



# Coopersale Hall School

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## HEAD

Mr Paul Wilson B.A. (HONS), PGCE

5 February 2025

Dear Parents

## Re February 2025 Head's Letter

I hope your children have enjoyed the first few weeks of our Spring term. Year 6 have been particularly busy with entrance examinations for senior school. We have had record numbers applying to sit our 11+ this year, with many external and internal pupils hoping to secure an offer of a place in the seniors. Congratulations to all of our Year 6 pupils, whether they have been sitting exams externally or internally at Coopersale Hall. They have prepared very well and I am sure they will be very successful.

### Senior Building

Over the Christmas break, our building contractors have been making very good progress with our senior building. The roof, windows and doors are now all in place and the building is watertight. It is now possible to imagine how the light and airy building will feel when we open our doors to pupils up to the age of 16 next year. The staff are looking forward to being part of a 'through school' to 16 in September and we are currently finalising plans so we are ready to receive new pupils in the next academic year.

### Social Media

Just a reminder that our marketing team share some wonderful stories about our pupils on social media. If you like what you see, please remember to like and share, to help us spread the word!

### Parent Workshops

It was good to see so many parents attend our Maths workshop at the end of January. Mrs Zylstra will be arranging further sessions for individual key stages, including a session for parents of senior pupils, in the coming months.

### Internet Safety

As you are aware, we consider the protection and safeguarding of children to be of the highest priority. Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on the 11 February and I will be running an assembly about how to stay safe online. The children will follow up with fun activities in class to prompt further thought. Unfortunately, social media spaces can contain dangers for children, if they do not know how to stay safe. This is why most social media platforms have an age limit of 13+ (This raises to 16+ for WhatsApp). If you would like further information, the 'UK Safer Internet Centre' proves a wealth of resources for parents, including this useful guide to the main social media platforms: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>. If any parent would like further support around children's use of devices or staying safe online, please do get in touch.

### Staff Update

Mrs Graves has started her maternity leave and I am sure you will join 4G and I in wishing her well. We are fortunate to have Mrs Louise Barr, who joins us from Braeside, She has many years teaching experience in both state and private education. She will initially provide maternity cover and then stay with us at Coopersale, adding to the teaching team on Mrs Graves' return.

### Drop off and pick up

May I remind parents about our expectations for drop off and pick up. We are very fortunate to have enough parking spaces for many parents to leave their cars and pick up their children from outside the classrooms. This can provide an opportunity for staff and parents to communicate and is a great way to foster a positive working relationship. However, there have been incidents recently where children have not been closely supervised after staff have released the children to their parents. This has resulted in damage to the premises and is a safety concern.

Please could I kindly ask parents to keep a close eye on their children after pick up and to leave the site in a timely manner so that traffic can continue to flow.

If you need to pick up your child during the working school day, please report to the office, who will arrange for your child to be brought to you. For safeguarding reasons, parents **must not** visit classrooms unattended, other than at official pick up times.

### Absence due to Illness

In the colder months, lots of our children struggle with winter illnesses. Please do not send the children to school when they are not well. The NHS has seen an unusually high rate of viruses so far this winter so, in order to avoid any spread in school, I would like to remind parents that all pupils should be kept off school for at least 48 hours following a sickness or diarrhoea bug. Also, if they have started a course of antibiotics they should also be kept off school for the first 24 hours whilst taking the medication.

### Right to disconnect

There is a wide evidence base supporting the view that a healthy work-life balance is good for physical and mental health for employees, and that this balance is also a key factor in generating high productivity and efficiency. At Coopersale, and across the Oak Tree Group, we want to help our staff separate their work and home lives by respecting the right to disconnect from work outside of working hours. Staff need time after work to recover from the day, spend time with their families and engage in different activities that are good for mental health and wellbeing. As such, please be aware that staff will endeavour to respond to communications in a timely manner, but parents should not expect a response after 6pm in the evening. Instead, staff will contact parents the following working day.

### Dates for the Diary

<b>Monday 3 February</b>	1.15-2.30pm	Cross Country Relay Epping & Ongar Races @ Coopersale Hall	<b>Years 3 to 6 Mixed By Invitation</b>
<b>Tuesday 4 February</b>	1pm-3.30pm	Oak-Tree Tag Rugby Festival – 7-A Side @Eton Manor Wanstead	<b>U11s By Invitation</b>
<b>Wednesday 5 February</b>	12.30-10.30pm	Trip to Young Voices Concert @ O2 Arena NO MUSIC CLUB TODAY	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6</b>
<b>Monday 10 February</b>	3.45-5pm	Football Match Epping & Ongar League @ Shooters North Weald	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 By Invitation</b>
	3.30-4.30pm	FOCHS Second Hand Uniform Sale	<b>All Welcome</b>
<b>Tuesday 11 February</b>	AM/PM	Safer Internet Day	<b>Whole School</b>
<b>Wednesday 12 February</b>	8.40-9.15am	Class Assembly - Hall	<b>2 x Year 5 Classes Parents Welcome</b>

### MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2025 – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

<b>Monday 24 February</b>	9.00-12Noon	Oak-Tree Swimming Gala @ Loughton Leisure Centre	<b>Years 4 to 6 By Invitation</b>
	3.40pm	Hive Meeting @Main Hall	<b>Year 4</b>

<b>Tuesday 25 February</b>	9.30-3.30pm	ISA Tag Rugby Match @ Woodford Wells	<b>U11 By Invitation</b>
<b>Wednesday 27 February</b>	9.00-2.30pm	Felsted Science Day	<b>KS2 By Invitation</b>
<b>Monday 3 March</b>	3.45-4.15pm	Football Match Epping & Ongar League @ Shooters North Weald	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 By Invitation</b>
<b>Tuesday 4 March</b>	9.15-12Noon 9.30am	Open Morning Head's Speech	<b>All Parents Welcome</b>
<b>Wednesday 5 March</b>	9.00-2.30pm	Bikeability @ Coopersale	<b>Year 6</b>
<b>Thursday 6 March</b>	AM/PM AM/PM AM/PM 9.00-2.30pm	Readathon Starts Residential Trip to The Hive @High Beech World Book Day – Dress Up as your Favourite Book Character Bikeability @ Coopersale	<b>Whole School Year 4  Whole School Year 6</b>
<b>Friday 7 March</b>	AM-3.30pm 9.00-11.30am 10.30-2.45pm	Return from The Hive Residential Trip Trip to Loughton Library ISA Football & Netball Matches @ Akeley Wood Buckinghamshire	<b>Year 4 Lower Kindergarten Year 5 By Invitation</b>
<b>Monday 10 March</b>	9.00-2.30pm 3.30-4.30pm	History Workshop @ Coopersale FOCHS Second Hand Uniform Sale	<b>Year 2 All Welcome</b>
<b>Tuesday 11 March</b>	9.00-3pm 9.30-1pm	Trip to Gunpowder Mills Science Fair @ Bancroft's	<b>Year 3 Year 6 By Invitation</b>
<b>Wednesday 12 March</b>	8.40-9.15am 1.00-3pm	Class Assembly Oak-Tree Cross Country Races @ Coopersale	<b>3 x Reception Classes Years 3 to 6 By Invitation</b>
<b>Thursday 13 March</b>	1.15-2.45pm	House Cross Country Races <b>NO PARENTS ALLOWED</b>	<b>Years 3 to 8 By Invitation</b>
<b>Friday 14 March</b>	9.00-4pm	Maths Day	<b>Whole School</b>
<b>Monday 17 March</b>	10.45-12.15pm 3.45-5pm	Swimming Competition @ Chigwell School Football Match Epping & Ongar League @ Shooters North Weald	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 By Invitation Years 5 &amp; 6 By Invitation</b>
<b>Tuesday 18 March</b>	3.45-6.30pm	Parent's Evening	<b>For Parents of Children in Lower &amp; Upper Kindergarten, Reception &amp; Years 1 to 6</b>
<b>Wednesday 19 March</b>	8.40-9.15am 3.45-6.30pm	Class Assembly - Hall Parent's Evening	<b>2 x Year 3 Classes For Parents of Children in Lower &amp; Upper Kindergarten,</b>

			<b>Reception &amp; Years 1 to 6</b>
<b>Thursday 20 March</b>	9.00-4pm	Trip to Young Scientist Centre @ W1 London	<b>Year 8</b>
	9.00-11.30am	Oak-Tree 5 A Side Football Match @ Shooters North Weald	<b>Years 3 to 6 By Invitation</b>
<b>Friday 21 March</b>	AM/PM	Fundraising Day for Spinal Injuries Association & Little Life Savers	<b>Whole School</b>
<b>Monday 24 March</b>	AM/PM	FOCHS Treat - Easter Animals Visit	<b>Whole School</b>
<b>Tuesday 25 March</b>	4.00-5.30pm	Spelling Bee Competition @Oaklands School	<b>Years 3 to 6 By Invitation</b>
<b>Wednesday 26 March</b>	8.40-9.15am	Class Assembly - Year 1 Stanley	<b>Parents Welcome</b>
	9.00-3pm	Trip to Lea Valley Animal Adventure Park – Waltham Abbey	<b>3 x Upper Kindergarten Classes</b>
<b>Thursday 27 March</b>	9.00-3pm	Trip to Willows Farm – St Albans	<b>3 x Reception Classes</b>
<b>Friday 28 March</b>		<b>Last Day of Spring Term</b>	<b>Whole School</b>
		Finishing time - <b>Early Years</b>	<b>11.30am</b>
		Finishing time - <b>Years 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>11.45am</b>
		Finishing time - <b>Years 3 to 7</b>	<b>12Noon</b>

Yours sincerely



Paul Wilson  
Head



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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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