

# Coppice School

## Newsletter

Autumn 20



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





Dear Parents and Carers,

We have almost made it to the end of the term and Christmas is just around the corner! It has certainly been a very strange term, if not year. I am so proud of the resilient, supportive and compassionate school community we have, which has ensured the consistency for our children and families during these times. I make no apologies for once again saying, 'Thank you'. Whether our staff and children are learning together remotely, or in class together, their efforts and achievements are astounding. Each and every one of our families and members of staff have gone above and beyond; I am so very proud and grateful.

This is my last Christmas at Coppice school, and one, which I wish we could have celebrated in true Coppice style. I am sure you have all missed our usual Christmas performances held in school (I have!) but the children and staff have worked especially hard to ensure you can enjoy Key stage and class performances on the website, so please, please take time to enjoy.

As of January 2021, I will be working 3 days a week, leading up to my retirement at Easter. (more on that next term!) Natalie will be returning from Maternity leave, and she will be working alongside me as Interim Head of School and Tracey will be supporting us in her new role as Deputy Head.

I hope you enjoy reading about the children's achievements, in our termly newsletter, they have been so busy!

All that remains to be said is, 'I hope you all have a safe and truly amazing Christmas that is filled with love and laughter, and that 2021 is a Happier and Healthier New Year, for everyone!'

Take care, fondest wishes to all.

*Linda x*

Linda Allison  
Head teacher  
Coppice school  
Part of Nexus Multi Academy Trust



Message from Chair of governors:

I wish to send Christmas greetings to you all, the wonderful staff and all the pupils at Coppice School.

This has been a difficult and challenging year with low and high moments but the school, because of its strong foundations of love and respect for the children in our care, has come through.

I am looking forward to 2021 with time to recap and recognise what the school has achieved. I will particularly look forward to not having to do meetings over the internet!

Merry Christmas and a better New Year for 2021

With Best Wishes



Paul Burns



## Reminders

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

### Lovely Ladybirds – EYFS

We have had a busy term in Ladybirds class! We have explored materials such as Wood, Metal, Plastic and now Paper. Our sensory stories have been the highlight of the day...especially when the whoopee cushion came out! Our lovely Ladybirds have confidently explored Forest schools, spending time in the hammock and hiding in the den. We have worked hard in our life skills sessions, we can now all take off our own shoes and socks, we are getting more confident using scissors and can use a knife to chop fruit and vegetables. As always we are working hard on our communication skills and our PECS cards are being well used!



**Reminders**  
Please remember £1 snack  
money each week.



### Fantastic Frogs

What a fabulous term we have had in Frogs. We have been getting messy in our investigation of changing materials; lots of colours and textures explored.

In our English works we have concentrated on developing writing skills through a range of activities and stories.

In maths we have built on our counting skills and are beginning to look at measuring.



### Reminders

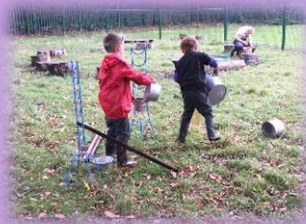
**Please make sure all spare clothes, swim kits, PE kits and coats are clearly named 😊  
Please make sure your child has a set of spare, named clothes in case of need.**



### Busy Bees

Well this has been a busy, messy but fun filled term x We have learnt lots about plastic pollution and looking after our oceans and we have explored many different materials – thanks to our Santa's beard story shaving foam has been our favourite exploration to date We know these have been strange and difficult times for all and we wish to thank you all for your continued support and kindness.

Happy Christmas from all in Busy Bees.







## Maple

Wow, what a fantastic first term back in Maple Class! The children have settled back in enjoyed seeing and catching up with their friends.

One of the highlights this term has been learning the very funny story of The Little Mole. We retold the story through a puppet show which was shown to the whole school in assembly. The children loved creating the puppets out of recycled items in our DT lessons. Maple Class have also enjoyed their Science lessons this term. We have been exploring materials and carrying out a range of experiments to test their properties. We had lots of fun with the 'waterproof' experiment where we built and tested dens. It is safe to say we got soaked! Enjoy the Christmas break and see you in January to start our 'School of Rock' project. Get your air guitars ready!

## Reminders

PE Lessons have now moved to Tuesday.  
A £1 Snack donation would be greatly appreciated.  
If you have a spare pair of wellies send them in to school.



## Reminders

**If possible, please could you send in a sports-style water bottle that we can keep in class so we have regular opportunities to drink after we've been active.**

**Next term, we will be learning about world music, so it would be very helpful to find out if your student has any particular likes or dislikes.**



## Willow

We've had some changes in class this term. Tracey has moved to her confirmed role as Deputy Head so Catherine has taken over as full-time teacher in Willow. We have reorganised our teaching timetable to build in opportunities for learning through physical activities and real-life learning as well as the more structured learning challenges.

We have had lots of fun exploring our Sensory Circuit every morning, learning about speech with Playing with Sounds and exploring our sensory story. This half term it has been "Jack Frost" and we've had fun making marks on cold 'windows' and throwing fake snowballs at each other. It has been lovely to get to know all the students and have fun together



## Rowan

Our topic this term has been Reduce, Reuse and Recycle! Rowan class have loved the book 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley'. We had lots of fun creating a sensory story and made our own kites out of recycled items. We explored the different sea creatures in the story and looked at the importance of recycling our rubbish.

In our project lessons we have made our own reusable bags, exploring different materials and the different ways we can stick and sew them together. We created and designed our own logos using different media and ICT programs. We have added our own designs focusing on different colours and shapes.

In PE we developed our ball skills, while also focusing on turn taking, sharing and working as part of a team. This half term we have been developing our gymnastics skills learning how to roll and travel on, off and over small apparatus.

We have recently experienced some Diwali celebrations, tasting different foods and loved making our own Diwali lanterns.

## Reminders

**PE is currently on a Monday and Thursday – indoor and outdoor kit is required.**

**Forest School is on a Thursday – wellies, gloves, hats and scarves are advised.**



## Reminders

**PE on Thursdays, please send the PE kits. Forest School on Thursdays. Please send wellies so we can go outside and have some fun splashing in the puddles.**



## Oak

Pupils loved testing materials and experimenting with changing textures. They were brilliant at sorting rubbish into different bins!

We were working on improving our problem solving skills when making objects and games from recycling materials.

Pupils made stilts from giant tins, an animal themed bowling game, recycled car track, building blocks, Green Pigs can slam, a sensory walk (giant feet with various textures) and various types of boats.

Pupils practiced their knowledge of textures and materials while completing activities linked to our very popular English story "The Story of the Little Mole Who Knew it was None of His Business". Pupils made different types of poos, recognised animals through pictures, plastic figurines, symbols, signs and sounds. They also were working on improving describing pictures in the story through matching photos and symbols. Some of the pupils learnt parts of the story!!

Our new story is "The Jolly Postman, or, other people's letters"





### Hazel

This term Hazel have been looking at packaging and re-using our rubbish. We have had lots of fun in science making lava lamps and 'exploding' fountains using mentos, fizzy pop and different plastic bottles.

We learnt about textures and explored different materials through our story 'The Mole Who Knew That It Was None Of His Business'.

This half term we have looked at the stories about the Jolly Postman and have been giants, finding tiny words and pictures, we made different types of porridge and have been looking at letters to Father Christmas.

The children have enjoyed music therapy and have joined in and responded really positively to our 'Playing with Sounds' sessions.

Next term our topic will be 'School of Rock' and we will be exploring and making sounds in different ways, looking at different types of music and continuing to learn through exploration and practical activities.

### Reminders

Please can you send in a spare set of indoor and warm outdoor clothes so we can carry on learning outdoors as much as possible.



### Reminders

As the weather is turning cold and wet please could you send in wellies, gloves and hats so we can continue our outdoor learning whilst keeping warm.



### Holly

This term Holly class have been having lots of fun junk modelling and carrying out science experiments.

All pupils worked really hard building a volcano sculpture and mixing ingredients to make it erupt. We learnt about different materials through our story 'Someone Swallowed Stanley' and did lots of number work, even learning some of our timetables.

In Autumn 2 we read the story 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. We wrote and posted our own Christmas cards, made a board game in Maths and paper mache Santa sacks.

In September we also started learning about road safety. This is an area which we will be focusing on all year so we can learn how to be safe in the community.







### Reminders

**PE kits are needed every Tuesday please. These will be sent home on a weekly basis to be washed. Pupils in J1 also need slippers to wear in class and wellies to use during outdoor learning.**

### J1

J1 have had a great first term to the year! We have really enjoyed our topic Pinocchio and have developed our performance and speaking skills, writing our own scripts and performing these. As part of these performances, we have developed our measure and number skills, designing and building our own puppets. We have worked really hard to build and develop friendships and as a whole class we have made great steps towards being a 'good friend'. This term, we have also been learning about what mental health is and what the term 'lonely' means and what we can do to help ourselves and others if they feel lonely. Through our topic Pinocchio, we have been learning about recycling and how toy production has changed over the years.



### Reminders

**PE kits every Wednesday please. Boots or wellies and old clothes for Forest School and our farm lessons (Tuesday and Thursday) would be much appreciated.**



### J2



J2 have had a very busy first term to the year! We have enjoyed weekly Circle Time sessions where we have been developing our communication skills and learning about the importance of public and private. We have developed our teamwork skills in PE through games, use of the touch wall and pupil led warm up and cool down activities. We have enjoyed learning about recycling, helping the environment and reducing waste. We made our own mini-landfill to find out how different materials decompose and have recycled clothing to make Christmas decorations for enterprise. We have also upcycled old keys and CDs to make spinners and wind chimes for our outdoor areas. We have developed our science skills and enjoyed making slime, creating art with soap and investigating what happens when you mix different materials together.



### J3

J3 have worked hard this term and as part of the school reuse, recycle and repair topic they have designed and constructed some pallet furniture for our outdoor area with some specialist help from our caretaker Scott. We have also started the Crisp Packet Project where we have been collecting and creating survival sheets / bivi bags for the homeless, KS5 are going to take over this project next term and collaborate with local business' to support the homeless in Doncaster. In P.E, we have covered dodgeball and gymnastics. We have finished the term off with our Christmas video in which they have not only performed in, but also edited the videos themselves. I can honestly say; they have made me so proud this term and have all made great progress.

### Reminders

**P.E kits every Thursday.  
Lunch contributions of £2 each  
Friday.**



### Reminders

**As we are outside in all weathers, please could you send in some wellies that we can keep in school? It really helps to have indoor and outdoor footwear during these winter months.**

**Please could you send £1 per week in to support the cost of our cooking and communication activities.**



### Pathfinders

We have had a few changes in class this term. Catherine is still the teacher for Pathfinders, but has taken on the additional challenge of running Willow class too. Margaret is now full-time in Pathfinders and has really enjoyed getting to know the students and our routines.

We have been investigating a new TacPac experience (set 5), which we've all enjoyed and we've had fun in our Jabadao sessions exploring moving to music from Stomp using recycled materials. We have made sandwiches, toasties and soup in our cooking sessions and had a smell if not a taste of everything 😊

We have set up a class YouTube channel with playlists of our favourite music and we are all getting very good at choosing the ones we like!

We've all had a lot of fun learning and trying new things and getting to know each other.







**Reminders**  
**Group 1 – Lunch contributions of £2 every Wednesday. Sports Kits on Friday**  
**Group 2 and 3 – Lunch Contribution of £2 every Thursday, Swimming on Wednesday.**



## A1 – Key Stages 4/5



We have been really busy in Post 16 this term choosing, making and selling lots of products for Enterprise and learning some skills for the World of Work. As well as making seasonal products for Halloween and Christmas, we have been making recycled paper bricks for use on chimeneas as well as recycling paper to make note books and post it notes. Group 1 have been busy making Chutney to sell, using fresh ingredients from the farm.

The Enterprise gives us lots of opportunities to work with money and develop our English skills.

We have been learning other new skills, writing and editing the adverts to sell our products – the adverts have been shown around school on Linda's virtual assembly.

We have also been building on our independent living skills, cooking meals as part of a group and looking at how to shop safely online.

As always, we have done lots of work on the farm, helping to tidy it and get it ready for spring as well as looking after the animals.

Group 1 have been working with Higher Rhythm to write a song as part of their work towards the Arts Award Bronze. Group 1 and 2 have been working with Tom from Active Fusion to complete their Unified Sports Leaders Award.



## Careers, Employability and Enterprise update Autumn 2020

*Upper School students have been working hard this term to continue to build their Careers-related knowledge and skills...*



Our students have been busy taking steps towards building the eight **Essential Skills** of **listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, leadership and teamwork** – these skills are the ultimate transferable skills needed for life and in a workplace.

### Our Careers-related learning as included:

- **World of Work: 'Enterprise' – Coppice Make & Sell:** Our students have been working as a member of a team to make and sell products. They have worked hard to build their **'Teamwork' skill** through working cooperatively with others to achieve a shared goal.  
**Qualification and Accreditation Link:** Prince's Trust Achieve Programme Qualification Unit: Entry Level + **-Undertaking an Enterprise Project**; AQA Unit Award Scheme Accreditation Units: Pre Entry/Entry Level - **Make Products for Sale**.
- **World of Work: 'Performing Arts' - Producing a Song for Global Release:** A1 students have been writing a song and producing music. They have worked hard to build their 'Creativity' skill through using their imagination and generating new song lyric ideas!  
**Qualification and Accreditation Link:** Prince's Trust Achieve Programme Qualification Unit: Entry Level + **-Personal Project**; AQA Unit Award Scheme Accreditation Units: **Group Music Composition** (Pre Entry Level); **Write a Song and Product Music** (Entry Level).  
**Employer Link:** Higher Rhythm
- **Functional Skills English and Mathematics Qualification:** Mock exams were held w/c 12 October 2020, ready for Spring Term Exams Week. A big WELL DONE to all the students that sat their mock exams!



 *If you would like any information about Preparing pupils for Life after Coppice, please contact our Careers Leader: Tracey Senior*

# Training Opportunities for Staff

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

## All staff have had the following training...

- 'Floor time'
- Phonics
- Relationships and Health Education
- Physical Active Learning
- Outdoor Learning
- Reciprocal Reading
- Positive Lunchtimes
- Safeguarding Updates
- Computing
- Moderation
- Intensive Interaction

## External training (virtual) for relevant staff has included...

- National Professional Qualification for Senior Leaders
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) Training
- Careers Leader Training
- Safeguarding Lead Training



# Eco Schools



We are trying our best to change the way we think about rubbish at Coppice!

We joined the Eco Schools and pupils from Key Stage 5 found a way of giving scrap paper another life. They are making paper bricks that can burn for an hour in your fireplace and produced mini notebooks. It is not too late to buy them! Each bubble is involved in collecting scrap paper. Due to the current restrictions, pupils from the Student Council were unable to conduct a walk across the school and assess our areas for improvement. To make it possible pupils and class teams in bubbles are producing videos, showing the classroom and the area each class uses. Then the council members will watch them together with class peers and complete a questionnaire to choose three Topics that we as the school will be working on. It looks like one of them will be Waste! We already have outdoor recycling bins.





# Coppice Records!

We are proud to announce that our 3<sup>rd</sup> single  
**'No! Global Warming'**  
will be released on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020!  
*Have a listen on 'Spotify', 'YouTube' etc...*

A big WELL DONE to Georgia, Hannah, Thomas, Ahmed, Alex,  
Danny, Callan, Ella, Sam and Dawid!



Written and Produced by Upper  
School pupils,  
including singing and percussion.



# Coppice Farm and Gardens



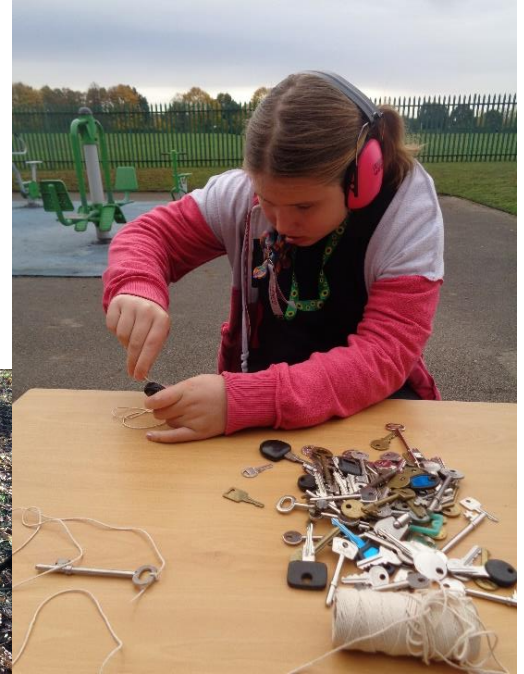
**The students in KS5 have been working hard this term to clear and lay grass seed to provide an area for seating, wild flowers and herb planters. They have done an amazing job caring for the animals each day and are looking forward to developing a new allotment area in the Spring.**





# Enrichment

Due to COVID we have not been able to go 'out and about' or have visitors into school but we have worked hard to still provide lots of exciting and stimulating activities!





# Christmas at Coppice









