

## LEGO Competition

Last week, our Lego League Robotics teams were pleased to present their trophy to Mr Gates. The teams were both awarded the Breakthrough Award for demonstrating excellent teamwork, grit and innovation during the one day competition. They faced many challenges during the day, including presenting to a panel of Industry professionals and coding their Lego robot to complete a series of challenges. Mr Gates was able to present them with their medals in return.

Next term, we will start working towards this year's competition!

Mrs R Connell  
Head of Computing



## Y9 Business Workshop

Sian Colson, local entrepreneur and founder of Obvs Skincare, visited the school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April for a Business Workshop with all Y9 Business students about what inspired her to start her business and the joy of finding passion in what you do. Students in Y9 have been learning about ethics, sustainability and social enterprises, so Sian was able to talk about the importance of all of those key elements within her own business, as well as helping students to start their next project of creating business ideas. Students were able to ask Sian questions while she talked with them and helped them start to develop their own business concepts based on their own hobbies, interests and skills.

Students will be developing this concept into a fully-fledged business pitch in the weeks following Easter break.

Thank you, Sian, for coming in!

Mrs L Booth  
Head of Business Studies



## LEADERS Estate Agents



Leaders Estate Agents in Waterloo will donate £250 to our school for every completed house sale that involves a member of our school community.

So, if you instruct Leaders to buy or sell your house, please mention The Cowplain School!



## News

Dear Parents

Welcome to the final newsletter of the Spring term.

In previous introductions I have described how proud I am of the school, staff, students and parents during the pandemic and I make no apologies for repeating this. There is no doubt that, as this term has coincided with the 'opening up' of the country and removal of COVID restrictions, it has been a very difficult one for schools across the country.

This half-term at Cowplain we are approaching close to 20 teachers who have been absent with COVID and a similar number of support staff; on a few days we had up to 15 staff, including 10 teachers, off sick. In addition, we know that many students and parents have also been unwell. I am very proud of the way we have managed this situation and am thankful for the dedication of colleagues who have worked when ill, attending online parents' evenings when they really should have been in bed, coming back as soon as possible even if they were still not 100%, or covered lessons for unwell colleagues. Support staff have also really stepped up, completing jobs outside their normal role. Above all, I am very proud that we have not closed at all during the half-term and trust that you feel that we have provided as good a service to your child as possible. As I have said, this is down to the dedication and professionalism of staff at Cowplain and I know you will join me in wishing them a well-deserved and much needed Easter break.

Of course, I look forward to the time I do not need to mention COVID! Certainly, we are trying to put back some of the activities and experiences for children that have been lost over the last couple of years. For example, our camps will start again in the summer and we also have many other trips planned. I know some of you, especially in Year 8, were disappointed that the camp sold out and your child initially missed out. I'm pleased to say that our staff, led by Mrs Dobbyn, have literally worked evenings and weekends to secure more places and we are pleased that we can open up the Year 8 camp to more students. Similarly, with events such as trips to the theatre, we are trying to get as many people who want that experience to be able to go. Like you are seeing outside school, demand for holidays and other experiences is undeniably huge and it is understandable that parents want their children to have these opportunities after two years of not being able to do so; for example, we have never sold out Year 8 camp, this year we have done so twice over! Please bear with us, we share your wish to offer these exciting experiences but are constrained by how many children places such as theatres, museums and activity centres can accommodate.

You will see in this newsletter that our students, as usual, have completed so many great things over the last six weeks, which I hope you will enjoy reading about.

As always, thank you very much for your support and I wish you and your family a great break over the Easter period.

Mr IR Gates, Headteacher

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



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COWPLAIN  
SCHOOL

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

## Havant Federation Careers Fair 2022

Y9 students attended the Havant Federation Careers Fair at Havant and South Downs College in March, which all local schools attended.

One of the employers said that our 45 students, who attended the Fair, were the best they had seen all day. They said they were the smartest, most professional in their enquiries, and the most polite.

Thank you to parents and staff for supporting our students to be such great young people.

**Reminder:**

**Inset Day:  
Friday 8 April 2022**

**Easter Holiday:  
Monday 11 April to  
Friday 22 April 2022**

**School reopens at 8.30am on  
Monday 25 April 2022  
(Week 1)**

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



April 2022

## World Book Day 2022

This year we celebrated the 25th World Book Day with The Cowplain School Bake Off. Students entered some amazing book-inspired cakes including an Alice In Wonderland extravaganza, various Harry Potter themed cakes and a stunningly crafted 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' backpack cake.



A wide range of judges voted and the backpack cake representing 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' book by Onjali Q Rauf was declared the winner.

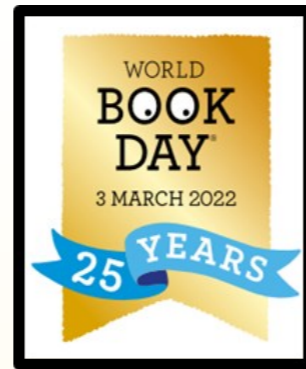
In lessons, students read Flash Fiction and created their own story under 500 words for a school-wide competition.

Mrs Milford, our Library Manager, organised a 'Who is coming to dinner?' table where students could guess the literary dinner guest from clues.

Students received World Book Day vouchers.

We are all very excited to see what World Book Day 2023 has in store.

Mrs H Bourton  
Head of English and Media Studies



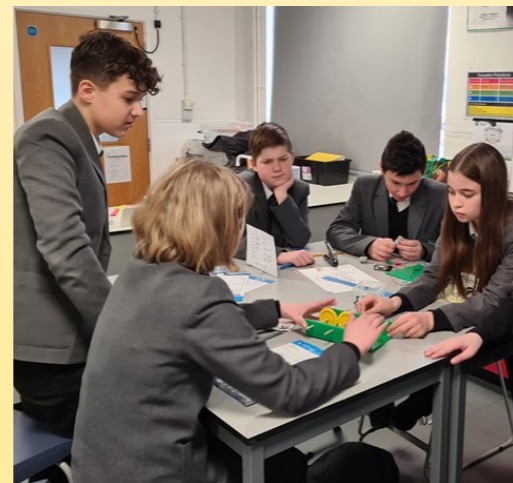
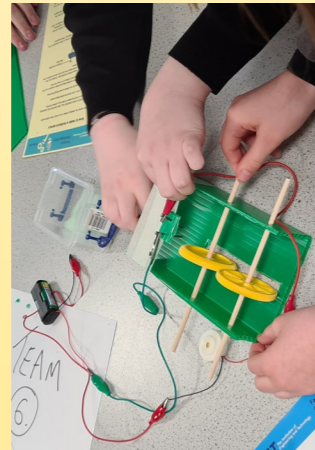
## IET Faraday Challenge Day 2022

On 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022, the Institution of Engineering and Technology held their annual Faraday Challenge at The Cowplain School. The Faraday Challenge Day gave Y8 students the opportunity to research, design and make solutions to genuinely tough engineering problems. The brief given to students was to engineer a prototype model which could be used in a children's hospital to make their stay more comfortable.

The winning team comprised of Emma Burton, Joesph Heelan, Korin Rodgers, Chloe Warburton, Mollie Crow and Dom Montgomery, who all excelled at designing a robot that could be used by children to send voice messages to nurses about how they were feeling.

Well done to all who took part.

Mr W Goddard



## PETA Apprentice v Dragons' Den Competition

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February a group of Y10 students took part in a Dragons' Den competition organised by PETA Cosham. The students had to come up with a product that would have an impact on our society and pitch it to five business people. Penny Mordaunt, who is the MP for Portsmouth North, was one of the judges.

Our students; Callum Crow, Alicia Graham, Freya Blackwell, Summer Evans and Ethan James, came up with a dynamo concept that would allow you to charge a portable battery as you ride your bike. The battery could then be removed at the end of the journey and used to charge your phone or other devices.

When the competition started 48 schools signed up. Each group had to produce a video presenting their device before being able to qualify in the final. Only five teams were picked to be in the final and our school was one of them.

During the final our students won the Production Award, which was chosen and awarded by Penny Mordaunt. She really enjoyed their idea, their thought behind the product and the way they presented it.

Mr Dacin and Mr Berrecloth



## Food Prep and Photography Jake Hadfield (Y9)



Mrs Hadfield emailed the school to say how lovely their dinner was. Jake had made chicken stir fry noodles in Mrs Alayon's Food Preparation lesson with the help of Miss Hewitt, his LSA, and it tasted amazing!! Jake took a photograph of the meal using the skills he had learnt with Miss Pattinson in his Photography lessons.

## Red Nose Day 2022

Our final total of money raised for Red Nose Day 2022 was **£732.90**. Well done to all our students for supporting this.



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