

# NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well. As I start to write my final newsletter of the year, after what has been a crazy couple of weeks with summer arriving, a heat wave and just as we were about to have our final assembly, rain started to fall, only in the UK could we have this!!!

Throughout this year, Copnor Primary School has been an incredibly special place to be as this year we have completely rewritten our Ethos and Values and curriculum offer. As a result, each year group has experienced a brand new and unique year which has been full of new themes, knowledge and skills. Each year group has summarised their year below:

## EYFS

Year R have settled really well into Copnor Primary School and we are proud of the way they have matured over the year. They have developed some strong friendships which we hope last for life.

The children have enjoyed our new outside area and have been able to develop their skills in lots of different areas. Throughout the year we have been on trips to Queen Elizabeth Country Park and to Meon Springs Farm. We also had animal visitors including eggs which hatched into ducklings, caterpillars and tadpoles.

Well done for your hard work this year, Year R.

## Year 1

Year One have had a very eventful year, full of exciting topics and events. We started the year delving into our science topic about animals and living things with a visit from Spirit of the Wild and a trip to Marwell Zoo. The children can still confidently name mammals, reptiles, amphibians, carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. They have enjoyed creating and adding to a timeline throughout the year and have loved all of our history topics.

The introduction of Destination Reader in Year 1 has been a huge success and the children have truly immersed into all of the texts provided. They especially loved having a visit from "Dougal the Deep-Sea Diver" aka Mr Richardson. Our two topics that have really helped to excel their learning have been our topic of HMS Victory, leading to a sailor day with a visit from a real sailor and a trip to the ship itself. The other being about the Great Fire of London where the fire service were able to come into the school and teach them about fire safety, providing them with an opportunity to use their equipment.

The staff in Year One have been extremely proud of all the children this year and the huge progress they have made throughout the year. This was really shown during their production to the parents in the summer term. We wish them a relaxing holiday and all the best of luck as they move into Year 2.

## Year 2

The children have had a busy and exciting year in Year 2. Our year began with our visit to Queen Elizabeth Country Park to explore the habitats in the woodland. It was wonderful to see the children's excitement when we found frogs hiding in the woodland and when the children made their own natural collages.

We then visited Amberley Museum as part of our Travelling through Time theme; the children explored transport through time and even had a ride on an open top bus! Using our trip as inspiration, the children got their creative juices flowing by designing and making their own mode of transport.

Following Christmas, we moved on to our new theme: Globetrotters. The children began this theme by coming to school dressed ready for their virtual flight. We read books about explorers and wrote our own adventure stories based on the book 'Grandad's Island'. We then compared globetrotters of Planet Earth with Neil Armstrong's journey to the Moon. The children had a fantastic day dressed as astronauts while attending astronaut school for the day.

We saw out the year with our It Starts with A Seed theme. The children grew their own beanstalks after we had read a wide range of twists on the traditional tale of Jack and the Beanstalk. It was a special moment to see how attentive the children were when growing their beanstalks. It has been a truly wonderful year and we are all so proud of the progress the children have made this year.

## **Year 3**

Year 3 have had an amazing year! They have matured immensely in their first experience as Key Stage 2 pupils and we are all very proud of their progress, both emotionally and academically.

We have journeyed through many themes, including The Stone Age, Natural Disasters, The Ancient Egyptians, The Romans and Portsmouth Over Time. During those topics, the children got to partake in trips to Butser Ancient Farm and the Mountbatten Alexandra Park. Here, they explored their learning from the classroom first hand.

Our year ended with a special visit from Portsmouth City Council, who came in to deliver a talk about Portsmouth becoming a greener city. As well as this, they read all the children's persuasive letters. They're even taking them to panel to discuss with lots of important people in the city, as they were so impressed with the suggestions the year group made! Great work, Year 3.

## **Year 4**

We started the year early on with our activity's week: Tile Barn or completing a range of activities within school. Through doing this, the children were able to develop their friendships and team building skills. They have carried this on throughout the year, which has made Year 4 very enjoyable for all the children and us adults.

We have experienced lots of fun themes this year, including Rise of the Robots, where we had an invasion from our Year 4 robot, the Anglo Saxons, where we could dress up and experience life as a Saxon and Vikings, which included our exciting visit from Hogarth the Viking. We were then very lucky to visit the Mary Rose during our Summer term, where we learnt all about life on board the ship and the sinking of the boat as part of our Tudors topic.

The whole Year 4 team have thoroughly enjoyed the year and we are very proud of the children, and grateful for the parent's ongoing support.

## **Year 5**

This year, we have explored a range of exciting topics. The children have looked to the night skies when learning about Space and delved into history to find out all about the Victorians and the ancient Greeks.

During our topics on the Victorians and the Ancient Greeks, we have had the chance to experience a day in their life and got the opportunity to dress up in clothing from the respective periods. As part of the Ancient Greek topic, the children also took part in a workshop that taught them about democracy, drama and plate making in the Ancient Greek era.

Outside of the classroom, we have continued our personal development through Bikeability, Joy of Move and swimming lessons at Mountbatten Centre.

Well done Year 5, we are all very proud of your efforts this year.

## Year 6

Year 6 started the year with their 'Portsmouth at War' theme, which saw them visit the Royal Armouries at Fort Nelson, to experience life on the Home Front.

We studied the human circulatory system in 'Hearts & Minds', the physical and human geography of South America in 'Brazil', and the mysterious ancient civilisation of the 'Marvellous Mayans'.

As part of our 'Survival of the Fittest' theme, we discovered fossils at Cumberland House Natural History Museum, and witnessed evolution and adaptation at the butterfly house.

Outside of the classroom, Year 6 spent an adventurous week away at Fairthorne Manor, and put on an incredible performance of The Jungle Book in their end-of-year production.

You have also been the first year group in two years to sit your SATs. You were brilliant this week and we are all very proud of everything you have learnt this year.

## Good Byes

### Year 6

Year 6, what can I say? These last couple of years have been anything but ordinary for you all, but I have been so massively impressed by each and every single one of you with how you have approached this year. You are all stars who have tackled every challenge with tenacity, desire and a determination to succeed.

I am so so proud of you all and in the words of Heather Small...

*You can be so many people... If you make the break for Freedom... What have you done today to make you feel proud?*

Step out of the ordinary and don't ever stop reaching for the stars. You will all be amazing, you are the future!

Best wishes for your next steps in life's amazing journey.  
Take care Mr Johnson

### Miss Millie Woolcott

Miss Woolcott joined the school in 2017 as a newly qualified teacher and over the past 5 years has taught in Years 3, 4, & 6. In 2020 she gained her first leadership role as our schools Year 3 Leader and has been an instrumental part of the School's Leadership Team leading the change and improvements in the approach to the teaching of Guided Reading. As you are all aware, Miss Woolcott is moving to London over the summer and will be very much missed by everyone who has had the pleasure to work with her.

*Miss Woolcott is the kindest person and always helps me with learning when it is difficult. I will remember going to Butser Farm with Miss Woolcott. On the trip she gave us great facts about the Roman villa. I hope you have a good time teaching in London. You will definitely do a good job, like you have done here. (Chrisse)*

*Miss Woolcott is incredibly caring and wonderful. She is so wonderful as she helped us make our volcanoes erupt. I loved this activity as it made me feel joyful. Good luck in London and I hope you have some wonderful children in class. (Nolan)*

*Miss Woolcott is extremely kind and caring and when we do work, she always makes it fun and interesting. When we made volcanoes, this was really memorable because we all worked in a team. I wish that you have a happy life and keep on being the great teacher that you are. (Phoebe)*

## Mr Ben Pearce

Mr Pearce rejoined the school in 2017 as a Sports Apprentice having previously been a pupil at the school. Over his time at Copnor, Mr Pearce has helped staff out with their own subject knowledge of PE, supported our children with extracurricular clubs and sporting activities. This year he has jointly taken on the PE Subject Leadership role and has helped the school to achieve another Gold Sports Mark Award. Everyone who has had the pleasure of attending a sporting event, club or being taught by Mr Pearce knows how much fun he brings to the daily life at Copnor, and he will be sorely missed by us all.

*Thank you for being the best PE teacher we have ever had! You were always willing and able to help us when we were stuck and didn't understand how to do a particular skill. (Vlad)*

*Netball was really fun because of the jokes you made and the fun you let us have! We will miss you lots. You are the best PE teacher I have ever had. (Demi)*

*He helps us to learn PE moves and he is really funny. He has helped me to learn how to play tennis by showing us the ready position and where to hit the ball. (Jake)*

## Final House Points of the Year

One of our new introductions this year has been the House system and this term everyone has been working really hard to earn house points not just for their own certificates, but also their house. Over the past term everyone has earned a combined staggering total of 10,219 house points. The winning house is...

	Alliance	Mary-Rose	Victory	Warrior
Running Termly Total	2432	2621	2451	2715

Warrior. Congratulations to Warrior House and a huge well done to everyone for all your hard work this term.

## Final Goodbye

My final goodbyes are for all of you who will be leaving us today because you will no longer have a child or children at the school. Thank you for your support over not just the past 10 months, but the entire time that you have been part of the Copnor Family.

Our children are amazing, they are resilient, determined and want to succeed and I could not be prouder of each and every one of them.

I wish you all a very pleasant summer, take care of yourselves and I look forward to welcoming those of you who are returning for another year back on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September. The morning and end of the school day arrangements will remain the same as this year, with all gates opening at 08:30 for doors being opened at 08:35.

Matt Johnson  
Headteacher