

Copthorne C. of E. Junior

NEWSLETTER

Friday 13th
December, 2024

"Creating Confident, Curious Learners with God's love"

As we near the end of term, we have started to get into the festive spirit. Last Friday saw Decorations Day and our Christmas Market, both of which were hugely successful. A huge thank you must go to the fundraising group, who worked tirelessly to make the Market run seamlessly. They also prepared the Christmas Trail and organised the Centrepiece workshop.

Mrs Corp introduced the Winter mini reading challenge to the children during celebration worship today. Look at the poster at the end of the newsletter to find out how to log on and register.

As we move into our last week don't forget that on Monday we have Christmas dinner. Your child can come in their festive jumper with their school uniform. On Thursday, it is our Christmas services at the Church (further details in the newsletter) and on Friday it is own clothes with festive jumper to finish the term in style!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Denison

Dates for your diary

- 16th December 2024—Christmas Dinner.
- 19th December 2024—Christmas Service (Parents welcome)
- 20th December 2024—Last day of term

Spring term 2025

- 6th January 2025— INSET DAY
- 7th January 2025—First day back for children
- 4th February 2025—Zoolab visit for Year 6
- 7th February 2025 —Number day
- Week beginning 10th February 2025—RE week
- 12th February and 25th February 2025—Parent consultations
- 24th February 2025—International day of languages
- 6th March 2025—World Book Day
- 7th March 2025—Girls biggest football event
- Week beginning 17th March 2025—Book fair in school
- Week beginning 25th March 2025—Y6 Bikeability
- 3rd April 2025—Easter Service (Parent welcome)
- 4th April 2025—Last day of term

Thayer has won this term's house competition. They will be enjoying their movie night next week. Well done Thayer!



Attendance Matters



Attendance Update...

Our attendance at present is **94.3%**. We aim to be at or above 96%.

In line with the Government's 'Working together to improve school attendance' guidance, it is a requirement for schools to submit a sickness return to West Sussex. This gives details of pupils who have been recorded as code I (illness) and who has missed 15 days consecutively or cumulatively because of sickness. This is to help the school and local authority agree any provision needed to ensure continuity of education for pupils who cannot attend because of health needs.

A message from the Chair of Governors

It has been my first term as Chair of Governors and I am so pleased to be part of our school's vibrant and thriving community. In my first contribution to the newsletter, I would like to explain how governors provide challenge and support to the school. There are three core strategic functions of governing boards. In short, they are: to ensure the vision and strategy are defined; monitor educational performance; and ensure effective use of financial resources.

It has been great to see that following a very successful Ofsted inspection at the end of the last academic year, staff have been committed to continuing to provide the very best education for your children.

The most rewarding part is seeing the children in action. We have: attended the Remembrance service; heard Year 6 children giving a guided tour to prospective parents; seen Maths lessons in all classes; helped on Decorations Day; and attended afternoon tea with Mrs Denison to celebrate the children's successes. It is truly joyful to be alongside the children and see the impact of the quality education and nurturing care provided at the school.

I am sure the children are looking forward to the Christmas holiday. I have seen them wearing their Christmas jumpers, so I know they are ready! The governors wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Anita Findon



Week beginning 2nd December 2024

Learner of the Week

Beech—Lily
Rowan— Jacques
Chestnut— Chloe
Willow—Felix
Elm— Leo
Sycamore— Ollie
Maple— Favian
Oak— Amelie

School Value Award of the Week— Creativity

Beech — Elijah
Rowan— Lisa-Marie
Chestnut— Teddy
Willow— Sophie
Elm— Bronson
Sycamore— Mollie
Maple— Miley
Oak— Mollie

Week beginning 9th December 2024

Learner of the Week

Beech—Iris
Rowan— Parker
Chestnut— Noah
Willow—Summer
Elm— Akshdeep
Sycamore— Chloe
Maple— Amelia
Oak— Katey

School Value Award of the Week— Creativity

Beech — Jacob
Rowan— Sienna
Chestnut— Mylee
Willow— Tyrese
Elm— Jason
Sycamore— Stanley
Maple— Robert
Oak— Zawar

Office Updates



Changes to pick up arrangements If you are planning any changes to normal pick up arrangements, especially in the new term, please ensure that you email the office.

Clubs Don't forget to send in your clubs request form this week. All parents will be informed about clubs and who has got spaces in the new year.

Coats Please send your child in every day with a coat.

Lost property There is a huge amount of lost property. This will be going outside school next week, so please have a look. Please remember to name all items of clothing, and water bottles and then we can return any items found to their owner.

Chartwells Taster session We have arranged a taster session on Thursday 9th January straight after school. See the poster at the end of the newsletter for further details.

First Aid

As part of our RSHE curriculum, all children in Year 4 and Year 6 had a first aid session. Year 4 learnt basic first aid including bandaging, and Year 6 advanced to CPR. Our first aid instructor, was really impressed with the enthusiasm but also the learning behaviours exhibited during all the sessions.



Food technology across the school

Over the last two weeks, Year 3, 5 and 6 have been preparing and cooking gingerbread, quiche and bubble and squeak. They then enjoyed tasting their creations. Cooking is part of our design and technology curriculum and it was lovely to see the progression of skills evident across the different year groups.



GINGERBREAD



QUICHE



BUBBLE & SQUEAK



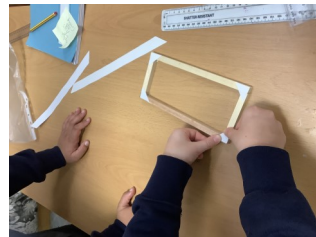
Wood work

Another aspect of the design and technology curriculum is wood work. Years 3, 4 and 6 have been creating a range of frames out of wood. Year 3 created a jinx frame to display their ICT work, Year 4 used multiple jinx frames to create a William Morris inspired box with hinges where as Year 6 are designing and creating an Anderson shelter. To create the shelter, they have had to design the size and construction of their frame and next week are then using a range of media to add finishing touches to their shelters.

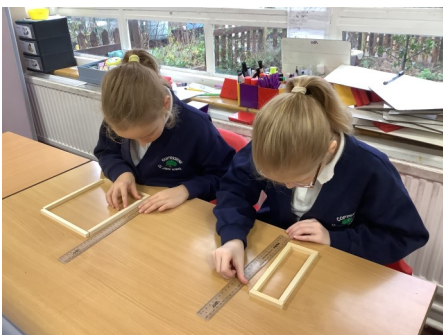
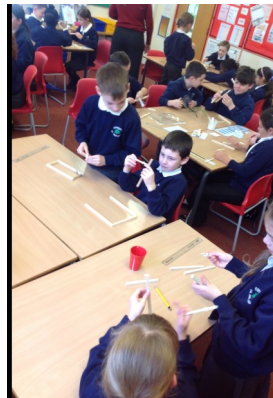
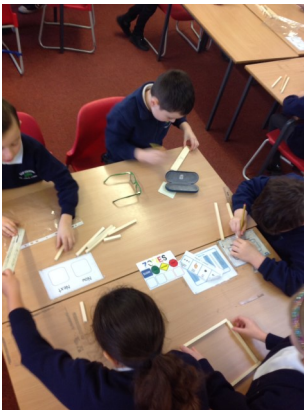
Children built on their skills learnt from previous wood work and they could explain how to safely use the tools and how to construct the jinx frames with such a good understanding. Our progressive curriculum really aids this development of skills, knowledge and understanding.



YEAR 3



YEAR 4



YEAR 6





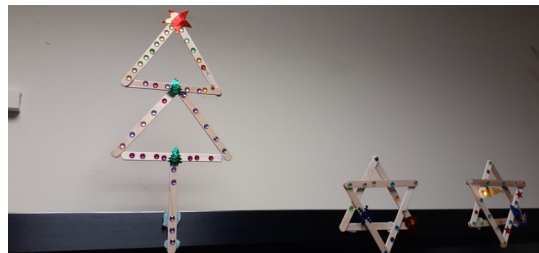
Reindeer Run—Thank you for all of your sponsorship/donations! We raised £1006 for St Catherine's Hospice!



Decorations Day

Across the school are some wonderful decorations created by the children. It has definitely brought the festive season to our school.

In some classrooms, there are also magical elves playing mischief!



Thank you to **Haskins Snowhill Garden Centre** for donating our school Christmas Tree. The Autism Ambassadors enjoyed decorating the tree, and it has been admired by all.



Christmas Market

Our Christmas Market was a great success and raised £1228.95. This is an amazing amount and has now enabled us to reach our target for purchasing an outdoor classroom! We are now gathering quotes and hope to have it in place for Spring.



Congratulations to...



Ethan's family (Chestnut) who won first prize in the raffle, and received the wonderful hamper donated by Mansell McTaggart.

Harriet (Chestnut) for correctly naming 'Snowy' the rabbit

Jack (Willow) for guessing the number of sweets in the jar



Christmas Carol Service at St John's Church

On **Thursday 19th December**, we have our Christmas Carol service. So that we can fit everyone in the church we will be having 2 services, one for Year 3/4 and the other for Year 5/6 during the afternoon. The Year 3/4 service will start at 1.30pm and the Year 5/6 at 2.15pm. We look forward to you joining us!



Centrepiece Workshop

Flowers and such ran another successful Festive Centrepiece workshop. The atmosphere was lovely, and everyone went home very proud of their unique creations.



Our school prayer



Dear God

Bless our school so that by working together, playing together and learning together, we may learn to serve you and each other.

Amen

Achievements from outside school...

Sophia (Willow) was chosen as the winner of her age category for the Haskins Garden Centre 'Design a Bear' competition. The prize was a bear of her own. Wow, what a fantastic achievement!



We would like to celebrate your child's achievements and share these on future newsletters. Please email a picture and information to head@copthornejunior.co.uk

Sports News...



Football League results from 4th December:

Year 6 Boys Team:

Baldwins Hill v Copthorne **0 7** Crawley Down v Copthorne **3 0**

Girls Team:

Copthorne v St Mary's **0 0** Copthorne v Blackwell **0 0**

Year 5/6 Boys Team:

St Peter's v Copthorne **0 1** Crawley Down v Copthorne **0 1** Copthorne v Halsford Park **0 3**

Well done to all those who played in these league matches.

A message from the church...

Are you a storyteller? Or maybe a performer? Then why not join us?

We are a team of volunteers from St John's church who visit the school once a month (during term time) on a Thursday morning, to enact a story from the Bible. As we have lost key members of our team, who have moved away from Copthorne, we would love to have more volunteers join our team to provide us with more resources and cover for sickness so that we don't disappoint the children by being unable to perform through lack of numbers.

Our stories are taken from the Lion Book of the Bible with excellent related themes, messages and performance advice documentation from the Bible Society.

There is no requirement to learn any lines as we read the stories, but we do dress in costume and act out the story.

We find the children are more engaged when we are in costume and with props, including a wooden donkey on wheels, which is very popular and appears in many of the stories!!

Some of the stories also involve one or more of the children in non-speaking roles.

So, if the actor/storyteller in you feels you can give something back to the community, for only 2-3 hours per month, by joining our friendly team, please contact either the school office or the church office (01342 712063) so we can provide you with more details.





Chartwells Food Taster Session

DATE: Thursday 9th January 2025

TIME: 3:30pm – 4:30pm

All welcome

Come and meet the Chartwells team and sample some of our delicious food

Ask us questions

We cater for all dietary requirements

Sign up to ParentPay to order meals

W: WestSussex | Chartwells