

Coopersale & Theydon Garnon C.E Primary School



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Newsletter – December 2023

Eco-warriors club award

We received fantastic news recently – that our Eco warriors club won 1st place as the Bee Good Primary School Winner! The judges commented on the incredible amount of work that the club put into creating Bee-throw Airport Garden, not only is this a fabulous name but the plot itself looked amazing which they were sure the bees loved, and it also provided a wonderful haven for all. As a prize, they won the school educational books about Bees, A Bee Good Hotel, Gardening equipment and seeds for the next growing season to keep our gardens topped up! Well done again Eco-warriors! We are so proud of you and your fantastic achievement!



Another big thank you to the three families that all purchased/donated compost bins. These are getting great use and helping us to be even more eco-friendly as a school.



Children in Need



We loved seeing everyone in school in their spots and non-school uniform on Friday 17th November to help us raise awareness and money for children in need. Thank you to everyone who donated, as a school, **we raised £143!**

Remembrance



To mark Remembrance Day, we had a service in school. All classes made poppy wreaths to lay during the service, and many of our Year 6 pupils read poems and prayers. Lots of our pupils purchased poppies to show their respect, and we discussed the significance of Remembrance Day together. £168.39 was raised for the Poppy Appeal – thank you.

Book fair and story competition

Well done to everyone that entered the 100-word story competition. Miss Nicholson loved reading all of the stories that you made-up, using some of your favourite book characters. A big well done to our winners: Sadie S, Bella P, Catherine S, Olivia M and Harrison M who each won a £5 voucher to spend at the book fair.

We also loved seeing so many of you pop in and visit us at the book fair. There was over £500 spent which means the school received £260 in rewards to spend on books to top up our school library.

World Science Day



On Friday 10th November we celebrated World Science Day. To launch us into the day, we had a whole school wacky science assembly run by Sublime Science. They talked to us all about science that is around us, and showed us a range of different science experiments. We were all very excited by this; especially the chemistry ones where they made a bubble explosion and set things on fire! In the afternoon, each class became scientists themselves and took part in their own science investigations and experiments.



Anti-bullying week

Between the 13th and 17th November, we took part in anti-bullying week. To raise awareness this week, all classes took part in a 'poetry slam'. They could work in groups, or on their own to create their own poem/speech/song about anti-bullying. They then filmed these so they could be shared around the school. Some groups even performed live for us in assembly. Throughout this week we had great fun, but we also stressed the importance of what bullying is, and used the theme of 'make a noise about bullying' to remind pupils that if they feel they experience bullying, or see it happening, that they must speak up and report it so we can stop it.



Year 5/6 Tag Rugby



On Friday 24th November, 32 of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils went to Davenant to compete in the Epping and Ongar tag rugby competition. We were so pleased to see so many of our pupils eager to compete and represent the school in this way. The children were split into 3 teams, one team got through to the cup competition and played against lots of 'A teams' from across the Epping, Ongar, Theydon and Loughton schools. They played really well and won in a number

of their matches. Two of our other teams competed in the 'shield' competition, with one of the teams come first out of all 17 teams competing! Pictured here is our winning team, but we would like to say a huge well done and thank you to all of the players that took part – we are very proud of you all, and we are glad you all had a fantastic day.

KS2 Boccia

Well done to our KS2 children who attended the two Boccia competitions this term. The first one took place at St Andrew's Primary school, where they came first and were then invited to the final's competition at King Harold. They then went to this event and played brilliantly! Well done children, it was great to see such good teamwork and encouragement for each other throughout these competitions.

Reception

We had lots of fun during our tiger tea-party this half-term. We enjoyed baking our own treats and dressing up for our tiger party. We have also enjoyed learning about the Nativity story and rehearsing for our Christmas concert. On World Science day, we explored melting, freezing and changing states of matter in class.



This half term we have started attending weekly collective worship, which is a great opportunity for us to see other children across the school and start to learn about our school vision and rules. We loved seeing the special collective worship whereby a scientist came into school and showed us lots of fun experiments!

Year 1 and 2

We have been loving our topic 'fire', in which we have been learning all about what life was like during the Great Fire of London in 1666. To enhance our learning, we had an all-day workshop where we took on jobs that existed in London in 1666. Then we spotted smoke! We learnt that at first everyone told local people not to worry, it was so far away it wouldn't reach us... and how this turned out to not quite be the case. Then we had to dig and find artefacts to help us uncover secrets about the past. Each set of objects were found in a different shop. Can you guess which these were found in?



We have also been working on our public speaking, voice projection, and singing in preparation for our Christmas production. We look forward to you all seeing it, and we hope you all enjoy it.

Year 3 and 4

We have continued our great learning on the Iron Age. We are learning how to write instructions to help someone build a round house. We had a go at working in teams to build Iron Age roundhouses. We took photos of each step and then we have used them to guide us in writing our instructions. We used paper straws, wooden dowels, clay and straw for the main structure.



In science we have been learning about soils. We made delicious soil puddings to help us remember about the different layers in a soil profile - complete with jelly worms! We then went on during world science day to look at how to filter water and clean water in response to learning about global challenges. We worked as a team to explore the equipment available and tried to clean messy water in different ways. We concluded the slower the filter, the cleaner the water.



Year 3 went to the church to learn about baptism and look for symbols of the holy trinity. While they were there, they learnt lots about how a baptism is carried out by Reverend Olivia and had lots of fun exploring the building. They then had the opportunity to baptise teddies.

Year 5 and 6

To carry on our learning journey, we had a Victorian workshop visit from Epping Forest District Museum. We spent time finding out about what different artefacts were used for and then chose just 1 that we deemed to be the most important to keep, to teach us about the Victorians. As part of our science learning, we investigated what animals and insects we have on our school grounds, and what more we could do to help make their habitats better.





We are now creating our own puppet shows. We have made our own puppets, now we are making the staging. We have then written our own play scripts that we will use with our puppets to put on a full show as our fantastic finish.



PTA events and updates

Christmas fayre



Thank you to every PTA volunteer and staff member who helped with the Christmas Fayre this half term. It was great to see so many families attending, joining in the festivities and having fun. We had a record-breaking Xmas fayre and made a profit of £1641.67!

Here you will also see the PTA calendar of events for the next half term. New members are always welcome, so please feel free to come along to the next meeting.

SPRING TERM 2024	
DATE	EVENT
Friday 12 th January 2024	PTA meeting (9am start)
Friday 2 nd February 2024	Spring Term Discos (after school)
Friday 16 th February 2024	Bake Sale (after school)
Friday 8 th March 2024	Mother's Day Gifts (school time)
Friday 8 th March 2024	Adults' Quiz Night (evening time)

SUMMER TERM 2024	
DATE	EVENT
Friday 26 th April 2024	PTA meeting (9am start)
Wednesday 1 st May 2024	Bags2School collection
Friday 24 th May 2024	Bake Sale (after school)
Friday 14 th June 2024	Father's Day Gifts (school time)
Friday 28 th June 2024	Summer art competition (due date)
Friday 5 th July 2024	Summer Fayre (after school)

Bags4Schools

We were blown away by the amount of clothes donations that we were given this year for our PTA led Bags4Schools fundraiser. As you can see, this huge amount of clothing will now be recycled to help raise awareness for recycling. Thank you to everyone that donated and to the PTA for finding another way for us to gain funds for the school.



PTA art competition winners

Well done to all of the children who entered the art competition. We had so many amazing entries it was so hard to pick winners, however, a big well done to the following children:

KS1 winner: Isabella (RH Class) - £5 voucher towards the Book Fair.

KS1 runners up: Jake (2L class) and Leo (RH class) – bag of chocolate coins.

KS2 winner: Millie (5B class) - £5 voucher towards the Book Fair.

KS2 runners up: Imogen (4M class) and Jamie (3H class) – bag of chocolate coins.

Goodbye to Miss Usher



We are sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Usher who is leaving us at Christmas. Miss Usher has worked at our school since she started out as a trainee teacher. During her time here, she has had a significant impact on so many children's education and has made great contributions to the art and DT curriculum across the school, as well as helping us become a recognised Dementia friendly school.

We are sad to see you moving away, but we wish you all the best in your new home, with your new husband, and we hope you come back to visit us. Thank you Miss Usher and good luck!

Key Dates for Spring 1 half term

8th January:	Pupils first day back for Spring term
9th January:	Parents termly update meeting by the class teachers (choose 3.30, 3.50 or 4.10 – 15 min. session)
10th January:	Year 3 and 4 Epping Museum Egyptian artefact workshop
12th January:	PTA meeting in the hall 9.00-10.30
17th January:	Year 3 and 4 Egyptian workshop in school
19th January:	Year 6 SATs presentation to parents 9.00-10.00am
2nd February:	PTA led discos after school
5th – 9th February:	Children's mental health week
6th February:	Safer internet day
14th February:	Ash Wednesday communion in school
15th February:	Coopersale has talent rehearsals in class
16th February:	PTA Bake sale after school
16th February:	Last day of Spring 1 half term
26th February:	Pupils first day back for Spring term 2nd half-term

Please note, dates may change for some events due to unforeseen circumstances. Our School Jotter app will keep you up to date with school communications... do download the app if you haven't already.