

NEWSLETTER

A WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome to the last Copnor Primary School update before the half term break. What a busy week it has been!

We've had some rather unusual visitors for Year 1 in school, and then they went on an exciting adventure out of school, to Marwell to further support their learning in science. Year 3 have had a busy week with their cooking in D.T and a drum workshop. Finally, Year 5 have been working hard with their Bikeability training (in some treacherous weather at times) and the whole school has finished their learning in Black History Month with some art inspired by a number of Black artists. Read on to find out more and see some of the children's fantastic work.

Wishing you all a restful half term, possibly with a little Halloween fun! We look forward to welcoming your child back into school on Monday 3rd November.

Matt Johnson
Headteacher



UPCOMING EVENTS

First week after half term:

3rd November - Start of Autumn 2

5th - Reading in Class - 8.35 - 8.55 - Your weekly opportunity to read in class with your child.

6th - Parent Workshop - AI Uncovered - What every parent should know - **2 - 3pm**

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS YEAR 1 - SPIRIT OF THE WILD



This week, Year 1 met some interesting animals brought into school by Spirit of the Wild.

They classified animals based on their features, which they have been learning about in Science. An exciting learning experience was had by all.



ATTENDANCE

	Mary Rose	Victory	Alliance	Warrior
KS1	97.67%	98.10%	98.10%	96.03%
KS2	92.65%	93.84%	94.85%	97.02%

Congratulations to **Victory & Alliance** in **KS1** & **Warrior** in **KS2**, the winners of the Attendance Cups this week.

HOUSE POINTS

	Mary Rose	Victory	Alliance	Warrior
This week	567	721	255	1076
Total	2530	3660	3047	3795

Congratulations to Warrior house, the winners of the House Cup this week.

GOLDEN CHILD



I am delighted to share the names of this week's Golden Children:

KS1 and **KS2** have all been recognised as **someone who respects others' beliefs and ideas.**

Year	Class	Golden Child
EYFS	Hendra	Alaia
	Gray	Rosie
	Donaldson	Grayson
1	Adeola	Ivy
	Field	Afonso
	Gravett	Neve
2	Nightingale	Harry
	Austen	Victoria
	Seacole	Elliott
3	Adele	Jaxon
	Sheeran	Maya
	Styles	Ivy
4	Thompson	India
	Rickman	Bella
	Elba	Dahami
5	Banksy	Primrose
	Hockney	Annabelle
	Lowry	Ariya
6	Holmes	Gabriella
	Hamilton	Sahanmee
	Brownlee	Shihaam

BOOKSY BEAR WINNERS



The KS1 class with the most children who have read 4 times or more at home is **Donaldson Class**

They will keep Booksy Bear in their book corner this week.

A huge well done, **Donaldson Class**! We are incredibly proud of you all!



CONGRATULATIONS

AMELIA



Amelia passed her kickboxing grading for her Demi purple belt last week. The pass rate required was 85%, she passed with a whopping 94%! Wow Amelia! What a fantastic achievement!

We are all very proud of you and all the hard work that you put into achieving this grading.

MATILDA



A huge well done to Matilda for being picked to go into a squad at her gymnastic club. This is a fantastic opportunity that could lead to the British championships.

What an amazing achievement Matilda! Keep up the great work!

OSCAR & RILEY



Two of our keen Copnor runners entered the children's Great South Run event last weekend. Oscar came in 18th place and ran an amazing 9mins 58secs for the 2.5K Junior 9-11 race, knocking a huge 1.5 mins off his PB from last year.

Riley ran an amazing race in the fun run for year 3 and 4 and had such a noticeably Super Speed sprint finish that he got a huge shout out from the commentator when he crossed the line!

Both boys loved taking part in the event and really enjoyed the atmosphere. Well done boys - we are very proud of your latest achievements!

MORE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

YEAR 3 COOKING & MUSIC WORKSHOP



Year 3 have had a very busy week! Their latest D.T topic saw them learning about seasonal foods and the positive impact that eating seasonal foods can have on the environment amongst other things. They then went on to use this learning to help design and then make a seasonal tart. Creating their tartlets this week in the kitchen was by far the highlight of their learning. We hope that our year 3 parents enjoyed sharing in the fruits of their labour!



This week, our Year 3 children had an exciting opportunity to make some music with a Caribbean twist! A special guest teacher, from Portsmouth Music Hub, visited our school to run a steel drum workshop, introducing the children to the vibrant sounds and rhythms of this unique instrument. The children loved learning how to create different tones and even worked together to play short melodies. It was a joyful, hands-on experience that filled the hall with energy, smiles, and the sounds of the tropics!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Over the month of October, the whole school have been celebrating Black History Month. Each year group learned about a different Black artist from around the world and explored their most famous artworks. The children loved recreating the artwork of their respective artist.

YEAR 5 BIKEABILITY



This week, Year 5 have enjoyed taking part in this year's Bikability Week, led by the instructors from Pedal Power UK. They've been able to practice important cycling skills, such as braking, signalling and hazard perception. Our more confident riders have even been putting these skills into practice on the local roads around Copnor. Everyone has had a great time!

YEAR 1 TRIP TO MARWELL



Year 1 have also had a very busy week! Following their workshop on Monday they then went on a trip to Marwell Zoo to continue to apply their learning in Science about Animals. They named animals, described their features and classified them into groups. Another fantastic learning experience for them all. (They may be a little extra tired at the end of this week!)

NEW AUTUMN/WINTER MENUS - CATERLINK

From **Monday 3rd November**, Caterlink will provide a new menu for Autumn/Winter. This is available to view on our website and is also attached to the newsletter. In addition to several changes being made to the meals available, Caterlink have also introduced a separate menu which will offer a daily packed lunch option. Please take time to look at both menus with your child/children before pre-ordering via ScoPay due to the changes that have been made, for example, jacket potatoes are no longer available on a daily basis.

Children who have special menus have already been contacted by the office. Please continue to email admin@copnorprimary.co.uk before 9.00am Monday morning with your child's meal choices for the week.

Children who have an allergy and are waiting for a special menu should continue to bring in a home packed lunch and cannot order from either of the new menus.

The options now available are as follows:

(Red) M - Option one

(Green) V - Option two

(Yellow) J - **Option three (jacket potatoes Tuesday & Thursday and tomato pasta Monday, Wednesday & Friday)**

(Light Blue) S - Home packed lunch option

(Dark Blue) B - new school packed lunch option



Any meals that have already been pre-ordered for 3rd November onwards have been removed from ScoPay. Please re-order from the new menus.

NOTICES



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025



10TH - 14TH NOVEMBER

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying week. It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler!



FLU VACCINATIONS

If you would like your child to receive the Flu Vaccination and you missed the sessions held in school in September, please use the link sent to you via your email to book an appointment at one of the community clinics.



THRIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE WORKSHOP 2

Session 2: AI Uncovered – What Every Parent Should Know



Thursday 6th November
14:00 to 15:00

2

AI is everywhere – but what does that mean for your family? Learn the basics of artificial intelligence, how your child is already encountering it, and what it means for the future.

Don't forget that you can join us for this informative workshop about AI on **Thursday 6th November** in the KS2 Hall. Please just turn up, no need to book.

Further information about the workshop and others that will take place later on in the year can be found on our website: <https://copnorprimary.co.uk/safe-and-effective-use-of-ai/>

SEND LOCAL OFFER LIVE



Portsmouth SEND Local Offer
Connecting families, young people and services

Local Offer Live!

📍 John Pounds Centre
23 Queen St, Portsea, Portsmouth, PO1 3HN

📅 Thursday 6 November
🕒 10am – 2.30pm

Find out about the services available for families in Portsmouth who have children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Get your ticket today!

Visit portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live **BIG EVENT!**

Portsmouth SEND Local Offer Live is returning on **Thursday 6 November 2025**, and this year's event is set to be the biggest yet with 27 exhibitors confirmed. Held at the John Pounds Centre from 10am to 2.30pm, the event is free to attend and welcomes families, carers, and professionals who support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and /or Disabilities (SEND).

PORTSMOUTH LEISURE CARD



DISCOUNTS ON A WIDE RANGE OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES AND MORE.....

FREE*
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Save on entry costs to lots of sports facilities including:
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Scan the QR code to apply today or contact:
Cultural Services.
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*Eligibility conditions apply

Did you know that with Portsmouth City Council you could be entitled to a Portsmouth Leisure Card?

It offers residents discounts of up to 50% at some Portsmouth City Council facilities as well as some other services and attractions.

The Leisure Card is free and available to residents who receive means-tested benefits within PO1 – PO6 areas (and some properties in PO7 qualify where these pay council tax to Portsmouth City Council).

You can enjoy BH Live sports centres, swimming pools, golf, museums, city arts, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, Southsea Skatepark, the Andrew Simpson Centre, discount on beach hut rental and allotments and much more.

UPCOMING OPEN DAYS



Prospective Year R families are invited to join us for our

Open Day Tours

2025



November

Friday 14th 1.30pm
Wednesday 19th 6pm
Monday 24th 9.30am

December

Friday 12th 9.30am



All welcome! Please book online.
www.copnorprimary.co.uk/new-entrants/

Please use the link below to book. There is a google form on the page to complete to book your place:

<https://copnorprimary.co.uk/new-entrants/>



DON'T BE LATE
You **must** apply by **Thursday 15 January 2026**

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, they can start school in September 2026.

Apply for a school place online from **Monday 3 November 2025** until **Thursday 15 January 2026** via our website:

www.portsmouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Don't be late – as this will affect your chances of a place at your preferred school.



Benefits of applying online

- It's quick, easy and secure
- You will receive a confirmation email once you have submitted your application
- You will have access to links to other useful information and websites
- You will receive an email notification with the outcome of your application, as well as being able to view the outcome online on allocation day
- Application will not go missing in the post

MILITARY MINDS

Military Minds

Our Military Minds service provides support for
Army and Royal Airforce families.

Run by Solent Mind, in partnership with The Armed
Forces Covenant Fund Trust, we help families
navigate the unique challenges of military life.
From coping with deployment to specific support
for anxiety, depression, loneliness and stress, we're
here to help.

Call: 0303 003 4239

Email: militaryminds@solent.org.uk



THE ARMED FORCES
COVENANT FUND TRUST

Registered Office: 15-16 The Avenue, Southampton, SO17 1X6 | Charity Registered No: 1081116 | Registered with Limited
Liability in England and Wales No: 4004500 | Charity website design by Studio Republic



Surviving Being a Military Partner

Four sessions starting on
Tuesday 18 November 2025,
1.00pm to 2.30pm

Register for the session, email
anchoringminds@solentmind.org.uk, call 023 8038 3920,
or sign up online: <https://bit.ly/Wellbeing-SBAMP>



Our online course is an opportunity to meet
other military partners and learn tips for
managing your wellbeing.

The four-session course has been developed by
practitioners who are military partners
themselves, for anyone who is in a relationship
with a serving member of the armed forces.

(Please note this is for those registered with a GP in the wider
Hampshire area excluding Portsmouth, Southampton,
Farnborough and Fleet)

Every Tuesday for four weeks
at 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Visit <https://bit.ly/Wellbeing-SBAMP> to sign
up online and find the next Surviving Being a
Military Partner course start date.

This workshop is run by NHS Talking Therapies Hampshire,
in collaboration with Solent Mind's Anchoring Minds service.



CLUBS



**7 weeks
for
£42.00**

Copnor Primary School
Multi-Sports After School Club

Information:

- School Years 1-2
- 3:15pm – 4:15pm
- Thursday 6th November to 18th December

Registration

Book via our website or
give us a call!

02392 728899 | pompeyitc.co.uk

SCAN ME



Please use the link below to book your child's place at
Multi-Sports for Autumn 2:

<https://pompeyitc.co.uk/after-school-clubs/>

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

Continuing our sharing of the informative posters from #WAKEUP WEDNESDAY, National Online Safety. Please take the time to read through all the tips that will help to ensure that your children are safe online.



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which gives people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'younger' (ages 5 to 8) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for parental supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

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