



Copythorne CE Infant School

Newsletter March 2023



Our School Vision



Connected through the values of love, respect and compassion. Three separate schools, we journey together to grow physically, spiritually, emotionally and intellectually, so that everyone can fulfil their potential.

We strive to preserve the wonder of childhood, whilst ensuring our children are future ready.

"Be strong and of good courage, do not be afraid nor be dismayed for the lord your God is with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:9

Message from Mr Bowen

Although we have had numerous cold spells, I am taking great delight in the fact that it is now daylight when I arrive and leave school – this means that Spring is underway and the Summer term is upon us! The Summer term is always a very busy term, with our children continuing to enhance their learning with more opportunities to be outside (without the need for full wet gear)!

Our Vision in action

Connected through the values of love, respect and compassion.

Comic Relief

I would like to say a huge thank you for all the donations of cakes and the funds raised to support Comic Relief. We raised a grand total of **£323.00** to support this worthy charity.



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

World Book Week

As you will know, reading is a life skill. This is why we celebrate World Book Week (instead of World Book Day). This year we continued our sponsored reading challenge and you raised approximately **£1,599** across the federation!

This is incredible and I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who got involved and took part in the challenge! This money will be used to contribute towards the cost of books within the school.

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Team Spirit

Every half term Team Spirit send out communication via parent mail, so parents can register or re-register their children onto the various after school sports clubs. Please look out for these messages and remember to sign up via their website.

<https://teamspirit4sport.co.uk/team-spirit-4-sport/>



Swimming

Year 1 will be starting swimming lessons at Totton leisure centre, next half term, with their first lesson starting on **Thursday 20th April**. There has been a number of correspondences with Year 1 families regarding this, but please do speak to your child's teacher if you have any further questions. Year 2 will be swimming after the next half term holiday and further information will be provided nearer the time.

Federation Sports Days

Next half term, ACE sports will be returning to our schools and leading our Federation Sports days! Year 1 and 2 will be learning and practicing all sorts of sports in order to compete for the prestigious Federation cup!

The current reigning champions are Year 1 at Copythorne and Year 2 at Netley Marsh – will this continue for another term?

If you are able to come and support our sports day events, they will be held on Bartley Junior school field (weather dependent). **Year 1** is currently planned for **Monday 22nd May** and **Year 2** for **Tuesday 23rd May** from 9.30am—11.30am.

Year R will also be competing in their first inter federation sports day, this will be held at Netley Marsh (where all the children have visited before as part of their celebration topic) on **Friday 26th May** from 9.30-11.30am.

This will be a chance for the children to meet their peers and show off their skills learnt over the year! All welcome to attend and support.

Getting ready for Year 3

Next term we will begin to start to prepare the children for transition to year three. The Year Two team will be starting to talk to the children about their new schools and answering questions the children might have about moving up.

If your child is not moving to Bartley for Year Three, please let the class teacher know, as this will help with planning for all transitions at the end of Year Three.



New Lunch Menus

New lunch menus will be available for next term [click here](#) to view. We always encourage our children to try new things, so please do encourage your child to have a school dinner at least once or twice a week.



Attendance

As many of you will know, school attendance is key to ensuring that your child is able to continue to make progress and to avoid gaps in learning. The less your child attends school, the greater the impact on your child, which will show as they move through the education system. Many areas of our curriculum are taught at pace and time off from school results in the need to catch up on return. For example, in phonics, we teach a new sound everyday. This means if your child is off school for 7 days, they have missed the teaching of 7 new sounds. This means on return, they will need to catch up on the 7 missed sounds taught, as well as learn the new sounds being taught alongside this. Because learning is also sequential, where a child has not attended school, they will often find it harder to catch up, as they have missed previous building blocks, needed to fully access taught learning on return.

Our Schools monitor attendance on a regular basis. We do this using a traffic light system, for example If your child's attendance drops below 95% your class teacher will notify you. Often, there are clear reasons (ie sickness bug, medical appointments etc) for this. In these circumstances, it is absolutely right to keep your child at home to rest and recover.

However, if attendance drops below 90% Mr Bowen will be notified in order to arrange a meeting and discuss the implications, in order to look at how we can support increased attendance. This will often include a discussion around the help which we may be able to provide and where necessary, external support maybe sought.

Each day a register is taken in class in the morning and again in the afternoon, these registers log a "session" so if your child misses a whole day at school, they will have missed two sessions, this can make a big difference in your child's attendance.

Kings Coronation 8th May

To celebrate the Kings Coronation we are planning a week of creativity and celebration.

On **Thursday 4th May from 2.30** parents/carers are invited to come into school to look at the work the children have created. On **Friday 5th May** the children are invited to come into school dressed as kings and queens. We will be holding a street party with HC3S providing a special coronation lunch, followed by fun and games!



Walk to School Week

Walk to School week takes place from 15th—19th May. This year's challenge encourages children to travel actively to school every day of the week. They will learn about the important reasons to walk and the difference it can make for individuals, communities and the planet!

We are aware that some of you drive and park close to the school but if you are able to try to park a little further away and do a short walk even on one day that would be great. We want all children to understand the important messages of this week so all children will receive a certificate as they will have learned some valuable life skills.



Copythorne Pond

We are extremely lucky at Copythorne to have our very own well established pond in our grounds. Unfortunately, during lockdown the pond went untended for a period of time. We are delighted that "The Greening Copythorne Group" (a group of volunteers) are undertaking some maintenance to the pond to bring it back to its former glory and to support the school to develop its outdoor learning environment so that we can attract and support the natural world and provide more opportunities to support the children's learning.

We will post photos on our facebook page and keep you up to date on progress.



PTFA Events

On **Friday 31st March**, we invite the children to wear dress down to school in exchange for an Easter-themed chocolate donation. The PTA have a tombola stall at the forthcoming Easter Egg-stravaganza event being held at Copythorne Parish Hall on **Sunday 2nd April**.

This is a family event and a great opportunity to enjoy some quality time with family, participate in our fundraiser and show support for other local small businesses taking part.

All money raised at the Copythorne stall will come back to the school!



Rwanda

As you will know, I was very privileged to be invited to join the diocese education team, along with another head teacher from Bournemouth to build and strengthen links and undertake some really great learning opportunities with schools in Rwanda, during half term. I have been sharing some of the pictures and stories with our children, looking at similarities and differences, with the hope that we will be able to form a link with one of the schools visited. If you would like to read more about this, the diocesan website has some great information about the work we did.

<https://winchester.anglican.org/rwanda-2023/>

Worship

We hope all who attended the Easter Services enjoyed joining in with our school worship. Family worship will be continuing next term with the dates of these being:

- Wednesday 19th April—9.15am church
- Wednesday 17th May—9.15am church
- Wednesday 21st June—9.15am church
- Wednesday 19th July—9.15am church



A Fond Farewell!

Mrs Moore, in Swallows class, will sadly be leaving us this term to pursue an ambition and take up a very different post outside of education. We wish her every success moving forward!

Mrs Frampton is also leaving us. Mrs Frampton has made great impact at two of our schools and we wish her all the best with her next steps.

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Diary Dates

Thursday 23rd March	Praizin Hands Easter visit
Friday 24th March	Year R—Longdown Dairy Farm visit
Tuesday 28th March	Easter Service St Mary's Church @ 2.00pm
Friday 31st March	LAST DAY OF TERM
Monday 17th April	First day of new term
Wednesday 19th April	Family worship St Mary's Church @ 9.15am
Thursday 20th April	Year 1 Swimming
Thursday 27th April	Year 1 Swimming
Monday 1st May	BANK HOLIDAY—School closed
Thursday 4th May	Year 1 Swimming
Thursday 4th May	Kings Coronation—parent work share from 2.30pm
Friday 5th May	Kings Coronation—Dress up and street party
Monday 8th May	KINGS CORONATION—School closed
Thursday 11th May	Year 1 Swimming
W/c 15th May	Walk to School Week
Wednesday 17th May	Family worship St Mary's Church @ 9.15am
Thursday 18th May	Year 1 Swimming
Monday 22nd May	Year 1 Inter Fed Sports day (parents welcome weather permitting)
Tuesday 23rd May	Year 2 Inter Fed Sports day (parents welcome weather permitting)
Thursday 25th May	Year 1 Swimming
Friday 26th May	Year R Inter Fed Sports day (parents welcome weather permitting)
Friday 26th May	LAST DAY OF TERM

Term Dates 2022/23

Spring Term 2	Monday 20th February 2023	Friday 31st March 2023
Summer Term 1	Monday 17th April 2023	Friday 26th May 2023
Summer Term 2	Monday 5th June 2023	Friday 21st July 2023
Inset Days School Closed	Monday 26th June	