

Coopersale & Theydon Garnon C.E Primary School



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Newsletter – December 2022

Book fair

As you know, we hosted a Book Fair earlier in the term, thank you to everyone who visited the fair and purchased books. For every book purchased, a % was donated towards the school to spend on our own books. Thanks to all of you, we raised £323.12 in rewards that we can now use to top up our school library.

PTA book donation

The PTA are strongly behind our mission to ensure all pupils develop a love of reading to help them become lifelong learners, and to support this, they gave us £3000 to spend towards buying new books to support us in our new whole class reading approach.

Jamie, Year 4: I never really used to read non-fiction, and since whole class reading, I have loved reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. I liked this author (Roald Dahl) so then went and chose the book Matilda from the library. Previously I would give reading a 4, but now I would give reading a 6 out of 10.



Book swap

Another thankyou to everyone who brought in books for our book swap. This was a great opportunity to recycle some of your pre-loved books and give the children the opportunity to take a new book home in exchange. The children that took part were very excited to choose their new books and take them home to enjoy.

Denny, Year 2: "I really wanted to read a Roald Dahl book as I really like him, and now I get to keep one of his books and read it at home. I chose the enormous crocodile, and I can't wait to read it."

Parking outside of school

This is an important reminder for all parents to park safely outside of the school. We have recently had several complaints, from parents, and residents, about parents parking on the yellow markings and unsafely on the corner of the road. This is completely unsafe and putting our children at potential risk as they enter school. We advise, where possible, to park away from the front of school and walk your child in. If you must park outside school, this must be safely in the designated areas only. Please support us in adhering to this to make sure all our children have a calm and safe entry into school.



Gymnastics



This half term, we were lucky enough to work with a Gymnastics coach. Lower down in the school, children had the opportunity to work with her to develop their balance and co-ordination skills, and the older children worked on developing accuracy when travelling and linking different gymnastic rolls, balances and movements together to make sequences. The children all had a great time and it was good to see the progress that lots of them made in such a short space of time.

Year 6 Tag Rugby

All of Year 6 were given the opportunity to attend the Epping Tag Rugby competition this half term. Our teams did so well, including one team coming first, leading to an invite to the West Essex finals. There were over 50 teams playing in the competition and we did brilliantly with 2 teams coming in the top 10. Well done to everyone in Year 6 who took part, it was great to see your Tag Rugby skills really progress throughout the festival.



Year 5/6 football league



This year we have entered a Year 5/6 football league with 10 local Primary schools. We are currently top of the Epping football league at the halfway point in the competition. A big well done to all the boys in the team. They turn up each game with a fantastic attitude and show amazing teamwork and skill throughout all their matches. You wear the school shirt with pride, and we are very proud of you all. We are all behind you boys, you can do it!

Year 3/4 Boccia

A huge well done to selected Year 3 and 4 children who went to compete in the Epping Boccia competition this half term. The teams came 1st and 2nd which meant they went through to the West Essex finals. They continued to shine and ended up finishing 1st and 3rd in the whole competition. They worked well as teams and had to think creatively about their tactics creatively as each game progressed.



Pantomime

Thank you to the PTA for organising our pantomime – Aladdin. The children had a great morning watching the show and joining in with all the songs, this was a brilliant Christmas treat!



Children in need



Thank you to everyone who donated towards children in need. By dressing up in non-school uniform and bringing in some donations, the school raised £137.60 which will go towards the great cause.

Christmas fayre

We hope you enjoyed attending the Christmas Fayre at the beginning of December. It was great to see so many of our families enjoying the festivities and celebrating with us. Thank you to all the PTA and volunteers who helped make this day possible, we know it is not an easy task, and we are extremely thankful for all of your time and organisation towards this event. The fayre raised over £1300 that will be reinvested into the school so thank you all and well done to all of our raffle winners!



Choir

You may have been lucky enough to hear our amazing choir perform at the Christmas Fayre a few weeks ago. They have been extremely busy this half term and doing lots of practise to prepare them for their shows. As well as the Christmas Fayre, they have also performed at Epping Christmas Market and the St. Albans Church Christmas service. We have had brilliant feedback from lots of spectators, so a huge well done to Miss Sapiano and all of the school choir on your performances. You continue to entertain us, and we can't wait to see where you will end up next.



Epping festival

Our amazing art club, run by Mrs Hatcher, have been busy making Christmas decorations to decorate our school tree in the Epping Christmas festival. I am sure you will agree how amazing our tree looks! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the design, we are proud for all of Epping to see our amazing decorations and bring joy to their Christmas celebrations. Thank you to our PTA for funding our entry.



Reception

We have loved our learning journey this term and have learnt lots about dragons. As part of our topic, we have been learning all about dragons this half-term and enjoyed going on a dragon hunt outside. We have had some special elves appear- Pip and Tiff- and have enjoyed telling them stories and facts about dragons.

We have had lots of fun getting our classroom prepared for Christmas and learning about the Nativity story. Our Christmas tree has never looked so sparkly, and we have enjoyed having our class elf pay us lots of visits! We have been busily rehearsing for our Christmas show and have created some beautiful reindeer masks to use in our performance. We went on an 'Antler Hunt' last week to find the perfect sticks to use on our masks.



Year 1 and 2

This half term in Year 1 and 2, we have been learning all about castles. This developed from our first half terms learning, which focused on the medieval times (we had our medieval banquet at the end of last half term). During this half term, we have learnt all about the features of a castle and created our own information booklets. We have also read the story 'The knight and the dragon' in English, and the children then created their own story based on princesses, knights and dragons. In Science, we have been exploring the human body and the role of different organs. A big part of this half term has been preparing for our KS1 Nativity play which we hope you all enjoyed watching.



Year 3 and 4



In Year 3 and 4, we have been looking at repeating patterns and have designed and made our own printing tiles inspired by Roman patterns. We used rollers to cover them in paint and print on material which we will use to make Roman coin purses. We have explored three different stitches so we can select the best one for the job when we sew our final piece together.

Another highlight this half term in Year's 3 and 4 has been our work on Pompeii, including stunning art created by the children using pastels and exploring paint techniques to show the lava flow and eruption.





We have thoroughly enjoyed our trip to the church where we found out how babies are baptised before Reverend Lee blessed our toys that we had brought along. We also sketched images that represented the Holy Trinity.

While Year 4 have made good progress with their recorder lessons, Year 3 have been enjoying a unit of work based on playing glockenspiels. They have had great fun doing this and have been working hard to play the right notes at the right times.



Year 5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 have loved rounding off their learning about the Ancient Egyptians. By talking to pupils, it is clear how much they have learnt about this civilization, and they are able to make links between all the history knowledge to understand what life must have been like for people living at this time. They have also had two workshops with Epping Museum to help deepen their learning. They loved making their death masks and being able to use their creativity to make their mask specialised to them.

As part of their DT work, Year 6 have taken part in 3 cooking workshops with a local chef. First, they learnt about gutting a fish to make their own fresh fish fingers, they then made their own pasta from scratch, and finally a homemade vegetable curry. They thoroughly enjoyed this and learnt so much in the process.



Elsie, Year 6: The cooking sessions taught me how to prepare food and make 3 different dishes from scratch. We used knives, peelers, tweezers, a pasta maker and other tools. The first fish session was a bit disgusting at first, but the pasta and curry were tasty, and we did it all independently.

Key Dates for Spring 1 half term

9th Jan:	Children return to school for Spring 1 half term
13 th Jan:	PTA Spring meeting 9.00-10.30am in the school hall
16 th Jan:	Year 6 Football league matches at shooters 3.45pm
3 rd Feb:	School disco after school led by PTA
6-10 th Feb:	Children's mental health week
6 th Feb:	Year 6 Football league matches at shooters 3.45pm
7 th Feb:	Safer internet day
9 th Feb:	Year 3/4/5 Mind charity workshops
13-17 th Feb:	Half term break

