



Coopersale Hall School

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HEADMISTRESS

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2 November 2022

Dear Parents

Re: November 2022 Headmistress's Letter

After such a busy half-term, I hope you and your families have enjoyed the holiday and a well-deserved break. We are very much looking forward to the rest of the term, which includes a number of special events. Please make a note of the dates at the end of this letter, and the Christmas Events letter which was sent out on the 20 October.

Bucket Fillers

The purpose of 'Bucket Filling' is to enhance the pupils' social and emotional learning. It is based on a simple concept where we each have an invisible bucket with the singular purpose of holding good thoughts and feelings about ourselves. It comes from the popular children's book 'Have You Filled a Bucket Today?' by Carol McCloud.

A 'bucket filler' is someone who shows positive character traits (for example, being kind, considerate, caring, and respectful). Bucket fillers fill both their own and others' buckets when they do and say things that are kind, considerate, caring, and respectful. Conversely, if a person is unkind or hurtful, they are referred to as 'bucket dippers'. Like bucket fillers, bucket dippers dip into both their own bucket and others' buckets when they choose to be mean or hurtful to others. This simple yet profound concept teaches children that actions and words affect both ourselves and others.

During this school year we are encouraging and recognising everyone's efforts to be bucket fillers at home, at school, and everywhere they go. As parents, you can help reinforce this by discussing this further with your child and using some of the terminology (bucket fillers, bucket dippers) as discussed in school.

Bucket fillers are rewarded with certificates during our Friday celebration assemblies. After receiving 3 certificates children are invited for a special lunch with Miss Barnard. Bucket filling is not linked to any academic achievement, but celebrates the children's character.

11+ Exams

We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting our very own 11+ exams for entry into the Coopersale Hall seniors on 16 January 2023 in the music studio. We will be welcoming all prospective students onsite. I also want to take this time to wish our Year 6 children the best of luck with their external 11+ exams. I am thankful for the commitment our Year 6 staff team have shown in preparing the children. Our children are ready and well prepared to write their exams over the next term. We are already proud of them and the work ethic they have been showing.

Second Hand Music Instruments

We want to encourage our children to try and play a range of music instruments in school. I hope your children have come home talking about their music lessons and the opportunity they have to pick up an instrument. If any of our families have second hand music instruments, still in excellent working condition, which they wish to donate to the school, Mrs Jones will gladly use those in her music lessons and after school clubs. Please take any donations to the music studio.

School Uniform

We take great care to maintain high standards of uniform and presentation at school and as we return to wintery weather I would like to remind you of the school's uniform expectations. From November, all pupils should be in winter uniform. Please check the website or Parents' Handbook for details. (<https://www.coopersalehallschool.co.uk/school-uniform/>)

From Kindergarten classes upward pupils are expected to wear the regulation school coat purchased from the uniform shop; please do not wear alternative coats. Cold weather accessories: in the juniors, the school woollen hat and scarf available from the uniform suppliers should be worn. No pupils should wear coloured or patterned hats, gloves or scarves.

Boots are not a part of school uniform in any part of the school, including the Early Years classes, so please make sure that pupils have sturdy, plain black leather school shoes through the winter. When it snows, pupils may wear boots to and from school but will need to wear shoes on site and in the buildings.

All items of uniform should be named, including your child's PE kit. We have a number of items that go into lost property but are never claimed and cannot be returned as they have not been named. This is also important for Tea Time Club, so that we can ensure that children take the correct clothing home with them at the end of the day.

Please also note that earrings are not permitted in school for any pupils. Pupils should not come to school with earrings in and tape covering them. If there is a reason to need to do this, notify me in writing. There is a health and safety reason for the rule, which has been in place for some time. We kindly ask families to pierce their children's ears over the summer holidays to give the ears time to heal.

I would like to encourage all our families to support our school in recycling nearly new uniform by buying from FOCHS. The volunteers from FOCHS will be having sales in the front of the school more regularly now. This is an excellent way to recycle uniform but also a very cost effective way to have additional uniform for your children.

PE Kit

Mr Barham is in the process of updating the PE curriculum across the school. This is an exciting time for our children to have a broad new PE curriculum. Over the next term Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) will be playing hockey on the AstroTurf. All children should please come to school with Astro boots on their PE days. Normal trainers do not have enough grip for the children to enjoy their PE in a safe way on the AstroTurf.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) will need Astro and studded boots. Mr Barham wants to use fully our excellent facilities, even when the weather is not sunny and dry. Key Stage 2 will be learning tag rugby, cross country and general fitness. One of their PE lessons will be on the AstroTurf and the other on the field. Please send your child to school in their Astro boots with their studded boots in a boot bag to keep the rest of their belongings clean.

All children taking part in any competitions, will need to have the correct footwear.

Daily Mile

We introduced the Daily Mile for Years 5 and 6 every morning before the start of the school day. The aim of this is to improve their physical, social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing, regardless of age, ability or personal circumstances.

We are now extending the daily mile to Year 4 from after half term, as we have seen the benefit with our older children. Please help us by encouraging your children to attend. The children go to their classes at 8:25, drop their bags and meet Mr Barham on the netball court to run their mile.

Celebrating Individual Achievements

We are aware of the amazing things our children do outside school; performing well for their sports teams, charity involvement and performing arts. Do share your children's achievements with us by emailing Miss Barnard. We want celebrate and value all of the children's achievements, within and beyond the school.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Formal Parent Consultation Evenings for Kindergarten to Year 6 are being held on Tuesday 15 November. Parents are asked to book their appointments via the portal and not through the office or with teachers directly. If you experience any difficulties with the system, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Specialist subject teachers for the following subjects: French, Computer, Music, PE, Science will be in the main hall on Tuesday only. Appointments are not necessary and all parents are invited to see them if they would like to.

You will receive a summary of the discussion you had with the class teacher and your child's most recent levels to take away. This is in addition to the formal written report, which will be published at the end of the Autumn Term.

Access to Portals

As requested at the start of term, do access your Parent Portal for ongoing information and to update any details that may have changed. This includes contact details (we need at least two current emergency contacts) and medical information. We upload key information to the Portal so that it can be accessed at your convenience. Please contact the school office if you have misplaced your login details.

Poppy Appeal

Remembrance Poppies will be on sale at school this week. Our Year 6 prefect team will be selling poppies at the main gate in the morning. We hope to see all our pupils wearing a poppy on Friday 11 November. We will mark the day with a minute's silence at 11.00am. Mrs Graves and Mrs Boulton have been working with staff to make sure we mark the minute silence with the rest of the country.

FOCHS

FOCHS have been busy this term and my thanks to all their members for all their enthusiasm and hard work. They have arranged an impressive number of Christmas activities including visits to the pantomime for the pupils and a Christmas Gift shop, as well as some special visitors! Do check the 'Christmas Events' list for more information. Representatives from FOCHS are also looking at new social events for our families. These will be communicated via the FOCHS WhatsApp groups. Do look out for these to join in the fun.

ISA Autumn Conference

Mrs Bull and I will be out of school on Thursday 17 and Friday 18 November at the Independent Schools Association Autumn Study Conference, which is a good opportunity for us to meet with fellow Heads and discuss current educational issues.

Oak-Tree Challenge

All pupils from Year 4 to 6 will be issued with their Oak-Tree Challenge Log Books. Do encourage your child to participate in the challenges for their year group. The challenges should be fun and rewarding to do as well as being a useful activity to discuss when applying for senior schools. I look forward to seeing the completed challenges at the end of the academic year. If you have any questions relating to the Oak-Tree Challenge, please contact Mrs Bull.

Gift a Book

This term we continue with our 'gift a birthday book' scheme, where pupils on their birthday can gift one of their favourite books to the school. A certificate is placed inside the cover of the book explaining who has gifted the book. Please have a look at the newsletter for the pupils' photos. Thank you for supporting this; pupils are very proud to donate their book and explain their choice of book to share.

May I take this time to encourage our families to gift books that might teach our school community about your heritage, culture, country or religion in an age appropriate way. We are an inclusive community and want to learn from each other.

School Council

Our School Council meet regularly and one of the topics they have been discussing is which charity to support this term. So far, we have supported the Epping Food Bank from our Harvest donations. Our School Councillors for this year are:

Year 1C - Grace D	Year 1H - George G
Year 2V - Verity D	Year 2B - Joseph W
Year 3B - Nicholas B	Year 3C - Margaux C
Year 4H - Maria K	Year 4G - Henry L
Year 5G - Elena W	Year 5N - Donald M
Year 6Z - Naya S	Year 6B - Xander B
Year 6 – Clara M	(Head of the School Council)

Mrs Bull enjoys spending time with our School Council to hear more about their ideas to improve their school.

Eco Council

Our Eco Council meet regularly with Miss Gowland and look for ways to make our school more eco-friendly and encourages the rest of the school to become greener. Our Eco Council for this year are:

UKC- Hudson W	UKT- Rory B	UKF-Leila C
RM- Camille R	RS- Oliver W	RG- Kenzo S
1H- Mae M	1C- Olive C	
2V- Ranveer S	2B- Hudson W	
3B- Edward B	3C- Annie H	
4H- Arty D	4G- Iman A	
5N- Simran C	5G- Jack C	
6Z- Sofia B	6B- Amelia G	(Head of the Eco Council)

Oak-Tree Fireworks

Our annual Oak-Tree Fireworks display returns on Sunday 13 November from 4.30-6.45pm at Oaklands School, Loughton. This is always a very popular family occasion and we are very grateful to all the Oak-Tree Schools' parents' associations for their hard work in running this event. Tickets are now sold out for the event. I am sure it will be a fantastic evening.

Christmas at Coopersale Hall School

Christmas is a very busy time in school. Please remind yourself of all the dates and events from the Christmas Events schedule that was sent out before half term.

DATES LIST

Mon 7 November	3-5pm	Football Match - Boys @ Shooters North Weald <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u> NO GOLF FINISHED UNTIL APRIL 2023 NO TENNIS FINISHED UNTIL APRIL 2023	Year 5 By invitation Years 3 to 6 Years 4 to 6
Wed 9 November		NO TENNIS FINISHED UNTIL APRIL 2023	
Thur 10 November	8.40-9.40am	Coffee Morning - Parents of In the Studio NO MULTI SPORTS FINISHED UNTIL APRIL 2023	Year 6 Reception to Year 2 Year 5
	9-3pm	Trip to Waltham Abbey Museum <u>Letter sent</u>	
Fri 11 November	10.30-3pm	Girls Football Competition @ Barnet Power League <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u> NO TENNIS FINISHED UNTIL APRIL 2023	Years 5 Girls By Invitation Reception to Year 2 Years 5 & 6
Sun 13 November	1.55-4pm	Remembrance Sunday Parade - Epping <u>Letter sent</u>	
	4.30-6.45pm	Oak-Tree Firework Display @ Oaklands School <u>Letter sent</u>	All Welcome
Mon 14 November	9-11.45am	Trip to Epping Library <u>Letter to follow</u>	Lower Kindergarten
Tues 15 November	3.30-6.30pm	Parent's Evening Classrooms Specialist Teachers in the hall	Whole School

Wed 16 November	3.30-6.30pm	Parent's Evening Classrooms	Whole School
Fri 18 November	9-1pm	Swimming Gala - Mixed Southbury Road Leisure Centre Enfield <u>Fixture sheet sent 19.10.22</u>	Years 3 to 6
Tues 22 November	1-3.30pm	Oak-Tree Indoor Athletics-Mixed @Peter May Sports Centre Walthamstow	Year 5 By invitation
Thur 24 November	8.40-9.40am	Coffee Morning - Parents of In the Studio	Year 5
	10-3pm	Girls Football Competition @ Barnet Power League <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u>	Year 4 Girls By Invitation
Fri 25 November	9-2.30pm	Trip to Suntrap Centre @ High Beech <u>Letter to follow</u>	Reception
	11-3pm	Tag Rugby Competition Mixed @ Bancrofts Rugby Club <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u>	Years 5 & 6 By Invitation
Tues 29 November	All Day	Last Piano Lesson of the term	
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 Book Fair – <u>Letter to follow</u>	Whole School
Mon 5 December	3-5pm	Football Match - Boys @ Shooters North Weald <u>Fixture sheet to follow</u> Book Fair – <u>Letter to follow</u>	Year 6 By Invitation Whole School

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

Tues 6 December	1-3.30pm	Indoor Athletics Venue TBC Book Fair – <u>Letter to follow</u>	Years 3 to 6 By invitation Whole School
Wed 7 December	9.30-12Noon	Stone Age Experience Workshop @Coopersale Hall Book Fair – <u>Letter to follow</u>	Year 4 Whole School
Mon 14 December			

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

Thur 15 December		LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM 2022	
	11.30am	Collection time	Early Years
	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

Whole School

Reflections on Events this Term

It has been incredibly heart-warming to see and be able to meet so many parents and prospective parents this term. Drop-In morning, Open Days, Harvest Festival and parent information workshops. I am incredibly proud of our pupils and staff as once again they continue to be fantastic ambassadors for the school. Equally, I am incredibly grateful and appreciative of the unwavering support we receive from our parents. I hope you have also enjoyed attending school events this term; it has been wonderful to create some lovely memories.

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.

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



HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE CO-DIRECTORS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

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