

The Coppice Whole School Newsletter Friday 26th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

Covid update:

As you will all know, it has been a difficult time in school recently with a rising number of both children and staff positive cases. The spread to staff was what unfortunately led us to have to close Year 1 for three days on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Obviously, this was the last thing that we wanted to do but, as I know you will all understand, we were unable to find the number of staff that we needed to cover the classes safely. Thankfully, all of the Year 1 staff have now returned and we are thrilled to see the children sitting in classrooms again, which is where they should be.

It does need to be stated though that we are still classed as 'in outbreak' in a number of classes and year groups in school, which means that we all have to continue to remain extremely cautious moving forward. To try to prevent spread amongst staff, I have reintroduced mask wearing in all public spaces around school and have required the staff in different year groups to have their breaks and lunchtimes with only their year group colleagues to avoid mixing.

I completely understand that sending your child home, if they exhibit symptoms, and our request for them to have a negative PCR test before returning, can cause both inconvenience and frustration. However, please understand that we are only doing this to keep everyone safe and to try and prevent further spread to staff, which again could potentially cause another short-term closure for some classes or year groups. As a school, we are doing everything that we can to avoid this but we all have to work together to achieve this aim. I therefore want to thank all of the parents and carers who have been supportive of our course of action and have done what we asked them to do – it is very much appreciated and you have played your part in keeping the school open. I honestly believe that we can get through this as long as everyone continues to do this so I thank you in anticipation of your continued support, understanding and patience. It is definitely a time for The Coppice family to stand as one.

Well done to our tag rugby team and 3K swimmers!

I just want to say a huge well done to our children who took part in the tag rugby competition last Friday. I won't say too much here as there is a child's report of this further on in this newsletter. They competed really well and came very close to winning the tournament itself. What really stood out though was the sportsmanship and respect shown by our children to the children from other schools and for the officials. Once again, they truly embodied 'The Coppice Way' and gave a fantastic account of themselves, which gives us a great deal of pride as a school. We want our children to compete hard and try to win but we also want them to conduct themselves in the right way. Thank you too to Miss. Wells and Mr. Edwards who accompanied the children to the tournament and brought the best out of them.

I also want to give a big shout out to the 3K swimmers, who have been having swimming lessons at The Abbey Stadium this term. Not only have they made fabulous progress with their swimming but they have also received a great deal of praise form members of the public for their behaviour and manners. Again, we feel a huge sense of pride when we receive this feedback. Well done children and of course Miss. Keight and Mrs. Thompson who do such an amazing job with the children.

Parents' Evening:

Thank you again to all of you who attended this week's Parents' Meetings. As I said last week, your support for your children is very much appreciated. I have spoken to lots of the teaching staff over the last couple of weeks and they have been really pleased and happy with how these meetings have gone and the feedback that they have received from you regarding the children and the progress that they are making.

We are working as hard as we can, as a school, to catch-up any lost learning caused by the pandemic so to have your support and help with this at home is fantastic. Once again, it is all about working in partnership together and this is something we truly value at The Coppice.

Charity donations – thank you!

I want to thank you all so much for your continued support with our charity events. As I reported last week, Children in Need was an overwhelming success and we raised a fantastic £800-00 and before that we raised another very impressive amount for the British Legion with our Poppy Appeal. As you will see on the dates page in this newsletter, we will also be supporting Save The Children with a Christmas jumper day and a further day to support our own amazing Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) who do so much to support your children in school with their different projects e.g. The Adventure Zone and the upcoming Quad development.

As a school, raising money for charity and supporting different organisations who rely so much on donations is extremely important to us as a school and teaches our children so much about having a selfless attitude and empathy for others, which is one of our core curriculum drivers at The Coppice.

Car parking - very important:

We have worked very hard as a school to make our site car park as safe at it can be and there will be more safety measures to come moving forward. However, one area that we can't control are the roads and pavements outside of our school site. Unfortunately, from talking to Woodrush and a number of our parents, it is clear that there are some of our parents and carers are not being considerate when choosing where to park. Firstly, I have been made aware that there are cars being parked in the bus lane outside Woodrush and this needs to stop. Not only is it unsafe to do so but also it is not a permitted parking zone. In addition, I have had reports of parents and carers parking on the corners of roads and on kerbs in such a way that it is putting children and families in danger of being hit. Therefore, this is an appeal for careless parking to stop in order to keep our children and families safe. I think we all know of the devastation that would be caused should someone come to harm because of thoughtless actions.

As always, I hope that you have a lovely weekend with your children and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Kind regards,

Mr.Hutt

(Headteacher)

Tag Rugby report

The Year 6 Tag rugby event was at Redditch RFU (Astro turf) on the afternoon of Friday 19th November. The schools in the event were The e Coppice, Feckenham, Birchendsale (2 teams) and Woodfield schools. It was exciting but at times tense. We came second overall and only missed out by one point!. Our scores were 5:). 3:2, 2:3, and 6:1. The ten great players that completed were: Amelia (6C), Jack (6C), Biley (6C), Ollie (6C), Sam (6G), Ava (6K), Gabe (6G), Harry (6K), Jack (6K) and James (6K). - report by Amelia (6C)

Visit from King Edward's Debating Team

Year 6 had the opportunity to join the new Coppice Debate Club which will be starting next Monday. To launch the club, the fantastic debate outreach team from King Edward's School in Birmingham visited and delivered a workshop in which the children practised their debating skills through many activities (all of which were led by students). The children set an excellent example of Coppice confidence and tenacity, and they can't wait to get started in debate club next week!



Star of the Week- Hot Chocolate



Dates for your diary

Friday 3rd December - Y4 Egyptian Day

Friday 3rd December -PTA Christmas Tuck Shop after school

9th AND 10th December - TWO Christmas Jumper Days!! Bring in £2 and funds raised will be split between Save the Children fund and our PTA

Nursery Christmas singing-

8th, 9th, 14th, 16th December Please see your Year Group Newsletter for details

Reception Christmas Singing

8th, 9th, 10th, 15th and 16th December. Please see your Year Group Newsletter for details

Year 1 Christmas performances.-

- 1T Tuesday 14th December 9.30am
- 1D- Wednesday 15th December 9.30am
- 1B- Thursday 16th December- 9.30am

Year 2 Christmas performances

- 2CA Tuesday 14th December 2.00pm
- 2RB Wednesday 15th December 2.00pm
- 2A -Thursday 16th December 2.00pm

Friday 17th December - School closes for the Christmas holidays - usual time.

Wednesday 5th January 2022 - Return to school for the Spring term.

Due to the number of COVID cases within school we have rescheduled the KS2 pantomime to 6th January. The panto will now be "Cinderella". Please pop to Parent Pay if you have not yet paid. Thank you

Individual school photographs will now take place on Monday 17th January and sibling ones on Tuesday 18th January 2022. Details will be sent out nearer the time.

Wythall Christmas Lights



St Mary's Church events





10am – 11.30am Every Friday during term time £2 per session

Bible story, songs & nursery rhymes at 11am Free tea, coffee, juice & a snack. Come along and meet other parents & carers.

St. Mary's Church, Shawhurst Lane, Hollywood, B47 5JN.

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