

## Canopies

During the summer holidays, two new large canopies were built. This means that students can have their breaks outside whatever the weather, as well as being used for learning activities and meetings.



## Summer School 2021



Just a snapshot of the activities that students had the opportunity to take part in during Summer School 2021.

The second week finished with our very own mini Olympics!

The Summer School was enjoyed by over 100 students, and this helped them settle into school ahead of starting with us in September.

### Parental comments:

*"My daughter starts in September and she is loving summer school."*

*"My daughter is loving it too."*

*"My son has really enjoyed summer school. A big thank you. Also a great way to make new friends!"*



## Open Evening and Open Week - parental comments received

*"Good evening, I have just visited the school for the **Open Evening** and I just wanted to pass on my thanks to all the team. It was a fantastic night and the pupils were all so polite and helpful. It's really appreciated."*

*During a **school tour** lesson 5 today, a parent told me the following. "I am a teacher and I have never visited a school that is so quiet and focused during lesson time. Any child would be lucky to come here".*

**Y6 PARENTS—Don't forget that the deadline for applications for the Y7 Admissions Round is Sunday 31st October 2021.**



## News

Dear Parents

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2021-22 Academic Year.

As you are aware, these couple of months have been very challenging for education and we at Cowplain have been no different to most other schools around the country in experiencing a high number of COVID cases amongst children and staff, broadly reflecting the number cases in the local community. In addition, the term has seen us successfully meet the challenge of once again delivering onsite mass testing for students, whilst recently we facilitated the rollout of vaccinations to 12-15 year old children. I would like to publicly thank the dedicated staff we have at The Cowplain School and praise their professionalism in undertaking these tasks.

Students and staff have also responded well to the mitigations that we still have in place. For example, the one-way system is proving to be working well in ensuring corridors are kept clear and children are not having to walk past each other at busy times in large groups. In addition, the split breaks are effective in ensuring year groups can spend break time without mixing with other years, complemented by the two large canopies we built over the summer. I think these will really come into their own when the weather moves solidly into Autumn and Winter! At this point, please can I ask that you support us by reminding your child of the reasons why we have mitigations in place and also ask that your child continues to test him/herself twice weekly, as well as practising social distancing measures, to help minimise the spread of the virus. I should also say that we are in contact with Public Health England and will advise you if further mitigation measures need to be implemented in school.

Despite the challenges we have all faced I hope you will agree that the term has started well for most students who have fully engaged with their learning and are making excellent progress. Mr Brockhurst and myself spend a significant amount of our time visiting classrooms and the atmosphere is always productive and conducive to excellent learning. This week we had the pleasure of visiting all classes and recognising the achievements of around 100 students, across the five year groups, who had been nominated by their teachers as performing exceptionally well over the half-term.

Next half-term, we will continue to expect high standards from our students in terms of their learning, attitude and behaviour and will also look forward to involving them in the many events that always take place during the 'Christmas' term.

As always, I would like to thank you for your support and wish you and your family well for the half-term break.

**Mr IR Gates, Headteacher**

**Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.**



**THE  
COWPLAIN  
SCHOOL**

[www.cowplainschool.co.uk](http://www.cowplainschool.co.uk)

## French cuisine

Y8 French classes enjoyed a cookery lesson making crêpes. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and there were some interesting fillings.



### Reminder:

#### Inset Day:

**Friday 22 October 2021**

#### October half-term:

**Monday 25 October 2021 to  
Friday 29 October 2021.**

**School reopens on  
Monday 1 November 2021**

*(Week 1)*

**Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.**



**October 2021**



## Cyber First for Girls Competition

Calling Year 8 Girls! Do you want to learn about Cyber Security and take part in a fun, challenging competition? Then speak to your Computing Teacher about the Cyber First for Girls Competition 2022.

**Start date:** 29/11/21

**Who can participate:** Female identifying students in Year 8

The CyberFirst Girls Competition provides a fun but challenging environment to inspire the next generation of young women to consider a career in cyber security. The competition is a team event, with each one made up of four students. Whatever your ability, from beginner to expert, the CyberFirst Girls Competition is an opportunity to learn something new about cyber security.



You can read more on the website: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition>

Let your Computing teacher know asap if you would like to be involved. You can make your own team, or we can put you in teams. We will run an after-school club for teams to work together on the challenges.

Taking part in the competition gives you the opportunity to attend more free cyber security courses, including free residential runs by the National Centre for Cyber Security. Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Email your teacher today! [r.connell@cowplainschool.co.uk](mailto:r.connell@cowplainschool.co.uk)

## Lego Robot competition



This year, our school is entering the First Lego League Challenge, and the theme is Cargo Connect.

Our two teams of Year 8 and 9 students have been working hard after school preparing to compete in the regional competition taking place at the University of Portsmouth in December. We are using Lego robots that we are designing ourselves which will have to navigate obstacles and complete challenges in a course within a strict time limit. We will also design and build an innovation project and present our ideas to a panel of industry experts.

The last time Cowplain competed, we were awarded the Judges award, so we have big shoes to fill!

Alice Davey, Y8



## Careers Information, Education and Guidance



The Cowplain School believes all students should have access to the best advice and are well informed when making important choices about their future.

All students learn about careers and post-16 choices in Personal Development lessons and across the curriculum.

Events and opportunities will take place throughout the school year. Please encourage your child to take part in these opportunities to broaden their experiences and enhance their future skills.

**Parents:**

Visit The Cowplain School website for information on supporting your child on their career journey

**Students:**

Join the 'Your Future Google Classroom to explore career options and receive news of exciting opportunities

Access code: x6f5vxm

### Apprentice vs Dragon Den

A team of Year 10 students are very excited to be taking part in the Apprentice vs Dragon Den programme run by PETA. A design, innovation, and business award that celebrates, encourages, and inspires the next generation of talent within the Solent region.

### Year 8 Students recently met and took part in workshops with employers from Jackson Rowe and Be Wiser Academy.

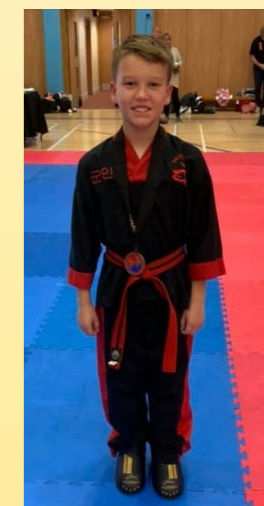
Students learnt about the wide variety of job roles in the construction and insurance industries, and were excited to design their dream homes, and evaluate risk scenarios. More employers will be visiting the school throughout the year.



## Congratulations!



Hudson Sands (Y9) attended an England Camp at St Georges Park (England Football HQ). Having been watched by the England scouts, he was asked to attend a 4-day goalkeeper camp in August, staying at the England players' hotel.



Nathan Le Vannais (Y8) recently took part in the GTI National Championships for Taekwondo!

Nathan did really well taking part in both Patterns & Sparring. In Patterns he came just outside the medals, but in Sparring he won a bronze!