

Coppice School

Newsletter

Autumn 19



We are kind
We try our best
We prepare for
the future





Dear Parents/Carers/Staff and Pupils.

The festive season is here! We have a real buzz of excitement around Coppice following the Christmas performances by both Lower School and Upper school. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for attending and supporting the children, in what were fabulous productions. We visited The Cast to see the pantomime Cinderella, and all who went had an amazing time. It is a magical time for children, with so many different celebrations taking place. It is wonderful celebrating the magic of Christmas, with your children, as well as exploring a deeper understanding of kindness and goodwill.

This term we are saying 'Goodbye' to Sarah Grove, who is leaving us to take up a position in another Special school. We would like to thank Sarah for all of her hard work during her many years at Coppice. We wish Sarah, 'Good Luck' in her new venture, and hope she enjoys the new challenge.

Natalie Swearman, our Deputy, is taking some time away from school in her new venture as a 'mummy to be'. Natalie's first baby, is due in January and we are all excited and looking forward to the arrival of Natalie and Dan's baby boy. We wish them both well, and can't wait to meet Baby Parkinson.

Tracey Conlon, has now been promoted to Assistant Head at Coppice, and will be a very valuable member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We would like to take this time to thank parents and carers for your continued support. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy spending quality time with friends and family. I look forward to seeing all the young people back for the start of the Spring Term on Tuesday 7th January.
Best Wishes for 2020,

Kindest Regards

Linda Allison and Karl O'Reilly

Head Teacher & Executive Head Teacher

A Christmas message from the Chair of Governors

The school Governors would like to congratulate all the pupils and staff on an excellent 2019. The school has gone from strength to strength with the recent School Farm being developed to widen our pupils experiences. This compliments the existing facilities which the school offers including Coppice Choice (the schools own shop) and our own swimming pool.

The Governors recognise the pleasing atmosphere which can be found with pupils happily engaged on a range of tasks, supported and guided by all members of staff.

The School is well placed to meet the challenges of modern education and will be supported by being part of the new Nexus Family Group of Schools.

Merry Christmas to everyone and a Happy New Year for 2020.

Paul Burns (Chair of Governors)

'All aboard' After School Club



Wow! What a great first term we have had. Our pupils have completed some great projects with the artists from DARTS.

The first artist our pupils worked with was Karen. The pupils made a 'Coppice School' collage and explored different medias, focusing on cold and warm colors. The pupils then worked with an artist called Dan. They made rockets, monsters and trees using recycled materials.

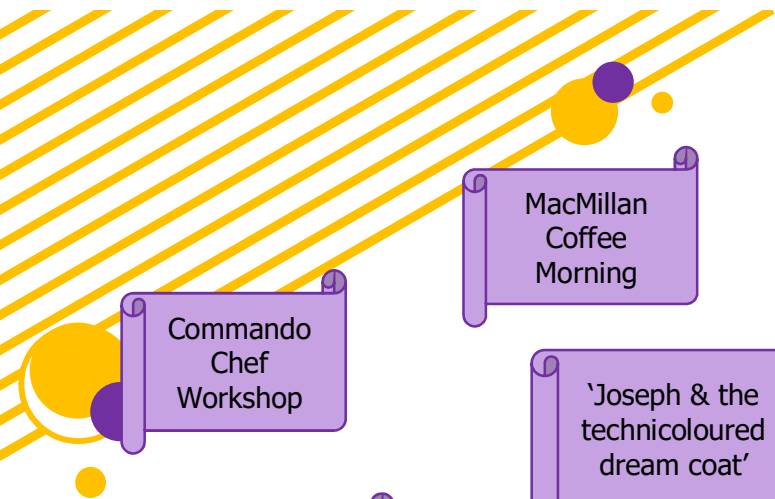
They followed this by working on a project with Angie. The pupils enjoyed exploring the use and manipulation of clay and making model animals for the school farm.

During the second half term, pupils attending 'All Aboard' club, worked with a musician called Rob who really helped our pupils build on their confidence and self-esteem, encouraging them to perform in front of others. Pupils also had the opportunity to create different sounds using specialized Ipad software and DJ decks. Finally, our pupils had a very special visit from a magician called Bob. The pupils were amazed by his skills and even had the chance to learn a few magic tricks themselves.

Our pupils have had fantastic fun this term and have worked really hard both individually and as a group, developing new friendships and interests and building on their self-confidence and self-esteem.

If you would like any more information, please contact Annabelle Peacock





MacMillan
Coffee
Morning

All Aboard
Arts Award

Yorkshire
Wildlife
Park

Commando
Chef
Workshop

'Joseph & the
technicoloured
dream coat'

Bochia
Tournaments

Rebound
Therapy

Computing &
PE with
Crooksbrook

DARTS
Drama &
Music

Xscape

Doncaster
Fire Station

Halloween
Disco

Awesome
Autumn
enrichment

The Green
Tree Inn

Den
Building
Day



Stockeld
Park

Lions
Christmas
Party

Chinese
Restaurant

Cinderella
Pantomime

Football
Tournaments

'Live Music
Now'

Local
Garden
Centres

Bowling

Local Cafes

Cinema

Local
woods and
parks

Christmas Performances

A huge well done to our pupils this year for performing their Christmas shows! They were fantastic and are growing in confidence every year! Thank You for your support. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at Coppice!



Reminders

Please refer to your child's individual timetable, home-school diary and Tapestry.

Lovely Ladybirds – EYFS

Our little ladybirds have settled in really well this term and are becoming familiar with the school and our regular activities. This term our topic has been Rainbows and we have explored a new colour each week. We have enjoyed our sensory stories of 'Wow' Said the Owl' and 'We're Going on a Polar Bear Hunt' and we get really excited because we have learnt what will come next. We are getting used to Forest Schools and love the hammock and the dens we build. Our favourite thing of all is Shabang, where we move to music.





Fantastic Frogs

In Fantastic Frogs we have been super busy learning about colours. We have joined in with lots of practical activities to learn about rainbows. Our favourite was our Science experiment which involved skittle sweets! As well as colours we have been learning about ourselves and our emotions. We made happy and sad faces using Cheerios. This term we have been getting changed independently for PE and taking part in gymnastics and target practise. In forest schools we have been exploring different textures by mixing water and mud! So much mess! We finished the term with our amazing Christmas concert and a trip to the Pantomime. We have been super busy and can't wait for spring term! The team would like to wish you all a lovely Christmas.

Reminders

*PE kit is needed for Monday afternoons
Swimming kits are needed for Tuesday afternoon
Outdoor clothing and a change of shoes is needed for
Wednesday afternoon
£1 contribution towards baking supplies*



Reminders

*Please remember to contribute £1 per week for baking supplies.
We need swim kits and PE kits in school ready for use and please,
please label everything with your child's name.*



Busy Bees

What a busy term. There have been colours everywhere.

Our topic has been 'Rainbows' and we have looked at different colours, mixed colours and used colours in every way possible. Then we got busy celebrating; Yom Kippur, Diwali, Halloween and Christmas and even had a fantastic sensory story about Remembrance that our friends in Upper school wrote for us.

We are ready for a lovely Christmas break now and when we return our classroom will become a home for some 'Brilliant Beasts', our topic for next term.

Reminders

*Swimming on Monday & P.E on Thursday
– Please remember kits!
Thank you.*



Maple

In Maple Class this term we have been exploring whether or not we can make a rainbow. We have done this through a range of art techniques and crazy science experiments. The children really enjoyed experimenting with colour through tie-dye techniques, designing bath bombs, and have created some rainbow art – assessing their own progression from their first draft to final. We have also loved learning about the Jolly Postman, making the book come alive with a variety of activities and retelling the story using Talk4Writing. We have had a fantastic Autumn term getting to know each other and Maple Class have all settled in to their new class.



Reminders

*Swimming on a Monday – please remember kits, towel
and a swimming nappy if needed.*

Thank you.



Willow

This term Willow class have been exploring the colours of the rainbow! We have engaged in many fun, sensory experiences and have worked hard on interacting positively with others. Engagement, communication and development of skills have been our main aims in all the activities we take part in. We have become settled as a new class group this term and we are tolerating lots of new environments and stimulus.





Rowan

Rowan Class have had a fantastic term with lots of new and exciting enrichment activities. In our Happy Centred School lesson, we have focused on playing a game of Boccia developing lots of important life skills such as listening, sharing and taking turns. We finished the project with a game against North Ridge and it was lovely to see all the pupils making new friends. In PE we have been really lucky that pupils from Crookesbroom Primary join us for the afternoon. We have had a wonderful time working in pairs to create gymnastics sequences, focusing on balancing. Our topic this term has been 'Rainbows' we have had lots of fun in science learning how to make rainbows and loved getting creative designing our own T-shirts in our Project lessons.

Reminders

PE is on a Monday and Swimming is on a Friday. Farm lesson is on a Tuesday and Forest School Lesson is on a Friday so outdoor boots or wellies are advisable. We also bake every Thursday a £1 contribution is really appreciated.



Reminders

Our Community Visits are on Monday, PE lessons on Tuesday, swimming and Coppice Farm on Wednesday and Forest School on Friday.



Oak

In Oak Class this term we have been learning about colours through completing lots of scientific experiments related to weather and colour changing.

We had a go at making clouds, rainbows and rain, and using natural food dyes to dye bandages. We also tried to act out emotions through learning about feelings of The Colour Monster. We even went to the local park in Barnby Dun to film our movie. It was so much fun!

We have also loved learning about Elmer, the Patchwork Elephant. We practiced retelling the story through using symbols and pictures.

Throughout the whole term, we tried very hard to improve our social skills and tolerance of each other in close proximity through Theraplay activities.





Hazel

This term our topic has been 'Rainbows'. We have had lots of fun exploring colour using food colouring, play dough, paint and melting wax crayons. We have also explored and tasted a rainbow of coloured foods. We went to the woods and looked at all the different colours, working together to make an outdoor art picture.

One of our books had been 'Rainbow Fish' where we learned about sharing and being kind to others. We looked at the awful flooding in the area and decided to make a Christmas Hamper to donate for a family and everyone in the class planned and chose something to go in the hamper. Our class have been really busy in the run up to Christmas, taking part in the Christmas concert and going to the pantomime.

Next term our topic is 'Brilliant Beasts' and we are looking forward to learning and finding out all about different creatures.

Thank you for all your support over the past term. Have a lovely Christmas holiday and we will see you in the New Year.

Reminders

Please can you send in PE kits for Tuesday, swimming kit for Thursday and wellies and warm outdoor clothing for the farm on Monday and Forest schools on Thursday. Thank you.



Reminders

Please can we have PE kits on a Wednesday, swimming kits on Thursday, wellies on a Monday (forest school) and Wednesday (farm) and a warm coat every day so we can complete outdoor learning activities.

Holly

This term our topic has been 'Rainbows' we have explored colours by dyeing flowers and vegetables and performing a walking water experiment.

We have also been learning about different emotions and how to represent feelings through art and drama. Whilst learning about our emotions we have been learning how to manage our emotions and stay calm.

Holly Class were also busy celebrating Diwali, Halloween and Christmas.

After our brilliant performance in the Christmas concert and lots of festive fun all our pupils are ready to spend some time with our families and make some fantastic memories.

Next term we will be transforming our outdoor area into a Minibeast garden, building a wormery and growing butterflies to release into the wild.

Thank you for all of your support this term. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas, from the Holly Class team.





J1

J1 has had a brilliant first term with lots of exciting enrichment opportunities. We have performed at St Lawrence Church, went to see Cinderella Pantomime, attended the Thorne Lions Christmas party, where we saw a magician and met Santa and have also planned our own bowling and lunch trip out as part of our enterprise project. Our enterprise project for Christmas was a fantastic success and the pupils were able to use their new sewing skills. Thank you to everyone who supported the pupils. Pupils have really developed their confidence this term, not only when performing but also in their ability to increase independence in lessons.

Reminders

*Please complete and return Homework books, if there are any issues with this, please get in touch.
Please check home-school diaries every night.
PE Kits on Tuesdays please.
Next term our theme is 'Brilliant Beasts'.*



*We have our community visits every Tuesday. Our swimming sessions at Thorne end in December so swim kits won't be needed after Christmas.
PE kits are needed every Wednesday please.
Our farm learning is every Friday. Wellies or old boots would be much appreciated if possible please.
Please check home-school diaries every night.
Our theme next term is 'Brilliant Beasts!'*



J2

J2 have had a very busy first term to the year! We have enjoyed weekly Forest School sessions where we have toasted marshmallows and made popcorn on a campfire and tried our hands at natural art using clay, leaves and berries. We have developed our football and basketball skills in PE and done some amazing balance in gymnastics. We have had an amazing term swimming at Thorne and all students have made fantastic progress. Our enterprise this term has been making hot sandwiches for staff every Friday morning and students have been developing their skills in the kitchen as well as their communication and money skills taking orders every week. With the profits we have made we are going Bowling and out for lunch before the end of term.





J3

J3 have had a busy and very successful first term. Students have been responsible for driving their own learning in forest school and they have been taking part in learning, that they have planned themselves. We have explored a range of possible career options and researched ways in which we can get into different careers. We have had an art focus this term where students have developed line drawing techniques looking at the ways an artist will use expressive lines to convey feelings. J3 have done lots of exercise to keep their bodies healthy and I am hopeful that this is something that they will continue. As the term has progressed students have become more confident and taken responsibility for their own learning. I am really excited to see them perform their own version of the 12 days of Christmas at the Christmas concert to finish off what can only be described as a fantastic term.

Reminders

*Swimming lessons start the first Tuesday back after the holiday at Thorne Leisure Centre.
PE is every Wednesday / Thursday – jogging bottoms are advisable during the colder months.
Old clothes and shoes/boots for our Farm garden lesson please.*



Reminders

Swimming kits every week and a spare set of clothes would be useful for road safety walks and community visits, warm coats and suitable shoes for the weather. If possible, please could you send in a named pair of wellies that we can keep at school. Our next topic is "Brilliant Beasts" and our sensory stories will be 'Dinosaur Roar' and 'Under the Sea'. If you would like a copy of the sensory story to use at home, please let me know.



Pathfinders

We have been enjoying our new friends and changes to our classroom environment – the hammock has been a big hit! This term, we have been investigating colours with our sensory story "The Story of the Rainbow" (An Indian legend) which has provided lots of opportunities to get messy and have fun playing together. After half term, we moved on to our second story "Pick a Pine Tree" where we learned about decorating for Christmas. This story finished with a trip to a Christmas Adventure at Stockeld Park in Wetherby where we picked our own real pine tree for class and enjoyed the woodland walk with sounds, lights and sculptures to interact with. We brought our tree back to class and had lots of fun decorating it as we had practiced through the sensory story ☺ We enjoyed showing our video at the Christmas concert too! We have also been enjoying TacPac which has helped us to develop appropriate touch, Rhyme time where we explore sensory poetry and rhymes, and Playing with Sounds where we have fun making different speech sounds and doing crafts and sensory activities.





Reminders

Please refer to your child's individual timetable and home-school diary

A1 – Key Stages 4/5

This term our project work has been 'The Repair Shop' We have looked at a variety of activities with the idea of repairing electrical equipment and using electrical equipment safely in the kitchen and in a home situation. The students work in three groups in the sixth form with a curriculum that is suited to their needs.

Our pupils have planned their own visits this term, with Group 2 going to Xscape and playing 3D golf, the whole of 6th form out to the Cinema in relation to our positive relationships and friends work and Group 3 have visited many different restaurants and shopping outlets.

Some of the events that the pupils organised included Macmillan coffee morning, the Halloween party and a special afternoon tea party for B&Q staff who over the summer painted the entire school.

We have also been working hard on planning for our future and looking at different roles within the community. Our Employment pathway pupils have been out on many industrial visits to look at the different career paths that are open to them when they leave Coppice School. These have included King Asia factory and Army cooks and taster sessions.

Some pupils completed a Wicks carpentry day, building new benches for the lower school sensory outdoor area. All of our students have enjoyed preparing and cooking their own lunches once a week, working towards their independence skills.

Our pupils have had different work placements over the term, including our local Library Games Morning to working at the local Care home as a care assistant. These work placements will continue with other pupils next term.



Careers, Employability and Enterprise update Autumn 2019

In upper school, our pupils work towards the 'Prince's Trust Achieve Programme'. This term they have been working hard towards their modules, both in and out of school!

Key Stage 3 students have been working hard on the module: 'Teamwork!', the students have...

- taken part in the Commando Chef Event and worked with the Royal Marines to make a healthy meal - 17/09/19
- taken part in an Industry Visit and found out all about the world of work at Tesco - 23/09/19
- taken part in the VIY Project Day and build a bench/planter for our school community sensory garden – 03/10/19
- started their own business 'Coppice Make & Sell' and are working hard as a team to make this venture a success – Ongoing
- taken part in the Ryman Enterprise Challenge and worked hard to put together an idea for a new stationery product – 11/11/19
- taken part in an Industry Visit and found out all about the world of work at King Asia's a specialist oriental food manufacturer -13/11/19
- taken part in a Discover! Creative Careers Week event and found out all about the world of work in the arts industry - 22/11/19

Key Stage 4 and 5 students have been working on:) 'Community Project', the students have...

- taken part in the Commando Chef Event and worked with the Royal Marines to make a healthy meal - 17/09/19
- taken part in an Industry Visit and found out all about the world of work at Tesco - 23/09/19
- one of our Yr13 students has been working with his 'Trusted Mentor' to prepare for a 'Supported Internship' in Yr14 – Ongoing
- taken part in the VIY Project Day and build a bench/planter for our school community sensory garden – 03/10/19
- started their own business 'Coppice Make & Sell' and are working hard as a team to make this venture a success – Ongoing
- taken part in work experience placements at Hatfield Library 'Games Morning Assistant' and Hatfield House Care Home 'Care Assistant' – Ongoing
- taken part in the 'Progression Towards Employability Workshops' and are working hard to take those steps towards further education and employability – 07/11/19 (7-week course)
- taken part in a Discover! Creative Careers Week event and found out all about the world of work in the arts industry - 22/11/19



If you would like any information about Preparing pupils for life after Coppice, please contact Tracey Senior



YOUTH
CAN
DO IT

Training Opportunities for staff

This term, our staff have had access to meaningful and high quality professional development activities, that will support us in improving outcomes for our pupils

All staff have had the following training...

- NSPCC – 'Speak Out, Stay Safe'
- Dean Beadle – A guest speaker with Aspergers
- Family and Parental Engagement
- First Aid
- Safeguarding

Some staff have had more specific opt-in training including...

- Learning through Landscapes – 'The outdoors'
- Fine Motor Skills
- Muscle Stretch & Proprioception
- Oral tactile stimulation
- Deep Pressure/ Massage
- Visual Perception
- Weighted Therapy



External training for relevant staff has included...

- EEF Impact of Pupil Premium
- SEND Reviewer Training
- Royal Ballet Training
- Richard Hirstwood - Curriculum intent, implementation and Impact
- Local Authority – Relationship Sex Education Consultation Groups
- Research Schools - Maths Hub
- English Challenge Partners - Reading, Reciprocal Reading
- Makaton Study Day
- Fusion Maths Hubs - Developing Working Partnerships for SEND and Maths
- Careers Leader Training
- Storytelling in Maths
- Countryside Educational Visits Accreditation Scheme Training
- Get Ready for Statutory Relationships Sex Education
- Australia Research Schools Visit
- Challenge Partners Programme
- National Professional Qualification for Headteachers
- National Professional Qualification for Senior Leaders

We have contributed in sharing practice in the local area to other professionals by delivering Makaton Training, Initial Teacher Training in autism strategies, conducting SEND reviews in other schools, and moderating work across the authority.

Friends of Coppice School

PROM NIGHT!! A fantastic night was had by all!!



Our Next Meeting: Thursday 9th January 3pm

Friends of Coppice School is a group of parents, staff and community members who meet to arrange fund raising events and enrichment experiences for our children and young adults.

We welcome new members – if you would like more information please contact Tracey Conlon or Alison Coates or email friends@coppiceschool.com

Future Events:

February 2020 – Karaoke Night at the Blue Bell Pub in Hatfield for Coppice's Young People and their Families

February 2020 – Bollywood Fund Raising Night at Mumbai Restaurant, Stainforth

April 2020 – Fund Raising Event at Bay Horse, Hatfield