



Coopersale Hall School

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HEADMISTRESS

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1 December 2022

Dear Parents

Re: December 2022 Headmistress's Letter

The Christmas festivities have begun at school, and there is a growing sense of anticipation and excitement for this special time of year. As you know, we have just over two weeks until the end of term, which finishes on Thursday 15 December at 11.30am for Early Years, 11.45am for Years 1 & 2 and 12 noon for Years 3 to 6. Before we finish there are a number of events to enjoy. Please do remind yourself of all of the events in the Christmas Events 2022 letter. May I take this time to thank the office and FOCHS for working tirelessly to coordinate and organise these special events for your children. I love seeing the excitement around the school during Christmas.

Christmas Card Design Competition Winners

We had some really lovely Christmas card entries this year. The Senior Leadership Team had a hard time deciding on the winners, but the job had to be done. A big congratulations to Florence (Year 5G) who came third, Carter (Year 1C) who came second and Jesse (Year 2V) who came first.

We also had three further entries that we felt deserved to be highly commended; Joseph (Year 2B), Woolfe (Year 2V) and Defne (Year 5G). All six entries have now been entered into the Epping Mayors Christmas Card Competition. Fingers crossed!

The winning house this year with the most entries was Willow: congratulations to all the members of Willow! Thank you to Miss Smith, our Art Coordinator, for organising a very successful House competition.

Daily Mile

All the children from Years 4 to 6 take part in a daily mile with Mr Barham. We have seen how our children's fitness improved over the term. In particular, I have been impressed with how Year 5 has taken up the challenge. We will continue to run the daily mile every morning. If it is raining heavily, of course we will not have the children out on the netball court. But in light drizzle, we will encourage our children to continue to participate. Please send your child in with their school coat to help keep them dry. Some of our children have brought in a change of socks, which has worked well.

PE News

We received wonderful news after the recent ISA regional swimming gala at the Olympic Park. India, in Year 4H, was chosen for the Nationals for the London North Team and will be swimming in the finals on 3 December. Good luck to India and the whole team from London North.

The Woodland Trust

The school has ordered and received 30 saplings, including Wild Cherry, Rowan and Silver Birch from the Woodland Trust. The planting of the trees will count towards The Queen's Green Canopy, an initiative that marks The Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II. Following the death of Her Majesty the Queen, and the wishes of His Majesty the King, the initiative will give people the opportunity to plant trees in memoriam to honour The Queen. This will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of The Queen's service and the legacy she has built.

On 26 November the Eco Council and all of Year 6 planted their own trees. Children are being encouraged to name and care for their trees.

Reading

The importance of reading for children cannot be underestimated. Reading for pleasure can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, wellbeing, and mental health. There is a relationship between reading and writing, with each one enriching the other. Therefore, we want to have a renewed focus on reading in school. A team of teachers will be running a Book Fair, Reading Workshop, Reading Buddies and a Readathon.

Please continue to set time aside every day for your child to read at home. It is vital that our children see you, as their parents, read for enjoyment so that they too can develop a love for reading.

Book Fair

From Thursday 2 to Wednesday 7 December, Coopersale Hall will be having a Book Fair organised by Travelling Books. The Book Fair will be open from 8.00 until 8.45am each day. On Friday Wednesday it will also be open in the afternoon from 3.00 to 4.00pm. The fair provides a good opportunity to purchase some quality reading books for the Christmas holidays, with prices ranging from £5 to £20.

In addition, Epping Bookshop is donating a percentage of the total sales to the school so that we can buy even more books. You can visit with or without your children. We will confirm the location daily by text; it will be either in the hall or studio to allow us to accommodate outdoor clubs, if the weather is poor.

Payment methods will be via a QR code which you can scan from your phone and then pay online there and then. We do hope that you will be able to support our Book Fair. It is a wonderful way of encouraging our children to read, supporting the school and our local independent bookshop.

Reading Workshop – Upper Kindergarten to Year 1 Parents

On Tuesday 17 January from 8.40am to 9.30am, Miss Gilbert, our English Coordinator, along with some other class teachers will run a reading workshop for our families in the hall. The teachers will look at how to support your child at home and to instil a love for books from a young age. You will receive a text message in January to confirm your attendance. Please come along and find out how you can support this important foundation to learning.

Reading Buddies

Over the years at Coopersale Hall we have had reading buddies once a half term. For those of you unfamiliar with the concept, each class in school will be paired with another class, the classes then get together and share a book with a friend in the other class. It is a lovely way to encourage reading across different year groups. For the remainder of the year, we will alternate reading buddies with the singing assembly every Wednesday. This will allow our children to read more in school and still enjoy singing with Mrs Jones.

Maths Workshop – Reception Parents

Recently there have been a few changes to the EYFS curriculum for Maths and we would like to share how we are teaching the children. The workshop will take place on Tuesday 24 January 8.45am – 9.30am. During the session we will look at:

- What children are expected to be able to do by the end of Reception.
- Where you can expect to see maths being taught in EYFS
- Strategies that we use in school to support children with their mathematical understanding including:
 - 5 and 10 frames
 - Hungarian Model
 - Subitising
- Investigation and problem solving, number patterns and relationships
- Useful websites and resources

It would be wonderful to have parents at the workshop. Please look out for the text in January to confirm your attendance.

Staff News

The families in Reception will know from previous emails that Miss Smith begins maternity leave at the end of December. I am delighted to inform you that we have appointed Miss Sarah Greenin as the maternity cover for Miss Smith. Miss Greenin is an experienced teacher with a wealth of knowledge to benefit our children. She has taught at schools including St Aubyn's in Woodford and Kings College in Madrid, as well as spending two years as a class teacher at Avon House. Miss Greenin is well known to the Oak-Tree Group as she also spent two years teaching at Normanhurst alongside Miss Smith during my time as Head of Juniors. I know her well and we are confident that the transition for our children will be seamless.

Mrs Christine Greig will be stepping down as the piano teacher at the end of the term. Mrs Greig have been with us since 2016 and our children have enjoyed their piano lessons with her. Mrs Debbie Hoang will be joining the Coopersale Hall family in the Spring Term. Mrs Hoang is able to teach different genres of music from blues, to pop to classical to students age 4 and older. She is currently the Peripatetic Piano Teacher at Park School for Girls in Ilford. Mrs Hoang is looking forward to meeting your children.

Snow and Wintry Weather

Although a white Christmas is probably unlikely, we usually have snow at some point in the winter period. Our aim is always to stay open unless there is a health and safety concern in doing so. The maintenance team arrive on site early to clear paths and to make the site safe, and an update will be posted on the website by 7.00am so that parents are informed about arrangements for the day.

Earrings

We only have a three-week holiday at Christmas, which does not provide enough time for you to have your children's ears pierced before we return to school and any earrings have to be removed. As you know, only Year 6 pupils are allowed to wear earrings for school at Coopersale Hall School. They are not permitted in PE lessons, where they present a health and safety concern, even if taped, nor in the normal school day. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this.

Festive Photographs

We have been working with DE Photos for many years, and the team will be taking individual and group photos of the Year 1 and 2 Nativity, LK and UK Nativity and Reception Nativity this year. Photographs will be available to purchase in the car park after the events.

DATES LIST

PLEASE SEE OUR CHRISTMAS EVENTS LIST FOR ALL OUR CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Thur 1 December	1.30-3.30pm	In-House Cross Country Relay Races - Mixed @ Coopersale Hall	Years 3 to 6
Fri 2 December	All Day	Last Piano Lessons of the term	Whole School
	8-8.45am	Book Fair	Whole School
	3-4pm	Book Fair	Whole School
Mon 5 December	8-8.45am	Book Fair	Whole School
	3-5pm	Football Match - Boys @ Shooters North Weald	Year 6 By Invitation

THIS WILL BE THE LAST WEEK OF CLUBS BEFORE WE BREAK FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Tues 6 December	8-8.45am	Book Fair	Whole School
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Wed 7 December	8-8.45am	Book Fair	Whole School
	9.30-12Noon	Stone Age Experience Workshop @Coopersale Hall	Year 4
	3-4pm	Book Fair	Whole School
Thur 8 December	8.40-9.30am	Coffee Morning Studio	Year 3 Parents

**NO RUNNING CLUB, SPEECH & DRAMA, ART CLUB, BOOTCAMP, FENCING OR NETBALL CLUB TODAY DUE TO
THE PANTO**

Mon 12 December

NO CLUBS THIS WEEK – ALL FINISHED LAST WEEK – CLUBS RETURN AGAIN FIRST WEEK BACK 10.1.2023

Thur 15 December		LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM 2022	
	11.30am	Collection time	LK to Reception
	11.45am	Collection time	Years 1 & 2
	12 Noon	Collection time	Years 3 to 6
Tues 10 January 2023		FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM 2023 <u>ALL CLUBS START THIS WEEK</u>	Whole School
Thur 12 January	8.40-9.30am	Coffee Morning Studio	Year 2
Mon 16 January	9-1pm	11+ Entrance Exams to Coopersale Hall	
	3-5pm	Football Match - Boys @ Shooters North Weald <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u>	Year 5 By Invitation
Tues 17 January	8.40-9.30am	Reading Workshop Hall	UK to Year 1
	2pm-3pm	Netball Match – Coopersale v Braeside @ Coopersale Hall <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u>	Years 5 & 6 By Invitation
	2pm-3pm	Football Match – CHS @ Coopersale Hall <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u>	Y5 v Y6 By Invitation
Thur 19 January	8.40-9.30am	Coffee Morning Studio	Year 1 Parents
Tues 24 January	8.40-9.30am	Maths Workshop Hall	Reception
Wed 25 January	9.30-12Noon	Trip - Walking down Flux's Lane	Year 4
Thur 26 January	8.40-9.30am	Coffee Morning Studio	Reception
Mon 30 January	8.15-9am	Drop-In Morning	LK to Reception
Tues 31 January	8.15-9am	Drop-In Morning	Years 1 & 2
Wed 1 February	8.15-9am	Drop-In Morning	Years 3 to 6

As always, if you have any concerns or questions you wish to discuss, please contact your child's class teacher or telephone/email the school office to arrange an appointment with me or a member of the leadership team.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families every blessing for Christmas and the New Year. I hope to see you at one of the Christmas events before the end of term. The Spring term begins on Tuesday 10 January at the normal start time, and breakfast club will be running as usual.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



Moreen Barnard
Headmistress



OAK-TREE SCHOOLS is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

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