the sharing of information about it, is given to our children. Even though we have many mature children in our school of all ages, they are still young in terms of years and a lot of consideration needs to be given to the effect that this situation could potentially have upon their mental health and well-being.

Sadly, and from talking to parents and carers this week, I am already aware that we have a number of children who are very worried by what is going on, which is completely natural.

You may not know this but we have a small number of children and parents in school who have strong links to both Ukraine and Russia and I know that some of them have been feeling very tense about the situation and extremely worried about their wider family and friends in those countries. We also have a small number of children from service families who may very well be wondering what all this might mean for their parents moving forward.

Having weighed everything up carefully therefore, I communicated to all of The Coppice staff at the beginning of the week that I think it is extremely important that we are prepared to talk about this situation, **but only** if it arises naturally through either children or classes asking questions or wanting to discuss what they have seen or heard. What we won't be doing though is deliberately choosing to discuss these events with the children as this approach could well cause unnecessary worry and this is the last thing that we want to do. Children have had enough to worry about in recent years and I feel that it is our duty to protect them as much as we can.

As I said though, we can't bury our heads in the sand if the need arises and some conversations may well need to be had at some point with children in order to support them. Obviously, if needed, any discussions or answering of questions would be carried out in an age-appropriate way. At the current time, I don't foresee discussions being needed in EYFS or KS1.

For the juniors, I have already shared a presentation resource with teachers (Powerpoint slides and a short explanatory film clip) which explains the current situation and is aimed at primary-aged children. Again though, I stress that this would only be used if the need arises and won't be shared as a matter of course. Should a junior class or classes decide that there is a need to use this resource, you will be informed in advance so that you can be prepared to discuss any further questions that your child may have at home.

In summary, the approach that we are taking is to keep all staff ears close to the ground and be prepared to support any of our children if and when they need it and in a way which is age-appropriate, sensitive and avoids instilling fear or upset.

Linked to the above, I have been asked by a few parents whether we will be having a school collection for the people of Ukraine, which is understandable and shows the compassion that we have as a community. Again, whilst I wholeheartedly support the giving of donations to wider community collections, I have decided that we won't be doing something specific as a whole school for all of the same reasons that I have outlined above.

For information though, I know that both Dunelm in Redditch and Earlswood Early Years have collection points.

I'm sure that I can count on your support with how we are approaching this awful situation but please feel free to speak to your child's Class Teacher or any member of the Senior Leadership Team should you have any further questions. At the end of the day, we are all here to support each other in the best way that we can with this.

Hockey competition success and wonderful praise for our children!

On Wednesday afternoon, a number of our children represented the school in a hockey competition at Redditch Hockey Club where they were accompanied by Mr. Edwards and Miss. Wells. It therefore gives me a huge amount of satisfaction to announce that our children achieved an amazing second place and hence the silver medal. This was an incredibly close competition with Batchley and The Coppice tied in terms of points. In fact, our children only came second overall by virtue of conceding one more goal and you can't get much closer than that!

As well as the hockey competition itself. during each match, the umpires and the opposing teams graded us on the values of teamwork, honesty, and respectfulness. Overall, Coppice got 130 points and came first which means that we qualified to represent the Redditch District at the Worcestershire School Games on Monday 4th April.

I can't tell you how proud we are of these children for their sporting prowess and success but also for how they conducted themselves and exhibited 'The Coppice Way' values that we work so hard on to instil in our children on a daily basis. To once again have this recognised by people external to our school gives us, as a school, a fantastic amount of pride. Well done children – you are an absolute credit to our school, your parents and carers and yourselves! A huge thank you also to Mr. Edwards and Miss. Wells for their time and effort.

Here are our fantastic children: Emelia S, Annabel P, Ada R, Dolly G, Keegan G, Shay N, Conor O'B and Sam R.



World Book Day:

On Thursday, we had a wonderful day celebrating the joy of reading books in school and I know that the children loved every minute! On the next page, you will see some lovely photos of the day's events. I want to extend a big thank you to Mr. Laight for organising the day and to all of the staff for making it so memorable for the children.

Celebration assemblies:

Today was a wonderful day of Celebration Assemblies for years 1-6 where we celebrated our children's achievements for the last half-term. Trophies were presented for the different subject areas and medals were given out to the highest team point earners. A huge well done to all of the children who achieved the awards on this occasion.

I want to end by wishing you all a lovely weekend. As always, we look forward to welcoming the children bright and early on Monday.

Kind regards.

Mr.Hutt (Headteacher)

Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate



Hockey Tournament reports

On Wednesday 2nd March, Year 4 went to Redditch Hockey, Rugby and Cricket club to represent The Coppice at the Year 4 Quicksticks Hockey competition. It was really fun and we won every match we played. We played against two teams from Batchely Primary School, two teams from Vaynor Primary school and one team from Astwood Bank First School.

We won all of our games except the last game against Batcheley B team when we drew 1-1. Unfortunately, we did not win. We came second. However, the next day, Miss Wells told us that we got through to the finals at Bromsgrove School because we scored the highest points based on the values teamwork, honesty and respectfulness. The umpires and the other schools marked our values. We are all very pleased that we scored the highest and get to represent Redditch at the Worcestershire School Games in April.

Ada: 4W

When we entered the tournament we had no hope but our fantastic teachers helped us get through it.

The first game we played was close but we snuck away with it 2:1.

The second game was the easiest game we had played. We won 3:0. This game boosted our confidence.

The third game was good as well with great passes and shots but we won 2:0.. In the final we were all happy. The score was 1:1 and we came second. Thankfully because of our respect we made it into the massive final. Good luck Coppice.

Sam: 4MW

World Book Day

This World book day we asked the staff what their favourite book was and what children's book would they recommend. Here are some of their answers;

Name	My favourite book of all time	A book I would like to recommend is	Suitable for?
Mrs Blundell	Holes by Lois Sachar	Keith Haring: The Boy Who Just Kept Drawing by Kay Haring	6+
Miss Keogh	How to Stop Time by Matt Haig	Wildspark' by Vashti Hardy	Years 5 and 6
Ms Pugh	Good Omens by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchet	The Creakers- Tom Fletcher	7-8yrs
Mr Laight	Northern Lights by Phillip Pullman (favourite children's book, at least)	The Wild Robot by Peter Brown	Year 3 and above
Miss Bradley	The Gruffalo- Julia Donaldson	Dear Zoo- Rod Campbell	EYFS
Mrs Bird	The tiger who came to tea – Judith Kerr	Supertato- Paul Linnett & Sue Hendra	All ages
Miss Allen	Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by J. K. Rowling	The Lorax by Dr. Seuss	6+
Ms Juneman	(difficult) Great Expectations by Charles Dickens	The Secret Garden Frances Hodgson Burrnet	Fluent reader 8 Years old upwards
Mrs Witcomb	The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S Lewis	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl	Age 7+
Mrs Russell	Handa's Surprise- Eileen Browne	The Koala Who Could - Rachel Bright	4-7 Age group
Mrs Twilley	Shark in the Park! By Nick Sharratt	You Choose' By Nick Sharratt and Pippa Goodhart.	3- 8 yrs and me!
Miss Wells	Who let the gods out by Maz Evans	There's a boy in the girls' bathroom by Louis Sachar	8-15 years
Mrs Tonks	The Secret Garden- Frances Hodgson Burnett	Matilda- Roald Dahl	8-10 years
Mrs Marks	A Town Like Alice by Nevil Shute	Once - Morris Gleizman	Y6
Mr Hutt	Danny The Champion of the World by Roald Dahl	The boy at the back of the class by Onjali Q Rauf	Y5 & Y6
Mrs Ashwell	The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton	Squash and a Squeeze by Julia Donaldson	5 years +
Mrs Webster	Shout, Whisper and Sing:101 poems to read aloud by Beverley Mathias	Night Monkey, Day Monkey by Julia Donaldson	All ages

Book Spuds and World Book Day



Community News



Dates for your diary

7th March - Year 6 Robotics workshop

7th March - Final balance for Y5 Ingestre Hall residential due

14th-18th March - Science Week

18th March - Comic Relief - Red Nose Day - details to follow

21st March - Y1 Visit from Florence Nightingale -

29th March - Y6 Warwick Castle trip

30th March - Parent Evening (in school) -details to follow

4th, 5th, 6th April - Reception Hearing tests

6th April - Parents Evening (school cloud) details to follow

6th, 7th, 8th April - Y5 Ingestre Hall residential

8th April - School closes for Easter Holidays

Private tutoring available.

KS1 and KS2 private tuition is available on Saturdays in small groups with an established local tutor. Individual tutoring is also available.

Please call Esther on 07791 790908 for more information.

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

Click here

CONTACT US

School office -01564 826 709

School email—office@coppice.worcs.sch.uk

Text service - 07984441282 - Use this number to text a child's absence

OUR ONLINE LINKS

School website-http://www.coppice.worcs.sch.uk/

Newsletter- http://www.coppice.worcs.sch.uk/

PTA-<u>https://www.pta-events.co.uk/coppice/#.Wv1BYDQvypo</u>

Official Facebook page- https://www.facebook.com/coppiceps/

PTA Facebook group—https://www.facebook.com/groups/320191721984039/