



# The Coppice Whole School Newsletter

## Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a good week and are looking forward to the weekend with your children.

### **Parent Information Evenings (Y1 to Y6):**

It has been really lovely this week to welcome so many of you in person to our Parent Information sessions that were held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. I sincerely hope that the information that you have received has been very useful and informative as this is what we want it to be. Should anything remain unclear though, please don't hesitate to contact your child's Class Teacher.

We do appreciate that not all of you were able to attend these meetings. However, it is vital to us that you still receive the information that was shared. Therefore, in order to help everyone to either access the information again, or to receive it for the first time, we have uploaded the Year Group presentations into the Year group newsletters area on the school website.

### **OPAL Play - we are underway!**

I'm sure that many of your children will have been coming home this week talking to you about the launch of our OPAL (Outdoor Play And Learning) provision at lunchtimes. It's certainly been a very exciting week with our assemblies and the roll out of the first few play choices for the children. As you can see from the photos below, they have been having a wonderful time and this is just the beginning!

To remind you all, OPAL Play is all about giving children the very best free play experience that we can at playtimes and lunchtimes with the key aim being that every child in our school feels that playtime has something for them, is highly engaging and motivational and, most of all, allows them to have fun with their friends as well as children from many different year groups too. In turn, all the evidence points to the type of lunchtime provision we are building having hugely positive effects on mental health, wellbeing, learning and behaviour. The aim is to ensure that all children over the course of their hour lunchtime have 45 minutes of concentrated play.

OPAL is one of the big reasons why I wanted to move Infant lunches (Reception/Year 1 and Year 2) to the Infant Hall. Already we have seen the benefits of this - far less time spent queuing and walking up corridors and far more time playing, which is exactly what the children want and should be doing at lunchtime. In turn, this has meant a quicker turnaround for the Junior children in the Junior Hall, which has also enabled them to have far closer to the 45 minutes play time that we want them to have as well.

So far, the start to this development has been fantastic and, yes, as with any new development involving a lot of logistics, there have been a couple of teething problems for us to consider. However, at The Coppice, we will always work tirelessly to overcome these and get things exactly how we want them for our wonderful children. I think that you'll all agree, when you look at the pictures that we have taken (on the next page of this newsletter) that the time, effort and use of PTA funds is absolutely worth it. We have already had lots of positive feedback from a number of Parents and Carers and I am confident that this will only build. Please be reassured that we will continue to keep you closely informed and involved with OPAL as we continue on this journey over the coming months and years. Your children's faces on the photos say it all really!





It was lovely on Tuesday of this week to have three Spanish teenagers (pictured) visiting The Coppice. The teenagers are on a cultural exchange and, during their time here, are visiting key locations such as London and Birmingham. They are also visiting a few different schools, including Meadow Green, with the main aim of their visit to our country being to practise their English. Therefore, spending some time in our school speaking English was great for them. It also gave a fabulous opportunity for some of our Junior children at The Coppice to practise their Spanish and to do some cultural learning as well, with the teenagers speaking to some of our children about life in Spain and what it's like to go to school there. The Coppice children really enjoyed this opportunity and felt that it was very valuable, especially as Spanish is the language that we teach our children.

### **Dogs and smoking/vaping on site – important :**

Just a quick but very important reminder at the start of the year that, at the children's request, we do not allow dogs on any part of the school site (including car parks and pathways). The only dogs that are allowed are our Thrive dogs: Oscar and M and any certified assistance dogs that are clearly identifiable by their jackets. If this is likely to be the case with anyone dropping off or picking up children, please contact the school office to let them know – thank you. In addition, just a reminder that our whole school site (both wider site and inner site) is a non-smoking and non-vaping area. Please ensure that this is adhered to at all times, again at the request of the children.

### **Medical Conditions and Asthma Policies:**

Both of these policies are on the school website and should be referred to if your child has a medical condition, requires medication or has asthma. It is crucial that Parents and Carers understand the school's policies, parameters and processes with regard to these areas so please familiarise yourself with them if they apply to your child.

### **What an experience for super swimmer Arlo!**

Two weeks ago, Arlo, from 5RB, swam in an event called 'Sprint with the Stars' at the Sandwell Aquatic Centre. This is an event where the children swim heats and the top nine then go through to the final against an Olympic swimmer! In the final, they are given a head start and the Olympic swimmer has to try and catch them. Arlo got to swim in the lane next to his Olympic swimmer in 50 metre freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke. He didn't beat them, but with the times he achieved, this means he's currently ranked 1st in the West Midlands for 50m backstroke and breaststroke and 2nd for 50m freestyle. He is also ranked 8th in the country for 50 metre breaststroke and 12th for 50 meter backstroke. Incredibly, Arlo got to have a photo with his favourite Olympic swimmer: Adam Peaty, who was hosting the event. Unfortunately, Arlo accidentally missed one of his heats but Adam took him under his wing, stood chatting to him and then brought him out to swim the heat on his own, presenting him to the crowd! It therefore went from a disaster, to the best day ever for Arlo! We are extremely proud of you for your achievements Arlo and, with your undoubted talent, I certainly think that we may see you swimming in the Olympics one day yourself! Fingers crossed and we will follow your progress with great interest!



### **What an experience for Elliot and Maisey watching their Dad in the Paralympics!**

Talking of the Olympics, Elliot (3K) and Maisey (1LR) came back to school on Monday after being in Paris to watch their Paralympian Dad: Rob Oliver competing in the 200 metre Kayak event. In an event that has incredibly fine margins timewise (where tenths and hundredths of seconds make all the difference), Rob finished 6th in the final in an incredibly close competition. This was still a fantastic achievement by Rob and, as a school, we are incredibly proud that we have a 'real-life' Paralympian as one of our parents!. As you can see from the photos below, Elliot and Maisey had a lovely time and enjoyed a once in a lifetime week watching their very talented Dad.



**Beau's advert with George Russell is released!**

Examples of our Coppice pupils' talents kept on rolling in this week when I got to view the advert that Beau, one of our Year 6 pupils, filmed with Formula One driver: George Russell in Monaco. The advert was for a company that recruits high-level engineering and technology personnel for other companies. Beau was absolutely amazing in the advert and really showed off her acting ability! Well done Beau - what an experience for you! Again, we will watch your progress with great interest!




That just leaves me, as always, to wish you a restful and enjoyable weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Kind regards, Mr. Hutt

(Headteacher – The Coppice Primary School)

## Attendance Figures

<b>TOP ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>9th - 13th September (This week)</b>		
	<b>2T</b>	<b>99.33%</b>
	<b>4W</b>	<b>99.67%</b>

# Music Listening and Appreciation

As we mentioned last week, each week we will be telling you about the music that the children have been listening to in the mornings. We have attached the list with the Youtube videos incase you want to watch and listen with your child. Please note that in school we only listen to the music, we don't watch the videos. We have quickly checked that content is suitable but you may just want to remain vigilant whilst watching the videos incase there is something we have missed.

This week's playlist was -

## Time Signatures

2/4 [The Entertainer - YouTube](#) Scott Joplin 1902

6/8 [Nothing Else Matters \(Remastered\) - YouTube](#) 1992

3/4 [My Favorite Things from THE SOUND OF MUSIC \(Lyrics\) - YouTube](#) Julie Andrews 1965

5/4 [Dave Brubeck - Take Five - YouTube](#) (MMC) 1959

Next week's playlist is -

## World Peace Day - September 21st

[What The World Needs Now Is Love \(Remastered\) - YouTube](#) Jackie Deshannon - What the World Needs Now (1965)

[Marvin Gaye - What's Going On \(Lyric Video\) - YouTube](#) Marvin Gaye - What's Going On (1971)

[Belfast Child - YouTube](#) Simple Minds - Belfast Child (1989)

[One Day - YouTube](#) Matisyahu - One Day (2009)