

## Primary Liaison and Transition

This year we held two transition days at The Cowplain School for the students who we look forward to welcoming in September. We have a record number of students joining us this year and have tried our best to cater for everyone and provide them with an enjoyable yet realistic experience of life at The Cowplain School.

Wednesday 28th June saw us welcome those to Cowplain who were coming from outside of catchment. It provided these students with an opportunity to meet others and make friends ready for the main transition day. Our fantastic transition leaders were on hand throughout the day to help ease the transition and all left with very happy smiles on their faces!

Students experienced Food Technology, English, Maths and Art, and a 'getting to know each other' activity.



## Y5 Welcome Event

We welcomed over 200 parents and pupils to our Year 5 Welcome Event on 3rd July. It was a lovely opportunity to show them our school and provide them with a valuable insight into the wonderful, friendly atmosphere at Cowplain. We are immensely proud of our students and always enjoy the opportunity to build relationships with parents and students of future cohorts and the wider community.



## Open Evening 2023

We are pleased to confirm that our Open Evening will be on **Thursday 21st September 2023**, from 6pm to 8.30pm.

## Open Weeks

Our Open Weeks, are planned for week beginning Monday 25th September 2023 and Monday 2nd October 2023. During these weeks, Y6 parents and their children, are invited to have a booked tour of the school during the working day. Invitation letters, explaining the booking process, will be sent to Y6 parents in the Autumn Term.



# News

Dear Parents

Welcome to our last newsletter of the 2022/23 academic year! I am sure everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved break and a chance to relax. It certainly has been a packed year and, as always, students and staff of The Cowplain School have engaged with a diverse and varied set of activities, as well as their 5 lessons a day!

I want to mention one of the things we implemented this year and report on its success. Firstly, you know, from September last year, we increased our school day to 32.5 hours, with another two hours for Year 11. I am sure many students, staff and parents have forgotten we did this as it has just seamlessly become the new routine! We made this change, not because the government told us to, but because we wanted to invest in Reading. We know that being literate, and able to read, write and talk effectively, is arguably one of the most important skills that we can give young people – it really is the route to success in so many areas. I am pleased to say that the programme we implemented has been extremely successful and is proving to be a good use of the extra time. Every tutor group reads daily and many of our students do more, as Reading Ambassadors or working with those older children to develop their own reading skills, whilst we have seen some remarkable improvement in the reading ages of a number of children. Next year, we will continue to develop and refine the scheme, as well as looking to further test and measure its success.

I should also mention some of the Summer events in which our students have participated; for example, we have run two very successful camps for Years 8 and 9, with great feedback from students, staff, volunteers and parents. I would like to commend the work of our volunteers; every year they come back, volunteering to give up one or two weeks of their time to live under canvas and support our staff and young people. It really is something special about The Cowplain School and we are very lucky to have such a dedicated number of those people.

Year 11 also finished their exams and we said goodbye to them at our Leavers' Assembly and Prom. The event, at Southdowns Manor, really was a great evening and it was fantastic to see so many confident young people complete their time at The Cowplain School before they move on to other things. I know you will wish them well and we look forward to seeing them again in late August to collect their results.

Next year promises to be another busy one as we are likely to receive our OFSTED inspection, I suspect early in the year. I would like to flag that up to you as your support is vital in completing the parental questionnaire that we will send when OFSTED call, hopefully relaying to the inspection team the success that your child is achieving at the school. I receive so many great emails and phone calls from parents throughout the year and I really hope you can pass this on to the inspectors when they call!

As always, I want to thank you for your continued support and wish you and your family all the best for a great summer holiday.

Mr IR Gates, Principal



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

## Breakfast Club Donation

Asda Community Champion, Jacqui Benham, has once again kindly donated fresh produce for our school Breakfast Club. Students have enjoyed donations of croissants, crumpets, fresh juice and breakfast bars. The donations are gratefully received by staff and students with the ever-growing numbers that attend our school Breakfast Club.



## Reminder:

### Summer Holiday:

**Thursday 20th July 2023 to Friday 1st September 2023**

**School reopens, from Monday 4th September 2023: 8.30am for Y7s, and 9.30am for all other year groups.**

(Week 1)

## Paella Workshop

Students took part in a workshop ran by MFL and Food Technology. 40 students, nominated by Tutors, were invited to learn to make and try Spanish Paella as part of the reward system at The Cowplain School.

All students were able to learn about Spanish food, understand what a Paella is and what ingredients are involved. They were also able to work in the Food Technology rooms showing independence by using tools and equipment, working as a team and taking part in a competition to see who could make the best seafood, meat or vegetarian paella!

All students worked well, with confidence, and showed some great evidence of outcomes! Mrs Clemas and Mr Colebrook sampled, tasted and judged a range of the dishes created.

Well done to everyone who took part.

Mrs Shrimpton, Head of Design Technology



## Sports Day 2023

Finally, the day had come to celebrate The Cowplain School's first Sports Day in years. Due to Covid and unusually hot weather, we have not run this event in four years and the typical British summer time had other plans! However, this did not stop us from enjoying some friendly competition. The day consisted of two events for each year group; football and dodgeball, where students competed in their tutor groups to gain as many points as possible for their team in order to win the coveted Sports Day Champions title! Unfortunately, Lesson 5 relays and the famous staff relay will have to wait another year, but I'm sure the suspense will only make us more excited for next year. It will also give the staff plenty of time to train, so no excuses!



Thank you to all those who took part and for demonstrating the school values throughout; we already can't wait for next year where we hope the event will be bigger and better than ever!

The PE Team

## Winchester College

On Friday 16th June we took a group of Y10 students to Winchester College. The event was designed to give students the opportunity to learn new skills that are not part of their school curriculum. Students had the opportunity to learn about Classics and how to write in Greek, handled ancient artefacts, had a rowing session on the river and learnt about ecology while sampling lichens. Our students enjoyed all the activities and we will run another visit in the Autumn Term.

Mr C Dacin, Honours Programme



## Sports Day 2023 Results

The results from the day are as follows:

**Year 7** Dodgeball winners: 7EC. Year 7 Football winners: 7EB and the top three overall tutor groups were: 1st place 7EB, 2nd place 7EC and joint 3rd place 7JP and 7AV.

**Year 8** Dodgeball winners: 8SN. Year 8 Football winners: 8MA and the top three overall tutor groups were: 1st place 8MA, 2nd place 8HR and 3rd place 8SN.

**Year 9** Dodgeball winners: 9WG. Year 9 Football winners: 9AM and the top three overall tutor groups were: 1st place 9KP, 2nd place 9AM and 3rd place 9WG and 9SL.

**Year 10** Dodgeball winners: 10HB. Year 10 Football winners: 10HB and the top three overall tutor groups were: 1st place 10HB, 2nd place 10IE and 10SD and 3rd place 10ED and 10CJ.



Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.

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