



The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

Friday 7th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a good week and also had a lovely half-term break with your children. The children have returned really well to school and it's clear that they are very much looking forward to the exciting term ahead.

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) launch starting next week!

Next week marks the official start of our very exciting OPAL play three year journey. This will revolutionise the playtime experience for our children with the desired aim being to make it even more fun and engaging as well as achieving further enhanced positive outcomes in terms of learning. This is something that I have wanted for our school for some time and, after much physical development of the playground and some key logistical challenges ironed out, we are finally in a place to begin implementing it. Much more information will come over the coming months including a half a day's training for all staff, which will include lunchtime supervisors) on the second Teacher Education Day in September. This development will be one of the key areas of our next three year School Development Plan (SDP).

On Monday of next week, Kayleigh Atkinson (our OPAL Play Mentor) will be visiting school to observe lunchtimes between 12pm and 1pm and then have a review meeting with me as Head (Strategic Lead), Mrs. Ashwell (Curricular lead for Play), Miss. Carter (Play Coordinator) and Mrs. Lennon (PTA representative) to audit current policies, staffing and provision. During this time, she will be collating a baseline of where we are at at the current time in terms of our play provision in order that we can measure progress moving forward.

Sports Days:

Preparations for our sports days are already underway and the excitement is starting to build! Children have been starting to practise the different events with their teachers in their Physical Education (PE) lessons so that the children are primed and ready for some fantastic competition. As always, the children in Years 1-6 will be competing in their house teams where the House Sports Day Cup will be at stake. We can't wait for the games to begin and to, once again, welcome you all into school in order to enjoy these events and give your children your support.

You have already had the dates and times of these events but, just to remind you, these are as follows:

Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception): Wednesday 19th June 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2): Thursday 20th June 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4): Monday 17th June 1.00 pm – 3pm

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6): Tuesday 18th June 1.00 pm – 3pm

Year 4 Upton Warren off-site trip:

Year 4 have had a fantastic three days at Upton Warren Outdoor Activity Centre this week and gained a huge amount from getting the chance to participate in a whole range of outdoor activities such as climbing, kayaking, and raft-building. The benefits to children of these types of activities cannot be underestimated as they offer something completely different to the classroom environment. In our experience, these trips give the children chance to build confidence, overcome fears and develop new skills and abilities. Many times, over the course of the three days, we often see a completely different side to some of our children. For example, and as I have said many times when talking about the benefits of this trip, I have never forgotten seeing one particular child, who I had previously seen in school as being quite quiet and shy, come alive and showed fantastic team leadership skills in a raft-building task. Therefore, these trips often reveal things about the children that we didn't know which, in turn, allows stronger relationships to be built between staff and children and a further opportunity to ensure that none of our children's talents go undiscovered.



West Mercia Police Online Safety and Vulnerability sessions:

Sam Brace, an Exploitation and Vulnerability trainer with West Mercia Police, has contacted us to ask that we provide you with details of their **new online** Online Safety and Exploitation and Vulnerability awareness training courses.

The sessions are 60-minutes long and, as always, their sessions are fully funded by the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and come at **no cost** to you. There are a number of available dates that are outlined in the flyers which can be accessed and booked via the link below.

[Exploitation and vulnerability training | West Mercia Police](#)

Huge congratulations Zara!

Zara Irish, one of our Year 5 pupils from 5F, recently participated in the West Midlands 4-piece Novice competition over half-term and emerged as a true champion by winning a gold medal for bars in the intermediate 10–12 year olds category. This is a remarkable accomplishment considering she was up against 102 talented gymnasts in her category. Zara's dedication, hard work, and exceptional skills have truly paid off, and her parents and us as a school couldn't be prouder of her achievement.

What made Zara's achievement even more special was the fact that that the competition only awarded the first-place winner with a gold medal. There were no silver or bronze medals given in this category, making Zara's gold medal even more significant. Zara was rightly thrilled about her accomplishment and was very eager to share her joy with her classmates and, of course, me! Zara's dedication and success serve as an inspiration to her peers and are a fantastic example of the incredible talent within our school community.



Celebration corner!



Rosie P and Eva G (2T) and Katie P and Livi S (RT) all performed in their cheerleading show at the weekend. They all did amazingly well and remembered all their routines perfectly. Well done girls - we are very proud of you!



Esme D, and her friends Isla W and Frankie J, all in 1B, took part in a dance show at the weekend at the Palace Theatre Redditch and got medals for taking part. The girls were, quite rightly, very proud of themselves and had a brilliant time performing. Well done girls - we are extremely proud of you too!



A huge well done to 5 year old Lucy S from RT, who is a very keen dancer and recently did a show with Stardust Dance Academy, along with a lot of other pupils last Sunday. Lucy also does the Wednesday dancing with The Coppice but also goes to Light Hall school on Mondays by herself to do Mini Martians dancing too. This meant she performed in 5 dances this weekend and had lots of outfit changes! She had a great time and Lucy's parents, and everyone at The Coppice, are very proud of you too Lucy - well done!

Finally, that just leaves me to wish all of our gymnasts the very best of luck at Gymfest this coming Sunday and to wish you all a lovely weekend - we look forward to welcoming the children bright and early on Monday morning.

Kind regards,

Mr.Hutt (Headteacher)

Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate




Attendance Figures

TOP ATTENDANCE (Last week before half term)

	2T	97.24%
	3L	94.33%

TOP ATTENDANCE 3rd-7th June (This week)

	2P	99.33%
	3L	99.00%