



The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

Friday 8th December 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.

Christmas Fayre:

We are really looking forward to seeing you all at our Christmas Fayre this evening and your support will be really appreciated! Please remember that the entrance to the fayre will be via the large gates next to the Woodrush astro pitch (where you enter the site at the end of the school day). The fayre will be in the Infant/Church hall, the Reception and Key Stage One classrooms and the Year 4 classrooms opposite the Care Club Huts. The Care Club huts will be the location for children to see Santa in the grotto. There will be a Christmas market feel with food stalls, a bar, entertainment, games and craft stalls. There will also be the chance to win prizes on the tombola and to see Mr. Lampard, Ms. Croft and our amazing school choir all performing an array of festive songs. The fayre will run from 5.00 pm until 7.30 pm and, as always, I'm certain that a good time will be had by all.

St. Mary's Advent assemblies:

Linked to the above, on Monday, our Christmas preparations began with Gary, from St. Mary's, delivering Advent assemblies to Key Stage One and Key Stage Two pupils. These were lovely occasions and the children engaged with the messages really well. It is so important to us as a school that, whatever their individual beliefs, all of our children understand why we celebrate Christmas and have a sound understanding of the Christmas story. As you know, we are not a church school but we are a school that seeks to give our children many different perspectives so that they can make up their own mind in an informed way. Our much-valued links with St. Mary's are therefore an important part of that ethos.

Reading at home:

You will all have received a leaflet yesterday that Miss. Caddick, Year 5 Teacher and Reading for Pleasure Lead (in Mr. Laight's English team) has put together for all Parents and Carers. This is a simple but effective way to communicate the crucial importance of reading with your child at home and the huge benefits that this will bring them. If you haven't had a chance to read it yet, please make sure that you do so. It's also in a handy format that can be printed off. I'm sure that you will find it useful.

Helping children to read at home

Reading is at the heart of our English teaching here at The Coppice. We have a wonderful library, share stories daily in class and often welcome authors into school for special assemblies.

It's really important that this engagement with reading continues at home too.

- Read aloud to your child as part of your bedtime routine.
- For older children, take turns reading a page or a chapter. They could also read to younger siblings.
- Read alongside each other. Let children see you choosing to read for pleasure.
- Visit Wythall Library (upstairs at Woodrush Community Hub).

"Reading for Pleasure is the single most important indicator of a child's future success" (Source: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development)

The impact of reading at home

If you would like any advice or support on how to read with your child at home, please contact your child's teacher; they will always be happy to help.

| Why read for 20 minutes daily at home? | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Child A | Child B | Child C |
| Reads for 20 minutes per day | Reads for 5 minutes per day | Reads for 1 minute per day |
| 3600 minutes per school year | 900 minutes per school year | 180 minutes per school year |
| 1,800,000 words per year | 282,000 words per year | 8,000 words per year |

Engage in book chat with your child.

Who/what did you like most?

I wonder if... why... what... who...?

Is this like anything else we've read?

READING FOR PLEASURE

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." (Emilie Buchwald, author.)

Sounds Write Information meeting and phonics workshops:

Linked to the above, a big thank you to all of you who attended Mr. Laight's Sounds Write Phonics meeting on Tuesday after school, and also to those of you who have attended the recent phonics workshops hosted in classrooms. I'm sure that you will have found all of these events very useful in finding out how we teach phonics here at The Coppice and how you can support your child with their phonics learning at home. We will continue to hold these very important events over the course of the year so please attend when you can. Helping your child learn to read is one of the best things you will ever do and these events will very much help you learn how you can do that.

Meeting with representatives of The School Council:

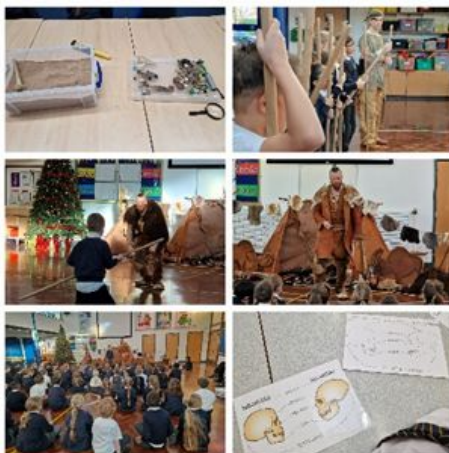
It was an absolute pleasure to be able to meet with Tobie-Jai and Alice from The School Council in order for them to feed back to me on what the Council have been discussing recently and for them to ask me questions about areas that are of importance to them. As you will probably know, the Council are responsible for getting the views of all of the children in school so that the children have their voice in areas that directly affect them and that they are passionate about. As you can see from the agenda below, topics discussed were: future organisation of poppy sales and sauces at lunchtime. The big agenda item was the continued development of the playground and what markings, activities and additions the children would like to see now that we have a fantastic 'blank canvas'. I was able to inform them that we are getting a new drone, aerial view of the playground in order to map out these features, which the Council will be involved in – very exciting for us all! Both Tobie-Jai and Alice were a credit to The Council: thoughtful, articulate, respectful and well prepared – well done both of you!

| The Coppice Primary School | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| School Council Meeting Minutes | | | |
| Meeting Date | 28.11.23 | | |
| Attendees | Ethan, Alice, Tobie-Jai, Leo, Alice, Abdullah, Poppy, Samira, Rayaan | | |
| Introduction - What was discussed? | 2 items from School Council can not be discussed as they are not in the school's remit. Poppy asked about the school's schedule. Suggestions are: Redball markings, Chess board, putting back obstacles, looking to watch games, and about some development. Speak to Mrs. Kirsty for sales. Newsletter: article about meetings. Abdullah: this week, the school's schedule. Poppy: Leo. | | |
| Issues discussed | Suggestions are: Redball markings, Chess board, putting back obstacles, looking to watch games, and about some development. Speak to Mrs. Kirsty for sales. Newsletter: article about meetings. Abdullah: this week, the school's schedule. Poppy: Leo. | | |
| Actions to be taken | Create event survey. Abdullah and Leo: meeting. Email: Kirsty and office about meeting (meeting). | | |
| Closing comments (AOB) - Any other business to note | Find out other sports in curriculum. Grange mango school game? | | |



Year 3 Stone Age Day - Primary History Workshop:

As you can see from the montage of photos below, last Friday, the Year 3 children had a wonderful time taking part in many amazing activities during their Stone Age Workshop with Adam and his wonderful team. In the morning, they took part in a hunt, where they learned techniques to capture a woolly mammoth. The children also compared the skulls of homo-sapiens and homo-neanderthals. They also became archaeologists searching for artefacts and then deciding whether they could be from the Stone Age. In the afternoon, they crafted tools using sticks, flint, twine, and feathers. After that, they produced cave paintings and took part in some archery. This excellent day further cemented the children's learning from over the course of the term and, without doubt, they have learnt a huge amount. A big thank you goes to Miss. Keight, Miss. Allen and Mr. Lampard for organising this brilliant day for the children.



Litter picking:

Last week, our School Council went litter picking on the school field. At first, the children didn't think that they would find very much litter on the field as the children at The Coppice are very well trained to put their rubbish in a bin! Therefore, it was a bit of a shock for the children with just how much they found (see pictures below). There was much discussion about where this had come from and the overall conclusion of the children was that it must have blown there during the very wet and windy periods that we have had over the course of the last couple of months. We take great pride in ensuring that our site is always clean, tidy and well-cared for and, therefore, it was great that the Eco Council could positively impact on this even more. I know that our Site Manager: Mr. Mace will be thrilled! A big thank you to Mrs. Chivers for organising this very worthwhile, environmental event,



Harry's drumming success:



A huge well done to Harry from 6C who passed his Grade 2 drumming exam with a merit.

It was lovely for me because I got to break the news to him that he'd achieved this great result. Harry's mum emailed me during the school day and asked me to let him know, which I was thrilled to do.

To see his class so happy for him was a lovely moment! Well done Harry and 6C!

Wearing of shorts:

Finally, just a reminder that children should not be wearing shorts now as our policy is that winter uniform should now be being worn. Please ensure that your child is meeting the winter expectations – thank you. If you are unsure of what these are, they can be found on the school website.

As always, I hope you all have a lovely weekend with your children and we look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Fayre later. If you're not coming, we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Kind regards,

Mr. Hutt (Headteacher – The Coppice Primary School)

Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate




We had two Star of The Week hot chocolate with the Head this week. The first was for the children who couldn't make it last week and then our usual Friday session.



Attendance Figures


TOP ATTENDANCE

27th November - 1st December (Last week)

| | | |
|--|----|-------|
|  | RT | 98.6% |
| | 3L | 98.0% |

TOP ATTENDANCE

4th - 8th December (This week)

| | | |
|--|----|-------|
|  | RB | 97.5% |
| | 3K | 98.3% |

Have you double checked your Christmas Lunch Bookings?

Christmas Lunch **MUST** be ordered in advance on Parent Pay. **The cut-off date for ordering will be Wednesday 13th December.** This is so that the correct amount of food can be ordered and delivered in time for the meal.

Please note that in order to add the Christmas meal option, Parent Pay have removed all meal selections you may have already made in advance. **The ONLY meal choice for Wednesday 20th December will be the Christmas lunch.** Therefore, if you do not want your child to have the meat or vegetarian meal you will need to bring in a packed lunch for that day. Jacket potatoes, pasta or sandwich options will NOT be available.

Thursday 21st December- **The only meal choices which will be available for this day will be sandwich options.** This is due to the kitchen cooking Christmas lunch for the whole staff. If you have already booked a hot meal in advance you will need to select a cold food option. Parent Pay have removed all other selections from the day's choices so you will need to go to Parent Pay and rebook with the new choices.

Job Vacancy @ Woodrush High School

Woodrush High School are seeking to appoint an evening cleaner to join our already fantastic team of well-established associate staff.

Start: January/February 2024

Contract: Permanent

Salary: £11.59 per hour

Hours: Term Time Only, Monday to Friday, 10 Hours per week (2 hours per day, flexible between 3pm and 7pm)
Plus annual 27.22 'bank' hours to be completed in school holidays.

Closing date for applications is 9am Monday 18th December 2023, with interviews to take place shortly after.

For a full job pack and details on how to apply, along with details of other vacancies, please visit our website and download an application pack www.woodrush.org/Vacancies. Alternatively, please contact Laura McCleary at HR@Woodrush.org.



St Mary's Church Events

You are invited to...

CHRISTINGLE

Sunday 10th December 4pm



A service for all the family with carols, fun & refreshments

**St Mary's Church,
Shawhurst Lane, B47 5JN
Behind Coppice School**

**For more information contact us:
churchoffice@wythallchurch.net
www.wythallchurch.net**



THIS SUNDAY!



**Games, crafts and activities
followed by a hot meal**

**Fun and Food for the whole family
Wednesdays during term time**

All Welcome

From 3pm-5pm

All children must be accompanied by an adult

Dates Coming Up:

**6th & 13th December 2023
17th January 2024**

Please book a place at
[Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search
'Scoff'
Or use this QR code



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

churchoffice@wythallchurch.net
01564 823 248

www.wythallchurch.net

Church, Schools & Community working together

Community News



SOLIHULL FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE



AT: LIGHT HALL SCHOOL
HATHAWAY ROAD, SHIRLEY, SOLIHULL, B90 2PZ
STARTING: SATURDAY 6TH JANUARY 2024

Saturdays:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Group 1: Reception & Year 1 | = 9.00am-10.00am |
| Group 2: Year 2 & 3 | = 10.00am-11.00am |
| Group 3: Year 4, 5, 6 & 7 | = 11.00am-12.00pm |

Dear Parents,
I am pleased to inform you that, due to the huge success of our football courses over the last 22 years, we are following up the football coaching programme for the season starting in January 2024. The course will run for approximately 12 weeks and the programme is for boys and girls aged between 4 and 12.

About our Course

- The unique practice techniques are specifically designed to work with children of all abilities, ranging from the absolute beginner to the more advanced player.
- The course is run by F.A qualified coaches, who are DBS checked, and hold an advanced premier skills qualification, they are currently working with children, enabling them to learn essential football techniques, building **CONFIDENCE**, improving **FITNESS** and providing the most important ingredient **FUN!**
- Children will be fully supervised at all times, although parents are welcome to stay and watch.
- Each child will be provided with a football for individual practice and their progress will be recorded each week.
- It is an indoor course held in the sports hall, therefore children may wear trainers and sportswear.
- Ex Premier League Birmingham City, West Bromwich Albion and Fulham player Geoff Horsfield quotes, "I've coached on these courses with the team and they are fantastic in the way they deliver their coaching sessions!"
- Ex England World Cup star and Sky Sports pundit Paul Merson quotes, "I have presented trophies to the children on these courses and it's great to see the smiles on their faces and sense of achievement!"

Presentation of trophies and award

- On the final week of the course, we hold a presentation, whereby **EACH CHILD WILL RECEIVE AN ENGRAVED TROPHY.**
- Children also have a chance to win many other special individual awards and trophies for various skills, including 'premier league' and 'penalty shoot out' competitions.
- Parents and friends are most welcome to attend the presentation and watch the children being presented with their awards, as this encourages a fantastic atmosphere.

The cost of the course is £8 per week; payment is made every 4 weeks with the first payment of £32 due on week 1. **Please Note:** Places are limited, therefore bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis.
Mark Frith (course co-ordinator) www.soccercoachinguk.co.uk

TO RESERVE PLACES PLEASE TEXT:
SOLIHULL + CHILD'S FULL NAME + AGE + GROUP NO. (1, 2 or 3)
and receive confirmation by text to:
07827 322780



Harborne Academy Christmas Holiday Camp!

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

| Venue | Date | Age | Daily price | Weekly price |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Harborne Academy, Harborne Road, B15 3JL | Tuesday 2nd January - Friday 5th January | 4 - 11 years Time 9am - 4pm* | £18.84 (30% off) | £67.84 (£16.96 per day) |

*4-year-old children are welcome and can attend our camps between 9 am - 1 pm (£10.77 daily price/£38.77 weekly booking price)

What to expect: There is always a wide range of new and engaging activities on our camps! From Dodgeball to Dance, Archery to Arts and Crafts, Fencing to 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-course/865411>

For any queries please contact:
jmolloy@premier-education.com



IKA WYTHALL

KICKBOXING CLASS FOR ALL AGES:
TUESDAY EVENINGS 6:00pm-6:55pm
From Reception age and upwards

SCAN ME

To book your free trial!

WOODRUSH COMMUNITY HUB
SHAWHURST LN, HOLLYWOOD, BIRMINGHAM, B47 5JW

TEL: 07538797399 07958 101743 EMAIL: IKAKNOWLEANDWYTHALL@GMAIL.COM

Games Crafts

Woodrush Literacy Leaders
invite you to join in our

Festive Fun

For children aged 8+

Drop in to [Wythall Library](#)
Tuesday 12th December
Anytime between 3:30 -4:30

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

[Click here](#)