



# The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

## Friday 10th December 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.

### **Thank you to the school staff!**

As we approach the Christmas break, I want to take this opportunity to praise and thank my wonderful staff for everything that they have done for The Coppice children over the course of this term. My newsletter, quite rightly, always praises our amazing children for their achievements but, on this occasion and for a number of reasons, I want to start off with the staff. By staff, I mean everyone who works for The Coppice family: teachers, teaching assistants, special support assistants, office staff, site staff, lunchtime staff and cleaners.

I can honestly say that I feel blessed to have such a dedicated and hard-working staff, who have the welfare and progress of our children at the heart of everything they do. This is obviously what, as Headteacher, I ask and demand of them but, without doubt, our staff demand these things of themselves because they want The Coppice to be the best place that it can be for the children in their care.

I can't deny that this term has had many challenges caused by the current situation in wider society. Many staff have contracted Covid and a number have had on-going health effects from this. However, despite this, I have not had one member of staff come to me to say that they don't feel they can be in school or that they are too worried to be. I'm sure, at times, some have understandably felt like this but, in spite of this, all I have seen is overwhelming positivity and a desire to keep going for the children. Those who have needed to be off due to illness, have always been desperate to return which says a huge amount about them.

I know that many of you will thank the staff over the coming week and this is always greatly appreciated, but it was also very important to me that I shared my thanks to them with you as well.

### **Staff leaving at Christmas:**

On the subject of staff, we have three members of staff leaving at Christmas. Two of them: Mrs. Walker (part-time Nursery teacher) and Mrs. Green (part-time Nursery Special Support Assistant) are leaving us permanently. Mrs. Walters (Reception cover teacher in RF) will be leaving us temporarily to go on maternity leave.

Mrs. Walker will be leaving us to become a trainer for the Read Write Inc Phonics programme. Phonics is something that she is very passionate about and, because an opportunity came along that doesn't happen very often, she felt that she couldn't turn it down. Mrs. Walker will be replaced in Nursery by one of our teachers: Miss. Kirby, who is returning from maternity leave after Christmas. She has spent three days in Nursery this week and the children have loved meeting and getting to know her. Miss. Kirby has loved it too! With Miss. Kirby going into Nursery, Miss. Perry has agreed to see the year out with 3KP. This is great news and I know that both children and parents will be reassured by this continuity.

Mrs. Green has been a great appointment for The Coppice and has done an excellent job supporting individual children in Nursery. I know that her decision to leave was a hard one for her but, due to personal circumstances, she has had to make it.

On behalf of the school, I want to thank both Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Green for all they have done for the school during their time with us and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Finally, we wish Mrs. Walters all the very best for her maternity leave. We look forward to hearing news of the safe arrival of her twin boys and to the announcement of their names. We will miss you Mrs. Walters!

### **Choir at Hollywood Christian Life Centre:**

Our involvement, as a school, within the local community is of the utmost importance to us. You will remember me giving you details of our School Council attending the Remembrance Day service at The Drake's Cross Memorial back in November. It therefore gives me great pleasure to tell you about another event that some of our children have attended.

On Thursday, the School Choir visited The Hollywood Christian Life Centre (on Simms Lane) where they joined the congregation for their festive coffee morning (**see photo below**). Whilst there, they entertained all those attending with a range of Christmas songs, which went down really well and were greatly enjoyed by all. The children's conduct was described as 'impeccable' and as always, we were extremely proud of our children exhibiting 'The Coppice Way'. A big thank you to Pastor Steve Crosthwaite for inviting us, to Ms Croft for organising and to Ms Juneman, Mrs Pickersgill and Mrs Field for accompanying them.



### **Reception children's letters to Santa:**

It was a joy to see our Reception children heading off to post their letters to Santa this week. I was so impressed with how responsible the children were with their listening to instructions and lining up before setting off. It was also great to hear about how sensible the children were when walking to the post-box. Well done Reception – you also embodied 'The Coppice Way' and we are very proud of you!

### **Nursery and Reception Promotional video:**

It was amazing this week to see that the Nursery and Reception promotional video that we had made to show off how wonderful our Early Years is here at The Coppice was viewed by so many people on social media. By Thursday, we had had over 1,500 views which is absolutely fantastic! There were also many lovely comments made and these were greatly appreciated. We are extremely proud of the provision that we have created for our youngest children so to be able to show it off and for it to be so well received is a great feeling.

## Nursery and Reception singalongs:

Finally, a huge well done to all of our Nursery and Reception children for their Christmas singalongs this week. Everyone was extremely proud of the children for their performances and they've set the bar high for next week's Year 1 and 2 nativities!

As always, I hope that you have a lovely weekend with your children and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday for our final week before the Christmas break. An exciting week beckons and I can't wait for it!

Kind regards,

Mr.Hutt (Headteacher)

## Star of the Week Hot Chocolate



## PTA Raffle

Tickets for the PTA Christmas Raffle are available on [www.pta-events.co.uk/coppice](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/coppice) or by scanning the QR code until Monday..the PTA will also be at school Monday /Tuesday for any parents who wish to buy paper tickets on the day

1st Prize - £250 Smythe's Toyshop voucher#

2nd prize- Nintendo switch

3rd Prize - Admission for 2 adults & 2 children to West Midlands Safari Park



# Christmas Meals arrangements

This information has been sent out via email but as a reminder.....

**Wednesday 15th December** - Christmas Lunch. The last day for booking is Sunday as Chef Matt will be placing the food order on Monday morning. If you don't book you will need to bring in your own packed lunch.

**Thursday 16th December** - NO HOT FOOD - You can order a packed lunch via Parent Pay or bring in your own.

**Friday 17th December** - OWN CLOTHES DAY! Meal arrangement is as standard.



## School Council Bulletin

The Coppice Primary School	
School Council Meeting Minutes	
Meeting Date and Time	7/12/21
Attendees	Megan, Levi, Alfie, Sam, Dolly, Reuben, Seth, Poppy, Daisy, Hamzah, Jacob, Miss Keogh
Each meeting, this form will be completed during the meetings, to ensure that all matters are recorded for reference. This will be completed by the Secretary of Council.	
Introduction - what was discussed?	Music Lessons, Advice Sport Group USA, Speak Mr Hutt Fundraising, Mrs Webster Drums would need much more room. Could a fundraiser cover this. Miss K to ask Mr Hutt for a Valentines fundraiser.
Issues discussed	Letter picking, John Cole Sale (Fund Staff), Art competition, Garage Sale, Valentine Day, Games Sales, Santa Looz, BINGO, Sponsored tombola. Lunch Times, Hot dinners, talk brought Late Y6's shudder gadgets, Late Extended Spoke to Mr Hutt. → COVID bubbles.
	Next Tuesday Poster Library rules.

This week, the full Council met with Miss Keogh for their second full meeting, led by Hamzah, the Chair. To the left are our meeting minutes, written by Jacob.

Many issues were discussed, including use of the outcome of the Councillor's meeting with Mr Laight about how we use our library. We have had a response from Mrs Juneman on our request for more music lessons, and that has caused us to start planning a fundraiser for the Spring term.

Councillors will now return to class to ask their peers what they think about a new fundraiser. Their meeting with Chef Matt has also been postponed and will take place soon.



# Parent Forum 2022

THE COPPICE



PARENT FORUM

## Parent Forum re-launch!

The Parent Forum is a partnership between parents and the school and is a valuable way to share ideas, positive experiences, concerns and make suggestions for improvement.

### **Aims of the Parent Forum:**

- To work together to improve the education provided for our children
- To share information, knowledge and skills
- Meet in a mutually supportive environment
- Further improve communication between parent/carers and staff/governors

### **Who can be part of the Parent Forum:**

- Any parent / carer of a child currently at The Coppice is welcome to join any parent forum meeting. Other members of The Coppice staff may attend meetings depending upon agenda items. The meetings will be chaired by Mrs Ashwell.

### **Why should I be part of the Parent Forum?**

- It gives you, the parent, an opportunity to get together on a regular basis with other parents to have your say on what the school is doing well, and suggest ideas of how things could be improved.

### **When do we meet?**

- Meetings will take place on a Tuesday afternoon once a half term for an hour. Meetings take place in the staffroom and there is always coffee and cake on offer!

### **What will be discussed at the meetings?**

- Anything relating to improving the school and further developing the partnership between the school and parents. The meetings are informal and are an opportunity for open discussion. Minutes of the meetings will be taken and these will be accessible on the school's website.
- Issues can be raised and discussed during the meeting. It is not, however, a forum to discuss individual children, families or members of staff.

If you are unable to attend a meeting but have something that you would like to raise, please email it to the school office FAO Parent Forum and it will be passed to Mrs Ashwell to be discussed at the meeting.

It would be lovely to have a group of parents who could hopefully commit to attending the meetings on a regular basis but of course we welcome all parents/carers to any of the meetings.

**Our first meeting in the New Year will take place on Tuesday 18th January at 2pm.**

Please [click here](#) if you are able to attend the meeting.



## CAROLS ON YOUR DOORSTEP TUE 14TH & WED 15TH DEC

We are taking 'Mary & Joseph' on tour with a group of Carol Singers from St. Mary's Church & Hollywood Christian Life Centre

[www.doorstepcarols.uk](http://www.doorstepcarols.uk) for more information



[www.wythallchurch.net](http://www.wythallchurch.net)

[www.hollywoodchristianlifecentre.org.uk](http://www.hollywoodchristianlifecentre.org.uk)

### CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES AT WYTHALL LIBRARY



Special Christmas Storytime with a visit from Father Christmas  
£2 per child must be booked in advance as numbers are limited  
FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER 3.30 - 4.30 PM

### CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER 11AM-12PM



TUESDAY 21ST DECEMBER 10.30-11.30  
MAKE A CHRISTMAS MASK, SNOWMAN GARLAND AND MORE  
Christmas Craft Sessions are

£1 per child must be booked in advance as places are limited

Speak to a member of staff for more details and to book your place

Many of you will be out buying Christmas presents for family and friends. E-scooters are becoming more popular and your child/grandchild may be asking for one as a present. Before buying one please consider the following:

**What is an e-scooter?** Electrical scooters (also known as e-scooters) come under the category of "powered transporters". This also covers a range of other personal transport devices which are powered by a motor. "Powered transporters" fall within the legal definition of a motor vehicle under the Road Traffic Act 1988. Therefore, the rules that apply to motor vehicles, also apply to e-scooters.

As a motor vehicle, they must comply with various pieces of Road Traffic Legislation, including but not limited to:

- driving with a licence
- driving/riding with insurance
- driving/riding other than on a road
- need to be taxed



It is not currently possible to get appropriate insurance for privately owned e-scooters, meaning it is illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces.

# Information from Worcestershire County Council

We have been asked to share the following with you.

## School Admissions 2022 – First & Primary School Application Reminder

I am writing to remind you that the closing date for applications for a place in all First and Primary Schools is **Saturday 15 January 2022**.

If you haven't done so already can you please ensure that you submit your application on-line using the [Worcestershire Children First - Citizen Portal](https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnURL=%2FCitizenPortal_LIVE%2F)

[https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en?ReturnURL=%2FCitizenPortal\\_LIVE%2F](https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnURL=%2FCitizenPortal_LIVE%2F)

If you are unable to make your application using the on-line system, please contact School Admissions on 01905 822700 to request an application form. Please note, this application should also be received by School Admissions by **Saturday 15 January 2022**.

It is vitally important that your application is made before the closing date. Late applications receive a lower priority which could mean that you are not offered a place at your preferred school.

If you have already made your application and have received an email to confirm this, please disregard this message.

If you live in Birmingham and pay your council tax to Birmingham (rather than Bromsgrove Council) You should apply through the Birmingham portal.

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school\\_admissions/1786/apply\\_for\\_reception\\_primary\\_school](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1786/apply_for_reception_primary_school)

An advertisement for Slimming World. On the left, there's a photograph of three people (two women and one man) sitting around a table in a restaurant, smiling and eating. The man is holding a glass. The background is dark with some blurred lights. On the right, the Slimming World logo is displayed in large, stylized, gold-colored letters: "Slimming World taste the freedom".

Do you live in Worcestershire?

Are you aged 16+ with a BMI of 30+?

If so, you could be entitled to a **FREE 12-week referral**

To find out more and to self-refer call **01773 546056**

[slimmingworld.co.uk](https://www.slimmingworld.co.uk)

Delivered on behalf of  
 **worcestershire**  
county council

  
**Partnerships**

# St Mary's Church News

## Christingle at St Mary's Church

We missed it last year, but our Christingle Service is back! Join us this Sunday afternoon, 12th December at 4pm, to make your own Christingle to take home. All are welcome, we'd love to see you there!

*We have a Covid risk assessment in place and we ask that teenagers and adults wear a mask to help keep everyone safe; we also ask that if you are feeling at all unwell on the day then you don't attend.*



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

[Click here](#)

