

The Coppice Newsletter 21.01.2021



HAPPY, CONFIDENT AND SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS; WELL PREPARED FOR LIFE.

A bit of news, in advance.

Given my 60th birthday that was celebrated in the newsletter last term, I'm sure some of you won't be surprised by this announcement. At the end of this academic year (July), sadly, I will be retiring.

Headteachers have such huge impact on a school. They can make or break a school (and I have seen schools broken by poor appointments of headteachers). Headteachers are the decision-makers who are responsible for moulding policy and appointing the staff. Over the years, I'm proud of my track record here. Accordingly, given this heavy responsibility, it is understandable that all parties connected with a school might feel some anxiety on losing a longstanding headteacher of a successful school, like The Coppice.

However, I wanted to ensure that things were right for The Coppice. I wanted to ensure that I gave plenty of notice of retirement to our trustees, giving them plenty of time to weigh things up and make the right appointment to replace me, as well as ensure a generous handover period to the incoming new headteacher, to allow for a seamless adjustment.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that our trustees have appointed a certain Mr. Billy Hutt as my successor. Mr. Hutt will be a fantastic new headteacher. He knows the school and Coppice families very well. He is committed to The Coppice and his heart is here (with our children and with our community). He has given his working life to the school, pretty much, over many years. He is completely au fait with our vision and the way forward and has contributed immensely to the success of The Coppice over the years. For quite a few years now, since taking on the deputy's role, we have worked pretty much hand-in-hand. So, moving forward, I know that the leadership of The Coppice will be in very good hands.

There's still half a year before I actually do retire, so I'll be around for a while, and there will be plenty of opportunity for me to say my piece, but, as a precursor, I would like to say that it has been an absolute privilege being headteacher of The Coppice - definitely the highlight of my career.

Hopefully, before July, as a school, we will be properly back into the swing of things, inviting parents into school for productions and assemblies (which have been greatly missed). I look forward to seeing more of you then to say a proper goodbye. It will be a different (but reassuringly familiar) face fronting these events from September!

It seems odd giving you this news so far in advance, but I know that Mr. Hutt is delighted and proud to take on this role, and, as he has been appointed, it seemed only fair to share the news, as well as reassure families before things slip out through the rumour-mill.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

This week	2
Star of the Week.....	2
Art Comp news.....	2
Lockdown challenge.....	3
Attention new parents.....	3
For sale in the office.....	4
Meet Rufus	4
Dates for your Diary.....	5
Meet Rufus.....	5
Contact Us.....	5



THE COPPICE LOCKDOWN ART COMPETITION!

Next week, we will be bringing you exciting news of a whole-school art competition. The competition will be open to children all across the school, from Nursery to Year 6. (There may even be a chance for the grown ups to have a go!)

So sharpen your pencils, dust off that rusty old tin of watercolours and start saving your magazines for a little bit of collaging!

In the meantime, there are some lovely lockdown art activity ideas on the Place 2 Be website:

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/activities-from-the-art-room/>

Tate Online also has a fun digital art creator, which can be found here:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/games-quizzes/tate-paint>

STAR OF THE WEEK

RF - OSCAR
RH - MAXWELL
RL - CHARLIE
1D - MASON
1T - IVY
1RB - MILLIE
2A - THOMAS
2CA - AMELIA
2J - HOLLY-ANN
3P - GREGORY
3K - FLORENCE
3HK - THOMAS
4W - DEEN
4MW- DYLAN & DANIEL
4J -
5G - ISLA
5MS - DHRUV
5K - HAYDEN
6C - OLIVIA
6L - IZZY
6G - OLIVER

MESSAGE FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR.

We have just heard from the organisers of Young Voices that unfortunately the event will not be taking place at all this year. They are now scheduling shows for January and February 2022.

LOCKDOWN CHALLENGE

We posted the following on Facebook this week and have had quite a few responses.

“We were wondering if you are were getting out and about on daily walks, runs, cycles, scoots etc. Which led us to think about how far, as a school, we were all travelling during our time out exercising.

If we collated all the kilometres travelled (on foot, bike, scooter, horse, on treadmills etc.) how far could we get?

It is only 11km from school to The Bullring in Birmingham, surely we should get there pretty quickly.

It is 40.4km to our county town of Worcester - We are sure we could get there?

It is 182km from school to the London Eye- could we get there?

It is 464km to Edinburgh Castle - could we get there?

It is 1308km from Land's End- could we possibly get there?

Please post the distance you go by any mode (except car, bus, train, plane etc.) on this page and we will add it up and see how far we can get.

There are different ways of finding out how far you have gone . If you don't have access to a smart watch/Fitbit/pedometer you can use Google maps or a phone app such as Strava or plotaroute.

Just add your distance daily or weekly and we will tot them up and update you regularly.”

This post has been pinned at the top of our Facebook page and you can add on your contribution at any time.

As this article is being written the cumulative distance we have travelled is 116.75km.

That means we have already walked more than the distance from school to Alton Towers Theme Park!

So get walking and get posting. If you don't 'do' Facebook just email office@coppice.worcs.sch.uk and let us know and we will add on your contribution.

Don't forget if you would like to show everyone what your child/ren have been up during this lockdown please email any photos or short videos to the same email address. Thanks.