



December 2020

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## Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents,

As we continue to navigate through 2020, I hope the articles in this newsletter give you an indication of some of the opportunities the pupils have enjoyed over the last three weeks. Enjoy reading them. I am incredibly grateful to the army of staff who diligently focused on keeping the school as normal and as exciting as possible.

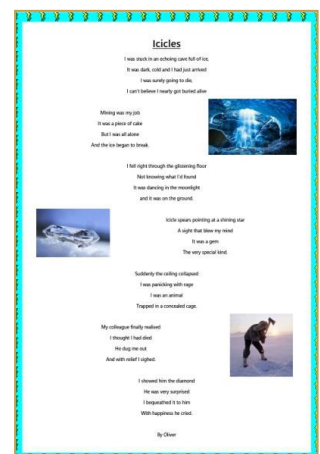
May I wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas, and a restful holiday. I look forward to welcoming back all pupils on Wednesday 6 January to begin an exciting new term together. With all good wishes for the New Year.

With my best wishes

Miss Barnard  
Headmistress

## Year 5 Poetry

Year 5 have been studying figurative language and poetry in English. Pupils really enjoyed writing their own poems on the computer, here's Oliver's fantastic piece!



# NEWSLETTER

## Jerusalema Dance Competition



Reception to Year 3 pupils had so much fun learning the Jerusalema dance. We were blown away by everyone's amazing dance skills, well done all! Watch them perform the dance [HERE](#).



## Year 1 Fractions

In Maths, Year 1 have been learning about half and quarter fractions. They started by separating counters into either a half or quarter of the overall amount and then moved on to pizza toppings! They had to decide what toppings to put on half of their pizzas and what toppings to put on only a quarter. Pupils also used biscuits to help learn their fractions, but they found themselves in Year 1's tummies very quickly. **Fantastic work Year 1!**



## Getting Social

Click the images to visit our social media sites.





## Upper Kindergarten Activities

In class, UKC have enjoyed taking part in Yoga stories this term and UKD decided to make their own stick men/ stick ladies for their topic work as they love the story of the Stick Man so much.

Outside, some of the Early Years children enjoyed a senses walk around the school grounds. They had a great time writing their names in the frost and listening to the 'crunch' of the icy grass as they walked! UKC had lots of fun improving their bike and scooter skills in the playground also.

Pupils have also been enjoying getting in the festive spirit with some Christmas activities. Pupils were very excited when Santa's workshop opened in their classroom! They have also decorated a giant wreath and loved putting on their Christmas jumpers to sing their Christmas songs. Rufus, from UKD, was very proud that his Christmas card came in 3rd place in the Christmas Card Competition. Well done Rufus!



## Reception Activities



In their Maths lessons, Reception have been learning about length and have used different objects to create tall and short towers. Pupils have also been working really hard on reading in their phonics lessons. **Well done Reception!**



## Year 1 Biddle iPads



Year 1 Biddle enjoyed using the iPads in class to investigate how people lived in Victorian times. They were fascinated by some of the facts they discovered and love using the iPads in class!



## Year 4 Penguins

Year 4 enjoyed getting crafty recently and made their own little pom-pom penguins Christmas decorations! They can't wait to hang them on their Christmas trees.





# NEWSLETTER

## Mad Hair Day

Well done to all of our pupils and teachers who pulled out all the stops for Mad Hair Day! There were lots of colourful and imaginative hairstyles at the school gates and pupils loved seeing all of their friends' mad hair!





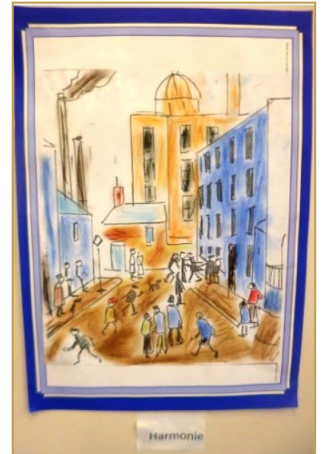
## Year 1 Daly Art

Year 1 Daly have been doing the topic 'Houses' this term and have continued this theme into their Art lessons, looking at the way different artists have depicted and used houses in their work.

Pupils first looked at the way Lowry painted houses in the industrial north and took ideas from his work to inform their own pictures. They used chalk pastels to create the smoky grey landscape. Whilst they were doing their artwork, they listened to a song called 'Matchstalk Cats and Dogs' which is a tribute to Lowry.

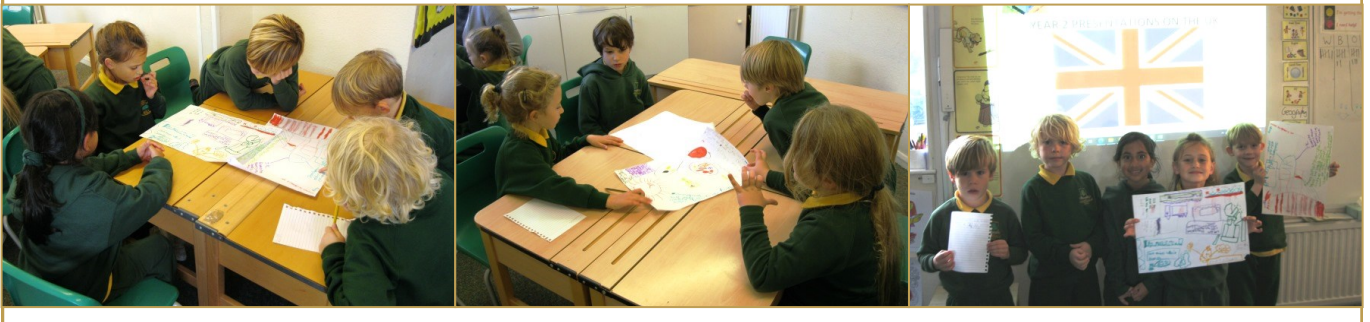
They also looked at Vincent Van Gogh's painting 'The Bedroom'. To create the same colours as Van Gogh, pupils mixed primary colours for their own pictures.

Finally, Year 1 enjoyed looking at the way Marc Chagall painted 'Paris through the window'. They loved the use of bright colours and his funny pictures of acrobats. They took ideas from his work for their own pictures and used Aquarelle water soluble pencils to create a watercolour effect. They enjoyed putting a cat on their window ledge too! **Fantastic artwork Year 1, well done.**



## Year 2 Presentations

Year 2 have been working hard on making presentations about the UK in Geography and then enjoyed sharing their work with the rest of the class. **Well done Year 2!**



# NEWSLETTER

## Office Visitors

Miss Barnard loves having pupils come to her office to show her their fantastic work. Recently, she has been visited by pupils sharing their great Maths and Art work, two Year 1 pupils to show off some lovely handwriting they did in class and by Grace in Reception who made an impressive 3D castle. **Well done everyone!**



## Year 4 iPad Research



Year 4 have been enjoying using the iPads to conduct research on a number of topics in class this term. Recently, they used the internet to conduct some careful research about hedgehogs.

They then worked with a partner to create colourful, interactive posters full of facts and ways to help these endangered creatures. **Great work Year 4!**





# NEWSLETTER

## Year 5 Tudor Food

Year 5 have been busy taking part in cross-curricular learning about Tudors in their History, Maths and DT lessons. In History, pupils learned about Tudor food; the differences in food for the rich and poor and then some differences from 2020. In Maths, the children weighed vegetables as part of their learning about mass, and then peeled and chopped the vegetables in DT to put into their own poorer person's Tudor pottage. The pottage has been in the slow cooker for two days and Year 5 can't wait to taste it!



## Year 6 Science

Year 6 had a very interesting Science lesson recently finding out all about the heart. They enjoyed cutting open the heart and learning about all the chambers and valves inside.



## Year 6 Christmas Art



Our Year 6 pupils have been working so hard for their exams but took some time out to produce a range of lovely Christmas art! They can't wait to give the cards, calendars and gifts to their families at the end of term.







# NEWSLETTER

Merit Badges	W/E 13.11.20	W/E 20.11.20	W/E 27.11.20	W/E 04.12.20
Reception Gowland	Reeva	Cairo	Dustie	Rocco
Reception Groman-Marks	Manon	Scarlett	Frey	Wolf
Reception Smith	Gracie	Jessie & Tommy	Penelope & Eloise	Whole Class
Year 1 Biddle	Ralph	Isla	Carter	Edward & Lila
Year 1 Daly	Margaux	Sophie	Fred	Harmonie-Jo
Year 2 Burgess	George	Henry	India	N/A
Year 2 Surtees	Albie	Henry	George	Ella
Year 3 Crick	Harry	Aimee	Poppy	Tommy
Year 3 Graves	Oscar	Emre	Blaise	Whole Class
Year 4 Bull	James	Andreas	Delilah	Jeff
Year 4 Lane	Noah	Daniel	Lucas	Ruby
Year 5 Newbigging	Chloe	Kaiser	Joseph	Louis
Year 5 Leeks	Sophie	Aaryan	Oliver	Annabel
Year 6 Howard	Sorrell & Felix	Nancy	Jaspreet	N/A

## Christmas Cards

As pupils are unable to visit the local nursing home to sing carols this year, they decided it would be a lovely thought to send their Christmas card entries to the Frank Foster Nursing Home for each resident to receive their best wishes and to spread some festive cheer!



# NEWSLETTER

## Santa's Visit

Pupils were very excited to receive a socially distanced visit from Santa! Kindergarten pupils made sure to tell him how good they've all been this year as he surprised them in the classroom. Whilst other year group bubbles enjoyed seeing him as they ate their tasty Christmas lunch.



## Christmas at Coopersale

Christmas has arrived at Coopersale Hall! The school has had a festive makeover, with Christmas trees popping up all over the school, colourful festive display adorning the walls, and even tinsel covered computers in the school office. It has certainly got everyone in the Christmas spirit! A big thank you to Mrs Lane's Gym Club and the tea-time girls who helped to decorate the Christmas tree in the hall. It looks fantastic!





## Miss Leeks' Coopersale Memories

The half term leading up to the Christmas holiday has always been my very favourite time to be a class teacher. With the children making Christmas cards, calendars and decorations, the excitement builds and it is impossible to not to get swept up in the magic of Christmas.

The Christmas concerts are always a joy to watch. After the initial disappointment of not being chosen as Mary or Joseph subsides, the children engage in the rehearsals with purpose and anticipation. They have to learn so many words to the songs as well as any speaking parts they may have.

I remember one year when the role of Joseph was hotly contested, with some parents dropping hints about their child's wishes. We had decided that year to use narrators to take the action forward and to use our actors in non-speaking roles. The part of Joseph was allocated and a delighted parent was waiting by my classroom door the very next morning, offering to help at home with the learning of the script. I'm afraid that the delight was short lived as my news of the non-speaking role was not well received. I explained that Joseph, with Mary, would very likely feature on the front of the DVD box. That news was well received and harmony was restored.



Our first Christmas concerts at Coopersale Hall were performed in front of what is now the serving hatch for our dinners. There was no stage but instead, a beautiful fireplace, just perfect for Santa to descend on Christmas Eve. Of course, Santa does visit Coopersale Hall and in recent years, he has been accompanied by his magnificent reindeer.

In times gone by, Santa would attend our Christmas Fair and the queue to see him was always long. One year, a parent was waiting in the queue with her daughter when she realised that it was her time to man a stall. She asked me if I would wait with her child and take her to see Santa. We waited another fifteen minutes or so and then the big moment arrived. After greeting Santa and identifying herself, the pupil's look of amazement turned to dismay and disappointment. Santa asked her what she would like for Christmas. She whispered in my ear that she had already sent him a letter so surely, he should have known the answer to that question. I suggested that perhaps he needed a reminder, which she reluctantly gave. As we left, this intelligent girl explained to me the reason for the long queue was due to Santa's inability to remember the content of the letters that had been sent to him.



Obviously, this year, many of our wonderful traditions are unable to take place in their usual format, if at all. Singing in the High Street and at Care Homes has had to be cancelled. My most favourite Christmas event outside school is the Tree Festival at St. John's Church. Again, this has had to be cancelled. Walking through the avenue of brightly decorated trees from all parts of the community is an amazing and uplifting experience. Listening to our children singing in front of the choir stalls has filled the staff with pride. I do hope that we will be able to resume all our festive activities next year.

Coopersale Hall used to be affiliated to All Saints Church in Theydon Garnon and it was here that we held our Christmas Carol concert. This event was always well attended and enjoyed by all. One year was particularly memorable. As we exited the church, feeling a little chilly, one of our parents had driven her camper van up to the church gate. From there, she served coffee, orange squash and warm mince pies to everyone. The cold was forgotten, replaced by a wonderful community spirit.



# NEWSLETTER

## Miss Leeks' Coopersale Memories continued

FOCHS have been wonderful this year, ensuring that our children can have as many of the usual experiences as possible. Children eagerly ordered their Christmas gifts from our online shop and Santa visited us at the end of term. Many years ago the shop used to be run very differently. Families were asked to donate new items for the children to purchase as gifts for their loved ones. Now a grown up's idea of a quality gift can vary from that of a child. One year, a boy from Year 4 looked up and down the stalls, again and again. I asked him if he would like me to help him choose a gift but he declined my offer of help. Soon, he was the only child left and he approached me in a quandary. He explained that his mother had instructed him to only buy a beauty item made by Clarins and he could not find any. Unfortunately, this was before Mrs Howard joined the school and those of you who know me well, already realise that I am not the person to advise on alternative beauty products. I managed to find a cleansing product from Boots and the boy happily settled for that after I told him that this was the very thing that father Christmas gave to his wife every year.

Another tradition we cannot keep to this year is the Christmas Post Box. Previously, children have been able to post their letters to children in other classes and Year 6 have sorted and delivered the cards. There have been many times when the box was full to overflowing and all the children looked forward to the arrival of a Year 6 pupil, laden with cards. Perhaps next year!

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2021. I hope that you all enjoy spending time with your loved ones.

## FOCHS Update

### Christmas Events

Last week the FoCHS elves worked deep into the night wrapping and packing all of the items selected at the virtual Christmas gift shop. The children brought their bagged gifts home on Friday and we hope they enjoy giving them to loved ones. We are still chasing the last few payments and will be contacting people individually this week. If your payment is still outstanding the bank details for the online payment are:

Account name: Friends of Coopersale Hall School

Sort code: 20-52-74

Account number: 30405256.

Please put your child's name, class and GIFT in the reference (e.g. Amber, Y1L, GIFT)



On Wednesday, we had a very special visitor in school to see the children. His visit was a bit different this year; he had to leave his reindeer at home and he sent video messages to those children who are home schooling, but we are delighted he was still able to take time out of his busy schedule to see the children and distribute gifts (that had been dropped at school in advance and quarantined).

We are thrilled that ALL children enjoyed the panto performance on Thursday afternoon – either in school or at home – and Miss Barnard will be drawing the raffle on Friday's assembly.





## FOCHS Update Continued

### Nearly New Uniform

The Nearly New Uniform Hut is closed for the year (physically and virtually) as Mrs Moyses, our uniform elf, is home schooling her daughter, but we expect to be back up and running in the new year.

### Easyfundraising

If you have any last minute Christmas shopping to do, please sign up to easyfundraising and you can make a donation to FoCHS every time you shop online, at no extra charge. Hundreds of retailers make donations and it is a very easy way to help boost our funds: [easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fochs](https://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fochs).

### Get in touch

If you are interested in getting involved, have some ideas, or if you simply have a question, we'd love to hear from you. Here's how you can get in touch:

Each year group has at least one FoCHS rep. Just message your year WhatsApp group or stop them at pick up/drop off:

LK – Stacey Cummins;  
UK – Nickie Futter and Lydia Chklar;  
Reception – Susanne Wielgelmann  
Yr 1 – Nicola Wiley and Victoria Moyses;  
Yr 2 – Rachel Concadoro;  
Yr 3 – Sarah Cook and Kiran Arora;  
Yr 4 – Nickie Futter and Jess Lancaster;  
Yr 5 – Susan Tetherton and Linda Biggs  
Yr 6 – Lisa Sharp and Linda Biggs

You can also email us at [FoCHS@coopersalehallschool.co.uk](mailto:FoCHS@coopersalehallschool.co.uk) or speak to any members of the committee:

Susan Tetherton (Chair)  
Victoria Moyses (Treasurer)  
Kiran Arora (Secretary)  
Nickie Futter  
Linda Biggs  
Lisa Sharp  
Lydia Chklar  
Sarah Shirley

You can also check out our page on the school website: <https://www.coopersalehallschool.co.uk/parents-pupils/parents-association/>

**Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas.**