



# Coopersale Hall School

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## HEAD

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

23 April 2025

Dear Parents

**Re: April 2025 Head's Letter**

TS Elliot famously said that 'April is the cruellest month'; he had clearly forgotten his days as a teacher, with a long Easter holiday! I hope everyone is feeling as refreshed as I am and are looking forward to a bustling summer term.

### A fond farewell

At the end of term, Mrs Parsons retired after 6 years of care and service at Coopersale Hall School, looking after the children during lunchtime and at teatime club. Mrs Parsons is looking forward to spending time with family in Wales and in Buckhurst Hill. I am sure you will all join me in thanking her for her kindness and dedication to the children and wishing her well in retirement.

### Parent Workshops

Thank you to all our parents who attended our parent workshops last term. They were very popular and we are grateful for your support and feedback. Please do let us know if you were unable to attend and would like further workshops, as we would be happy to accommodate this.

### Class Assemblies

It was wonderful to see the children showcasing their learning in their class assemblies last term. Performing on stage is a great opportunity for children to develop their skills of communication, creativity, memory and concentration. We will continue to run our class assemblies throughout this term and hope to see many of you there.

### FOCHS

At the end of the spring term, the Parents' Association, FOCHS, organised a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to meet a wide range of animals. This year was bigger than ever, with goats, sheep, lambs, dogs, chickens, hamsters and ferrets! The children really enjoyed petting the animals and learning how to look after them. Thank you to FOCHS for such a great day.

### Sport selection process

At our school, we value the role of sports in developing teamwork, resilience, and a love for physical activity. As such, we strive to give as many children as possible the opportunity to represent the school in sporting events. However, selection for sports teams varies from fixture to fixture and is dependent on the level of competition, the number of participants allowed, and the need to field a well-balanced and competitive team.

When selecting pupils for teams, we consider several factors, including skill level, fitness, tactical understanding, enthusiasm, emotional maturity, and commitment to training. We also take into account previous performances, positional balance within the team, and coachability—how well a child understands expectations, applies learning, and makes necessary adjustments. Regular attendance at sports clubs is also a key consideration, as is ensuring a balance of experience and new players.

Beyond sporting ability, representing the school is a privilege that comes with responsibilities. Effort, behaviour, and attitude in both lessons and training sessions are important, as is sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for others. Pupils are expected to present themselves well, demonstrating good manners, helpfulness, and an understanding of the importance of safety in sport.

While we aim to be as inclusive as possible, not every child can be selected for every competition. However, we prioritise those who have not yet had the chance to represent the school for friendly matches and Oak-Tree Group tournaments, particularly those who show dedication by attending after-school clubs.

We ask parents to support their children in understanding that being chosen to represent the school is something to be proud of, but not being selected does not mean their efforts go unnoticed. Encouraging children to keep attending training, enjoy their sport, and support their teammates is essential in fostering a positive sporting culture. Parents also play a key role in shaping their child's attitude towards sport, and we hope they will respect the selection process, understanding that sometimes other children are given the opportunity to develop their skills and gain experience. It is crucial that staff can make team selections fairly and without undue pressure, as interference can undermine their ability to make balanced decisions for the benefit of all pupils.

Being dropped from a team can be disappointing, and staff will always do their best to explain decisions to children in a constructive way. However, learning to cope with setbacks is an important life skill. We expect pupils to handle team selection with maturity and respect—boasting, criticism, or negativity towards others is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

In response to a suggestion from a couple of parents, we will start sharing team selection with the pupils, via a notice board in school, as well as continuing to share selection news with parents via our text back system. We do not notify parents if their child has not been chosen, as it is not helpful to highlight selection decisions to the wider parent body. Where possible, we aim to give reasonable notice of upcoming fixtures, though sometimes last-minute opportunities arise.

We encourage parents to help their children turn setbacks into motivation for improvement. If a pupil wishes to seek feedback on their progress, they are welcome to speak to a member of staff, who will arrange a suitable time for a constructive discussion. Our aim is for every pupil to feel listened to and to understand their strengths, areas for development, and next steps. Together, we can nurture a love of sport and create a positive and supportive environment for all our young athletes.

### Car Parking

Over the last few weeks, I have asked Stuart and the team to increase their duties in the car park to aid the flow of traffic, encourage parents to avoid parking by the roundabout, and to make sure that the one way system is followed. Thank you to all of you who have supported us in this.

However, there are still some parents parking by the roundabout. As previously stated, this can obscure sightlines and make it more dangerous when pupils are walking to parents' vehicles. Please help the site team keep everyone safe, by moving further back in the car park, where there is usually space, and please do not park by the roundabout. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration of others.

### One Way Traffic System:

From 7:30am until 4:30pm there is a one way system in place for all traffic. Please adhere to this system as there was recently a near-miss involving two cars, one entering and not expecting another to be leaving.

### DATES LIST

<b>Wednesday 23 April</b>		<b>FIRST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM ALL CLUBS START BACK THIS WEEK</b>	<b>Whole School</b>
	3.15-4.15pm	Tennis Club starts	<b>By Request</b>
<b>Thursday 24 April</b>	8.45-2.45pm	Trip to Natural History Museum	<b>Year 7</b>
	3.20-4.20pm	Multi Sports Club starts	<b>By Request</b>
<b>Friday 25 April</b>	8am-11.30am	Class & Team Photos - Sports & Music Photos	<b>Whole School</b>
	3.45-4.45pm	Tennis Club starts	<b>By Request</b>
	1pm-3pm	Swimming @ Waltham Abbey Pool	<b>Year 6</b>

<b>Monday 28 April</b>	8.45-9.15am	Workshop – How to Support your Child At Home	<b>Parents of Children in Years 1 &amp; 2 Years 7 &amp; 8 Years 3 – 6 By Invitation Only</b>
	8.30-4pm	Trip to the Royal Observatory Greenwich	
	9am-11.30am	Oak-Tree Girls Football Match @ Shooters – North Weald	
<b>Thursday 1 May</b>	6pm-7.30pm	Creative Arts Showcase - Parents Welcome	<b>Years 7 &amp; 8</b>
<b>Friday 2 May</b>	1pm-3pm	Swimming @ Waltham Abbey Pool	<b>Year 6</b>
<b>Monday 5 May</b>		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>	
<b>Tuesday 6 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Parent’s Drop-In Morning	<b>Lower &amp; Upper Kindergarten, Reception, Years 7 &amp; 8</b>
<b>Wednesday 7 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Parent’s Drop-In Morning	<b>Years 1 &amp; 2</b>
<b>Thursday 8 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Parent’s Drop-In Morning	<b>Years 3 to 6 By Invitation Only</b>
	4pm-4.30pm	Summer Series Concert 1 - Studio	
<b>Friday 9 May</b>	9.15-3pm	Workshop @ The William Morris Gallery @ Walthamstow	<b>Year 6</b>
	1.30-2pm	Punch & Judy Show	<b>Year 1</b>
	1pm-3pm	Swimming @ Waltham Abbey Pool	<b>Year 3</b>
<b>Monday 12 May</b>	9am-3pm	Trip to The Plant Sensory Trail @The Hive	<b>Year 2</b>
	9am-2pm	Trip to Hylands Park @ Chelmsford	<b>Reception Children</b>
<b>Wednesday 14 May</b>	11am-3.30pm	Trip to The Pottery Painting Studio @High Ongar	<b>Year 5</b>
	1pm-2.30pm	HPV Immunisations	<b>Year 8 Only</b>
<b>Thursday 15 May</b>	9.15-11.15am	Workshop – Food for Thought @ CHS	<b>Year 7</b>
	4pm-4.30pm	Summer Series Concert 2 – Studio	<b>By Invitation Only</b>
<b>Friday 16 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Book Fair - Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
	1pm-3pm	Swimming @ Waltham Abbey Pool	<b>Year 3</b>
	3.30-4pm	Book Fair - Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
<b>Monday 19 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Book Fair – Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
	8.30-3pm	Workshop – Anglo Saxon	<b>Year 4</b>
	13.45-3.15pm	Girls Football Match @ Oaklands	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 By Invitation</b>
	3.30-4pm	Book Fair – Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
<b>Tuesday 20 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Book Fair – Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
	3.30-4pm	Book Fair – Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
<b>Wednesday 21 May</b>	8.15-8.45am	Book Fair – Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>
	9am-3.30pm	ISA Tennis Tournament @ Woodford Wells	<b>Mixed Years 4 to 6 By Invitation</b>
	9am -11.15am	Workshop – Dinosaurs @ CHS	<b>Upper Kindergarten</b>
	3.30-4pm	Book Fair – Studio	<b>All Welcome</b>

<b>Thursday 22 May</b>	9am-3.30pm	ISA Athletics Competition @ Bedford Stadium	<b>Years 7 &amp; 8 Mixed By Invitation Only By Invitation Only</b>
	4pm-4.30pm	Summer Series Concert 3	
<b>Friday 23 May</b>	9am-11.30am	Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament @ Chingford Tennis Club	<b>Years 3 to 6 By Invitation Year 3</b>
	1pm-3pm	Swimming @ Waltham Abbey Pool	

**HALF TERM HOLIDAY MONDAY 26 MAY – FRIDAY 30 MAY 2025**

**Monday 2 June            BACK TO SCHOOL**

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



Paul Wilson  
Head



**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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