

NEWSLETTER

January 2023



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Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a chilly 2023 and our very busy Spring term. We have only been back for a few weeks but we have already achieved a great deal. Our Winter Concert was wonderful and enjoyed by all the children who took part, the staff and our families; we were so impressed with how talented our pupils are. Additionally, some of our Key Stage 2 children represented the school in the Oaktree Maths Challenge at Braeside: we are extremely proud of the amazing maths skills that they demonstrated.

Our Year 6 children have continued working hard for their 11+ exams, including the first ever 11+ exam at Coopersale Hall, in preparation for our Senior school. We have enjoyed interviewing the children and meeting new pupils from a range of different schools.

The articles in our newsletter will give you a flavour of some of the range activities we have already enjoyed this term and there are many more exciting activities planned for this half-term.

Miss Barnard

Making New Friends In Lower Kindergarten



Lower Kindergarten welcomed some new faces this term! The children have enjoyed playing and exploring both inside and outside the classroom.

Outdoor Learning in Upper Kindergarten Thomas

Upper Kindergarten braved the cold weather to get a better look at the beautiful frost covering the school field. They made tracks like a train and wrote the first letter of their name on the frosty fence.



Welcome Back Upper Kindergarten Fentiman

We welcomed the children in Upper Kindergarten Fentiman back to school and took an exploratory walk around the school grounds to see what changes had happened due to the weather and change in seasons. As our topic this term is Transport we looked at all the different size cars and vans in the car park and found a school mini bus. We then had fun climbing in the bus pretending to go on an adventure. We are looking forward to finding out about as many different types of vehicles and transport.



Enjoying School Life

There are many opportunities within the time that children spend at school to encourage a happy attitude towards learning and to foster good relationships between everyone within the school community.

For example, in our Friday whole school assembly, we enjoy the opportunity to celebrate all the different skills and achievements that children have made, both in and out of school during the week. Our Key Stage assemblies are led by a teacher who can utilise this time to explore some of the concerns that children may have. At the beginning of the term, Miss Crick had an assembly with the KS1 children where she read the book "Walter and the no-need to worry suit." She posed questions to the children allowing everyone time to think about how they could deal with feelings of concern that they may also have.



We regularly remind our children about The Listening Ear, which is an opportunity for them to speak to a trained member of staff about any concerns they may have. All our mental health first aiders are displayed on our Listening Ear posters and they also wear an "I've got time to talk" lanyard so that they are easily identifiable to all the children.

Reading Buddies is a period of time set aside within the school time-table when children in KS2 and KS1 mix together to listen to each other read. This helps to promote a wider range of vocabulary being exposed to the children, as well as listening to a wider group of individuals reading aloud. This time also helps to promote engagement and enjoyment in reading together and also good relationships between the different key stages.

Lunchtimes are an excellent opportunity for the children to sit together, socialise and chat in an informal manner, whilst enjoying their meals. Often members of the senior leadership team and teaching staff are in the hall, enjoying lunchtimes with the children. School life has many opportunities for enjoying positive, happy and healthy environment where good relationships can flourish.

Welcome Back!

The school gathered together in the hall for our first assembly of the new year. Miss Barnard welcomed everybody back and warmly welcomed the 15 new pupils that have joined us this term. She talked to the children about what people usually do at the start of a new year and invited the children to explain what the word "resolution" meant. Frey in 2V said, "a wish that you have for the new year." Miss Barnard felt that this was a lovely way to start getting everyone to think about how we can look at making a real difference and striving to achieve our goals. She took out a yoyo and showed them how, by starting with one simple movement, you can go on to spinning the yoyo "around the world" and even "walking the dog."

Everyone was enthralled with her skill, and it helped us all to consider what changes we would like to make. We could see that by changing one thing, we could move on to changing so much more. Miss Crick said she would like to drink more water this year and Miss Groman-Marks wanted to read more books. Children and staff were challenged to go away and think about one small positive change they could each make this year. Our assembly closed with Miss Barnard saying a school prayer before the children returned to their class to start their day.

We wish everyone a new year full of happiness and success. Whatever your goals are this year, keep striving towards them and never give up!

Midwinter Concert Rehearsals

Rehearsals were in full swing for our Midwinter Concert. Years 5 and 6 were busy practising their songs and dances ready for the concert on Friday 20 January. The concert will highlight the way different cultures and religions around the world celebrate joy and hope, bringing light during the darkest times. Choir, rock band, orchestra and our new recorder consort have all been rehearsing hard and will be performing, as Year 6 introduce us to Midwinter traditions from all over the globe. Good luck to all the performers.



Ukulele Club

Ukulele club is on Fridays after school and is open to everyone, from absolute beginners to those who would like to work towards a grade exam. We look at a variety of modern and folk music and work on group pieces and solos. The children in ukulele club are also able to join our orchestra.



Practical Maths in Upper Kindergarten Thomas



Upper Kindergarten T have been doing some practical maths this term. They have been playing board games and seeing how many ways they can make numbers 3-10.

Teachers Lunching with the Children



Both children and some of our staff enjoy having their lunch together, it gives the children the chance to chat in a very informal atmosphere. The lunch is delicious too!

House Points

House Points Spring Term	Beech	Chestnut	Oak	Willow
Points	303	233	273	233
Position	1st	3rd	2nd	3rd

Children's Mental Health Awareness

The week commencing Monday 6th February, we will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week at Coopersale Hall; this year's theme is 'Let's Connect'. Children will be undertaking activities on this theme in their classes throughout the week.

In Tuesday 7th February, there will be an assembly for Key Stages 1 and 2 and workshops for Years 5 and 6. These will be delivered by Rose Horgan, clinical hypnotherapist from Inspired to Change Epping Forest, and will focus on the importance of mental health, developing resilience and relaxation techniques.

House Assembly



Beech



Chestnut



Oak



Willow

The school gathered together in their school houses to celebrate all the achievements that they have made last year. It was a wonderful and enjoyable way to get to know each other more.

Each House spent time to discuss their house songs and mascots. The lyrics of each song selected talked about teamwork, setting challenges and targets to help them achieve individually and as a House.

Willow House - Miss Gilbert / Chestnut House - Mrs Graves / Beech House - Mrs Biddle / Oak House - Mrs Hogarth.

Reading Buddies



Our Reading Buddies spending time with the younger children. They all enjoy this session very much!






Science Awards	W/C 12.12.22	W/C 09.1.23	W/C 16.1.23
Reception GM	Nate	Aryaan	Casper
Reception S	-	Alexander	Arthur
Reception G	-	Tommy	Emma
Year 1 C	Violet	Ilaria and Carter	Robyn
Year 1 H	Isabella	Shaan	Beau
Year 2 B	-	Joe	Marion
Year 2 V	-	Ben	Tommy
Year 3 B	-	Robyn	Arlo
Year 3 C	-	Reeva	Fred
Year 4 G	-	India	Eva
Year 4 H			
Year 5 G	-	Imogen and Simran	-
Year 5 N			
Year 6 B	-	Lucas	Atilla
Year 6 Z			

Maths Challenge

The KS2 children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Braeside for the inter-school Maths Challenge. Three children from each year group got to flex their 'maths muscles' and competed against teams from the other three Oak-Tree schools. Mrs Howard and Mrs Zylstra thoroughly enjoyed watching them all compete, getting a little nervous when they finished rounds first on a number of occasions.

We were very proud of how the children conducted themselves. They had a wonderful time and showed us all what they were made of. We were also very pleased to win the overall competition. Thank you so much to Braeside for being such wonderful hosts. The afternoon was organised superbly.



Thank you for your Book Donations!



MERIT BADGES	20.1.223
RG	Tommy
RM	Nate & Leo
RS	Alexander
Year 1C	Violet
Year 1H	George
Year 2B	Joe
Year 2V	Benjamin
Year 3B	Robyn & Zaha
Year 3C	Margaux & Beatrice
Year 4G	Alexander & Henry
Year 4H	Oliver
Year 5G	Whole Class
Year 5N	Poppy & Georgina
Year 6B	Whole Class
Year 6Z	Whole Class

COOPERSALE HALL
SCHOOL
OPEN MORNING
TUESDAY 7 MARCH 2023 - 9.15am

www.coopersalehallschool.co.uk

Tel: 01992 577133



Midwinter Concert & Festival of Light

Last Friday was all about celebration at Coopersale Hall. Our Midwinter Concert looked at how people all around the world find joy and celebrate, even in the darkest of time.

Ivy opened the show by singing a beautiful rendition of “In the Bleak Midwinter”, and Stanley; “In many cultures and societies, midwinter is a time when festivals of light are held, with feasting and festivities **to brighten the darkest days**. People also focus on ways that they can show charity and kindness towards others.”

Year 6 then explained the origins of a number of midwinter traditions. The Coopersale Orchestra played “Good King Wenceslas” representing the tradition of giving to charity and thinking of others less fortunate than ourselves. All the children sang “I have a little Dreidl” after explaining the Jewish celebration of Hannukah. A Bible reading telling the story of Jesus’ birth came next with our recorder consort playing “Huron Christmas Carol” and Poppy in Year 5 playing a jazzy version of “We Three Kings” on the saxophone.

Next came readings about how Christmas is celebrated in different parts of the world. In Poland the celebrations start when a child sees the first star of the evening on Christmas Eve. Naya sang the first verse of the beautiful song “Little Star” and then dancers from Year 5 and 6 took to the stage to show the Chinese tradition of decorating the tree with lights and paper lanterns. Rock Band performed an uplifting version of a Malawi song “Kuyimba” with solos from Blaise and Ruby, great percussion from Oscar and harmonies provided by KS2 choir.

The children then focussed on Diwali, as Jess said “this is a chance for family and friends and all of the Hindu community to come together and celebrate in style. Fireworks are used in Diwali because of the light and how bright they shine. Diwali is also about looking ahead to the future and to think about new beginnings.”

Year 5 then sang the lovely song “Winter Candle”, featuring a number of soloists. The concert ended with all the children singing a rousing rendition of “Children of the World”.

The children worked so hard to produce a wonderful concert, as Max and George summed up the theme of the evening: “We have looked at midwinter celebrations from all over the world most seem familiar and comforting. Lots of midwinter traditions are to do with welcoming visitors and sharing with families and friends.

We will try to shine our own lights, so our message of peace and hope shines through the whole world.”



Our Music Clubs



It's always busy in the music department, there is always something going on. Wednesday lunchtimes we have Rock Band where children in KS2 can come and join in singing and playing great songs. The children can choose to sing, or use an instrument, often trying out different instruments as the songs require and making their own decisions on arrangements. It is loud and energetic with the children showing great enthusiasm and skill.

We run two choirs at Coopersale, children in KS1 can join on Wednesdays after school and children in KS2 can come on Thursday mornings. We sing a wide range of songs, for fun, or preparing for performances. The KS2 choir are even preparing to enter a competition!

Chinese New Year in Upper Kindergarten Thomas

Upper Kindergarten Thomas celebrated the Chinese New Year. They watched the Great Race which tells the story of how the Zodiac signs were picked before making masks and lanterns to decorate the room. They finished the day with eating homemade spring rolls, noodles and prawn crackers, trying their best to use chopsticks. They even got a fortune cookie to take home!



Sur le pont d'Avignon

Upper Kindergarten have been learning the song 'Sur le pont d'Avignon' during their French lessons. They had a great time dancing along in pairs and helping each other remember the steps.



Year 3 Visit The Epping Forest District Museum



Year 3 visited the Epping Forest District Museum to learn more about World War 2. They looked at ancient artefacts which were used in the war and presented their findings. They also painted some beautiful pictures of life in Waltham Abbey after the war!

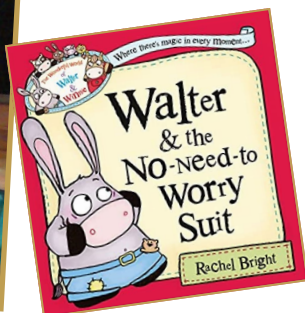
Year 4 Trip to Cobbins Brook

Year 4 had a wonderful trip to Cobbins Brook on Fluxs Lane. They were able to use their senses to explore the area, gather natural resources and created leaf rubbings. The children were able to evaluate the river, its many features and discuss the many different human and physical aspects based around the river.



Miss Crick Reading in Assembly

The children in Years 1 & 2 really enjoyed listening to Miss Crick read to them in assembly. The name of the book she read from was "Walter and the no-need to worry suit".



Getting Social

Click the images to visit our social media sites.



FoCHS Update

Firstly, may we wish everyone a Happy New Year! We hope all the children have settled back into school well after the Christmas break and are now ready to take on 2023!

Events

We are very excited to be planning our events for this year.

Upper Kindergarten are looking forward to their delivery of Living Eggs, in support of their class topic. These are live chicken eggs housed in an incubator in the classroom, so the children can watch in real time as they hatch and grow for 10 days! All the chicks are then ethically placed on free range farms at the end of their incubation.

After half-term, our ever-popular Easter baskets will also be returning to go on display as prizes for the Easter Raffle.

Please keep an eye out in due course for details of our first Cheese and Wine night at school (Come Wine with Brie??), which we are hoping will take place either later this term or at the beginning of the Summer term. It will be a great opportunity for parents and carers across all year groups to get together and have a catch up!

As always, we very much appreciate all your support this year. All money received by FoCHS goes back into activities, events and items for the children that enrich their daily school life and assist their learning.

School Council

The FoCHS Treasurer and Secretary were recently treated to a lovely lunch at School with representatives from the School Council. The agenda was to discuss the pupils' "wish list" for this year; additional items voted for by the School Council that FoCHS could purchase to benefit the pupils in school. Alexander from Year 6 and Elena from Year 5 were the perfect hosts and it was a very constructive business meeting! We shall report back again once the Committee has met to discuss this further.

Second-Hand Uniform

Purchasing second-hand uniform is one more way that we can all do our bit to help the environment and reduce waste, so we really appreciate your support.

Our order form can be downloaded from the school website: <https://www.coopersalehallschool.co.uk/cooper-content/uploads/2022/02/CHS-Second-Hand-Uniform-Order-Form.pdf>

If you wish to place an order, please hand in your completed form to the school office and we will let you know if the items requested are available. Please do not email any order forms to us. Once your order is confirmed, payment should be made to us electronically using the details on the form.

Our price list can also be found on the school website: <https://www.coopersalehallschool.co.uk/cooper-content/uploads/2022/02/CHS-Second-Hand-Uniform-Price-List.pdf>

We also very much appreciate any donations of good quality, school-branded uniform. Please leave it with the school office and one of our volunteers will collect it.

If you have any queries, please do speak to your class rep.

Easyfundraising

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 simple to sign up: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fochs>

Amazon Smile

We have also set up another easy way to donate to FoCHS every time you shop with Amazon, via Amazon Smile. Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know with the same products, prices and service.

Simply log-in to your Amazon account via the website <http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk> choose Friends of Coopersale Hall School as your charitable organisation and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price of your order (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) to FoCHS. There is no additional cost to you for this donation. If you use the Amazon Shopping app, you can turn on Amazon Smile by going to “Settings” in the main menu and following the on-screen instructions.

Get in touch

If you are interested in getting involved this year, have some ideas, or if you simply have a question, we would very much like to hear from you. Here's how you can get in touch:

Each year group has at least one FoCHS rep. The easiest way to get in touch is to message your year or class rep on WhatsApp:

LK – TBC
UK - Susan Tetherton;
Reception – Stacey Cummins;
Yr 1 – Nickie Futter;
Yr 2 – Rachel Concadoro;
Yr 3 – Nicola Wiley and Victoria Moyses;
Yr 4 – Rachel Concadoro;
Yr 5 – Sarah Cook;
Yr 6 – Nickie Futter and Jess Lancaster

You can also email us at FoCHS@coopersalehallschool.co.uk or speak to any members of the Committee:

Susan Tetherton (Chair)
Victoria Moyses (Treasurer)
Nickie Futter (Secretary)
Sarah Shirley
Sarah Cook
Louisa Richards
Stacey Cummins
Jagdeep Chahil
Julia Fahri
Christie Demetriou

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