

# Coopersale & Theydon Garnon C.E Primary School



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## Newsletter – July 2023

### Summertime stories

To promote our love of reading this half term, we invited all children to our summertime stories reading event. During the event, all staff brought out a book or story they loved, and children could choose which one they wanted to go and listen too. After that, all children had an ice-pop to end their story. To finish the day, we then took part in a 'name that book' music quiz. Snippets of songs were played from well-known songs linked to books and the children had to work out which book the song came from. We had great fun joining in with the singing and dancing to the songs too.



### School Games Mark – Gold award

We are pleased to announce that this year we applied for a Schools Games Mark, and we achieved the highest ranking we could – Gold! The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.



This is the first time the school has ever achieved this standard since the school games was launched. This award can only be achieved by schools showing high levels of engagement and commitment to school games and sport. We are pleased that the hard work and dedication to sport in our school this year has been highly recognised, and we thank all staff, pupils, and parents for their involvement in this.



## PTA News

A huge thank you goes out to the PTA who put on another fantastic summer fayre for us a couple of weeks ago. The team were on site all day preparing, setting up and organising to make sure the fayre ran as smoothly as it did. It was great to see so many of our families attending and having a fun and social afternoon with us in the sun. We are thrilled to share with you that **£1657 profit** was made from the fayre; money which we know will be well spent next year when it is reinvested to help make our school even better for our pupils.



In other PTA news, look at our picnic bench and Buddy bench which were recently purchased for our pupils to enjoy during their breaks and lunchtimes. The funding for these benches came from the PTA pot, and we are very grateful. The children are enjoying having more places to sit and chat to their friends during their free time.



## KS2 District sports at Mark Hall

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 25 pupils from Years 3-6 made their way to Mark Hall School, in Harlow, to compete in a district sports competition. The event consisted of throwing, jumping and running events, and all scores were added together to determine a winning team. We were thrilled to have achieved many 1<sup>st</sup> place rankings in a number of events. There were 12 teams in attendance, and overall we came 3<sup>rd</sup> in our category (only 3 points short of second). Well done to all of the children that took part; you showed determination and great teamwork and you represented the school with pride.



## Sports Days



Thank you to everyone that joined us to celebrate our sports days. Everyone had a great time taking part in all the events and it was great to see some healthy competition going on too. We know how important it is to keep children healthy and active which is why we value the importance of sports day so much as an opportunity to come together and all celebrate the fun that sport can bring us. Well done to all house teams. Here is the final results: 1<sup>st</sup> place St. Paul's, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Westminster, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Canterbury, and 4<sup>th</sup> place Chelmsford. Well done all!





## **Food and Farming visit - Year 4 and 5**

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, Year 4 and Year 5 pupils attended Essex schools' food and farming day. The Essex Schools Food and Farming Day is a yearly event organised by the Essex Agricultural Society giving 3,000 Essex school children aged 8 to 11 the opportunity to visit Writtle University College and find out how their food is produced, the role played by farmers in Essex and the many related jobs within the industry.

The children had a fantastic day and even received lots of free goodies along the way! It was a hugely informative day as the children moved around different exhibits talking to different trusts and organisations about their roles. Highlights from the trip were the dancing sheep and all the food tasters that children received.



## **Summer reading challenge**

This year, we are encouraging all our pupils to take part in the Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge. Our pupils have made good progress in their learning this year, and not reading for over 6 weeks will be detrimental to this progress, with many children even starting Autumn term further behind than they left in the summer. To help this, we would love as many children as possible to take part this year.

The theme this year is 'Ready, Set, Read!' The challenge is running from 15<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> September and children are encouraged to read 6 library books in this time. All libraries are participating so you can go to any across Essex. Throughout the challenge children can collect smelly stickers and stamps to record their progress. We encourage all children who complete the reading challenge to bring their certificates and medals into school so that we can celebrate them in our first Friday celebration assembly back after the summer holidays.

As a special treat this year, you can get a free book when you sign up thanks to the partnership with Nike! The book features stories and fun facts alongside original illustrations of 28 Nike athletes and Q&As with coaches.

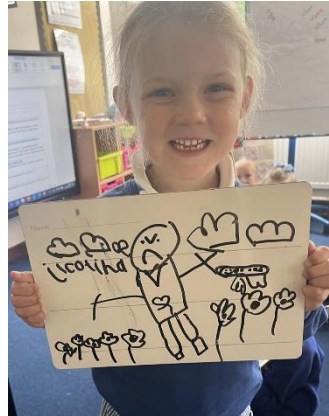
Good luck and happy reading!



## Reception

This half-term we have had lots of fun finishing off our learning journey. We have enjoyed learning about Jack and the Bean Stalk and planted our own seeds to see what would grow. We have also been doing lots of storytelling and drama sessions this half-term to help us with our expressions and drama skills. The children have tried super hard with writing their own fairytales and have enjoyed writing/drawing their predictions about who has been 'stealing' our pencils and making a mess in our classroom! We particularly enjoyed learning about alternative stories last week and liked pretending to be the 'big bad pig' from the story 'The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig'!

We also had a great time at Pizza Express on our class trip and loved making our own pizzas and having a pizza picnic when we returned to school.



## Year 1 and 2

In Year 1 and 2 we have been exploring the darkness that surrounds us all, space! The children have learnt about the alien Beegu as we enjoyed his story together. We have written our own alien stories and the children have created a rocket to help Beegu to travel back home. The children have been learning a rhyme to remember all the planets in order, we have been writing postcards from the moon and we have learnt all about Neil Armstrong. We have also learnt about leaflets and the children have learnt how astronauts clean their teeth, eat and wash their hair. In science, we have learnt all about plants and we have grown our own runner bean plants.

For our fabulous finish we launched our own rockets which was great fun, although we did all get a little wet in the process, including Miss Sapiano (see picture)!





## Year 3 and 4

In Year 3 and 4 we have been studying the work of different land artists such as Andy Goldsworth, Hannah Bullen Ryner and James Brunt. We learned how these artists use natural materials they find to create sculptures. Some of them then record over time how the sculptures change. We looked at their work and evaluated it and then had an experiment in class at making patterns and shapes with meaning using natural materials. Once we had set ground rules, we went into the woods to create our own pieces of land art in groups. We were proud of our final pieces; some of us even went back to the woods with our families to see if they were still there over the rest of the week.



Year 4 have been taking part in swimming lessons this term. It has been fantastic to see how much progress they have made in their swimming, and hopefully all children now feel more confident and prepared in the water. Here is a photo of children practising their survival skills in one of the swimming sessions.



Year 3 took some members of the choir to Jessops Day Centre to sing to the customers, staff and cat. The children were magnificent, drawing tears with their rendition of 'True Colours' and many smiles and rounds of applause. It was a lovely opportunity for us to go out into the community and give something to help others.

## Year 5 and 6

Over this half term, Year 5 and 6 have continued learning about WW2. We have mostly focused on The Home Front and everything that happened in Britain during the war years. This has ranged from rationing and evacuation to The Home Guard and Women's Jobs. We had a visitor from the Navy who works as an aircraft engineer talk to us all about his role and experiences. We also had some visitors from the local care home come to talk to us about their first-hand experiences of WW2 and what life was like for them back then.







In English, Year 5 have created a non-chronological report explaining the Home Front and how people in Britain lived during the war. In maths, we have taken a cross curricular approach and created a net of an evacuee suitcase that has been decorated to represent what evacuees would have taken. For our Fabulous Finish, the children took part in an evacuee day, where they dressed up as evacuees, created WW2 rationing recipes and played traditional games that evacuees would have played.

### **Year 6 leavers events**

Year 6 have had a busy half term practising for and putting on their end of year production 'The Keymaster'. For everyone that saw the show, I am sure you will agree that it was fantastic! It was lovely to see the acting and singing improve as they approached the final performances.

They also had a fantastic residential trip to Stubbers activity centre. The children participated in a range of activities from kayaking and paddleboarding to high ropes and caving. A great time was had by all, and there were many very tired and worn-out children (and staff) at the end of it.





It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our fantastic Year 6's. They have worked hard this year and achieved results to be proud of. They have all the key knowledge they need to fully prepare them for secondary school, and we wish them every success.



### **Goodbye to staff**

It is also with great sadness that we say goodbye to our amazing Miss Sapiano and Miss West. Miss Sapiano has brought so much fun and excitement to pupils learning during her time at Coopersale and we are very sad to see her go. Miss West has only been with us a short while but has made such a difference and will be truly missed. We wish you both the best of luck in your next adventures, and from all the staff, pupils and parents at Coopersale – Thank you!

### **Welcome to new staff**

In September, we welcome to our staffing team, Ms Durham, who will be joining our learning support team. We are also very pleased to confirm that Miss Gilbey is staying at Coopersale. Miss Gilbey will continue in her learning support assistant role.

### **Official school times**

You may be aware that the Department for Education have decided that, from September 2023, all schools must have a school week of, at least, 32.5 hours, which equates to 6.5 hours each day. To meet this requirement our school day will be changing slightly with an increase of 5 minutes on the end of the day with a new official finish time of 3.20pm.

We will continue to offer parents the 'soft' opening and exit meaning children can continue to be **dropped off between 8.40am-8.50am** and can be **collected between 3.15pm-3.20pm**.

### **Shine Clubs times**

In September, Shine Clubs will continue to open at 7.30am with a new end time of 8.40am for the morning session. This additional ten minutes is at no extra cost to parents. To align to the school's new finishing time, Shine Clubs will begin at 3.20pm for the afternoon sessions and the club will remain open to the usual 6pm close.



## **School Uniform – discount week from Create Identitee**

Please make sure children return to school in September with a full school uniform and a full school PE kit. We will be monitoring this closely in September to make sure our uniform policy is being followed and met by all pupils. Please see the following link for a reminder of our school uniform expectations: <https://www.coopersaletheydongarnon.essex.sch.uk/parents-pupils/school-uniform>



Discount week this year will run from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July until Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Store opening hours will be:

- Monday-Friday 9am-7pm.
- Saturday 9am-2pm.
- Sunday 10am-2pm.

All orders placed online or in store during this period will receive a 10% discount.

If ordering online there will be a discount code on the web shop for customers to use to get the discount, in store it will be applied at the point of payment.

## **Uniformd – second-hand uniforms**

When you are considering new uniform, please remember that our online second-hand uniform buying platform is now open.

Here you will find a number of school uniform items, in good second-hand condition resold at a very low cost to you. Please follow this link to browse the uniform on offer and steps to purchasing: <https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/308>



We would be very grateful for any uniform donations to be handed in to the front office.

Please don't throw items away if they no longer fit. If they are clean and looked after – we will take them from you.

## **2023-2024 classes**

This is a reminder of where our current classes will be next year:

Cherry class move to 1G

Maple class move to 2L

Willow class move to 3H

Ash class move to 4M – demountable classroom outside

Beech class move to 5B - new building

Sycamore class move to 6U – new building

A reminder we do have an additional Year 2 class (2G), currently with no registered pupils.

## **Key Dates for Autumn 1 half term**

4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> September:	Staff inset training days
6 <sup>th</sup> September:	Pupils first day back at school for the new academic year
20 <sup>th</sup> September:	Individual pupil and sibling photos
28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> September:	Music workshops in school for Year 1, 2, 5 and 6
13 <sup>th</sup> October:	PTA led discos for pupils
19 <sup>th</sup> October:	1.15pm finish for pupils today
19 <sup>th</sup> October:	Parent consultations for all classes
20 <sup>th</sup> October:	Last day of Autumn 1 half term for pupils
30 <sup>th</sup> October:	First day of Autumn 2 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.*

