



# The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

## Friday 7th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a good week and are looking forward to the weekend with your children. As always there is lots to share with you all.

### **Big investment in new reading books to support our new 'Essential Writing' approach:**

It has been fantastic over the course of this week and last to start receiving the new reading books that will be used as the key stimuli for our new 'Essential Writing' approach here at The Coppice. We have invested over £3,000 in high quality and diverse texts (pictured below) and there has been huge excitement from both the staff and the children as these books have started to be delivered!

The overwhelming majority of these books have been ordered from our friends at **Bookwagon** who are the people responsible for our Summer Book Fairs and our many author visits. By ordering from Bookwagon, we have saved over £1,000 on what it would have cost us if we had purchased them from elsewhere. Therefore, again, we want to extend our huge thanks to Bookwagon for our much-valued partnership with them.



Our change to the Essential Writing approach has been due to the fact that I am passionate about our children's writing being for a real purpose and an authentic audience. Put simply, the great majority of the writing that we do is meant to be read by others e.g. to entertain, to inform etc. Therefore, all of the new units of writing that your children will be doing will have that real purpose and will be shared with a 'real-life' audience once it has been published. For example, it may be read by other year groups of children, it may be shared with members of the wider community or shared with you as Parents and Carers. Knowing that this will happen is already having a hugely positive effect on our children's enthusiasm for writing and it is great to see!

Obviously your children's writing will continue to be shared at Parent and Carer meetings but some of it will also be shared in our new '**Celebration Gallery**' (pictured above) which you will be able to view when you come into school. I have really wanted this special Gallery for a while now and, finally, it is ready to receive children's work! Every year group will have a board (Nursery to Year 6) and, over time, we will celebrate a variety of curriculum areas.

### **Children's Mental Health Week and Internet Safety Day:**

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, this week we have been marking Children's Mental Health Week by carrying out many different wellbeing and mindfulness activities with the children. Years 1 - 6 also joined a live online assembly (or watched the recording) which explored the theme '**Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**' and we know that the children got a great deal from it in terms of learning how to recognise who they are as a person and how they can help themselves to be healthy in both body and mind - extremely relevant to today's children and society.

Next Tuesday is '**Internet Safety Day 2025**' and we will again be marking this with various, engaging learning activities for Years 1-6 which are all designed to ensure that our children learn how to be responsible when using technology and also how to keep themselves safe online.

## **Nursery and Reception Phonics Workshops - a great success!**

A big thank you to all the Nursery and Reception Parents and Carers who have attended the phonics workshops this week. Your participation was greatly appreciated by both the children and teachers.

Nursery teachers explored syllables and rhyming skills and played 'Silly Soup'. The Reception teachers explained some of the fundamental reading principles and children and adults participated in a reading activity that the children enjoy in their Sounds-Write lessons. Additionally, the key phrases and gestures observed in the session will help support your child's reading journey at home. **This workshop will be repeated next Thursday: 13th February and you can find the link to book a place on the School App.**

**Year One are looking forward to welcoming Parents and Carers on Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th February.** There are still spaces available to book and, again, you can find the link to book on the app. The Year One teachers will guide you through an enjoyable reading activity: 'Seek the Sound' that the children participate in during their Sounds-Write lessons. If for any reason you are unable to attend these workshops but would like more information about phonics teaching at The Coppice, please speak to your child's class teacher. We will be hosting more phonics workshops throughout the year so please make sure to check the year group newsletters for any upcoming workshops.

A huge thank you goes to: Miss Kirby, Mrs Twilley, Miss Thurston, Miss McDonald, Mrs Cox, Mrs Bellamy, Miss Dixon, Mrs Russell and Mrs Lennon for planning and leading these sessions.

## **Year 2 Robotics Workshops:**

On Monday our Year 2 pupils experienced a wonderful Robotics Workshop day. All the children designed their own fairground carousel and then used their computer coding skills to programme it to spin, change direction and even make sounds! They all had a fantastic day. The robotics leader, Jack, commented on how well the children worked together and followed all the instructions. Well done Year 2!



## **Year 4 Egyptian Day:**

On Egyptian day Year 4 did three activities. Firstly, the children sketched the death mask of King Tutankhamun and then used paints to decorate it. Secondly, they learned about hieroglyphics. They cracked a hieroglyphic code, wrote their name in hieroglyphics and made a bookmark. Finally, they conducted a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) project where they had to use marshmallows and dried spaghetti to make a pyramid as stable and big as possible. All the staff had fun and loved seeing all the children dressed in their Egyptian costumes! More pictures can be found on the Year Group Newsletter!!



## **Mr. Hutt and Mrs. Ashwell meet The School Council:**

Mrs. Ashwell and I had a lovely meeting with The School Council and Miss. Danby on Thursday afternoon. The Council had requested the meeting with us in order to give us the feedback that they'd gained from their year groups with regards to all the positives from the implementation of OPAL Play so far, of which there were many. They then presented their 'wish list' for the things that would like to be added in the future. Both Mrs. Ashwell and I were extremely impressed with the children's confidence and presentational skills and we want to say a huge well done to each and every one of them - they were all a credit to our school.



## Esmee does an incredibly generous act for charity!

Esmee, from 6C, did an incredibly generous act this week when she had 13 inches of her hair cut off in order to donate it to The Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust is an incredible charity that provides real hair wigs to young girls with alopecia and those who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment.

Esmee decided to do this in support of her best friend, who has alopecia and because she wanted to help other girls like her feel confident and empowered. Esmee set out to raise £200.00 but, so far, she has raised an absolutely incredible £1,109.00 !!

Obviously, as a school, we are incredibly proud of Esmee and I know that all of her friends and family are too. To show empathy in the way that Esmee has, and to think of others in this way, is a wonderful quality in a child that should be rightly celebrated. Well done Esmee - we think you are amazing!

If you would like to help Esmee raise even more for this fantastic cause you can visit her 'Just Giving Page' at: [https://www.justgiving.com/page/rebecca-grant-1736588299886?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/rebecca-grant-1736588299886?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)



That just leaves me to say, as always, that I hope you all have a lovely weekend with your children and we look forward to seeing all of you bright and early on Monday morning for what will be our last week before the half-term break.

Kind regards,

Mr. Hutt (Headteacher – The Coppice Primary School)

## Star of the Week - Hot Chocolate



# Music Listening and Appreciation

This week's playlist was:

## Africa

- 1) Gabriella Ghermandi - Boncho (2024)
- 2) Ladysmith Black Mambazo - Inkanyezi Nezazi (The Star and the Wiseman) (1998)
- 3) Drakensberg Boys Choir - Shosholoza (2021)
- 4) Miriam Makeba - Pata Pata (1967)

Next week's playlist is:


## Vocal Performances

- 1) Karl Jenkins - Adiemus (1995)
- 2) Billy Joel - The Longest Time (1984)
- 3) Claude-Michel Schönberg - One Day More (1980)
- 4) Guns 'n' Roses - Sweet Child O' Mine (1988)

# Attendance Figures


## TOP ATTENDANCE

27th - 31st January 2025 (Last week)

	2T	98%
	5C	99.67%

## TOP ATTENDANCE

3rd - 7th February 2025 (This week)

	1LR	98.0%
	4R	98.0%