

## Primary Liaison and Transition

*"I just wanted to say a big thank you for your Taster Sessions you have offered Year 5 children. My usually shy and quiet child has gone to the Science ones with Mr Goddard and really enjoyed them. So, if you could please also say thank you to Mr Goddard as well. Thank you!".* **Quote by Y5 parent**

This term has seen the return of our Year 5 Masterclasses. Subjects on offer: Science, Maths, English, and Physical Education.

### Year 5 Science Masterclasses

Year 5 pupils have had the opportunity to carry out experiments and get a taste of what secondary school Science is really like! They have built electric circuits, had the chance to get their hands on Bunsen Burners, construct electromagnets and calculate the exact force needed to let off a party popper! The pupils were brilliant and so interested and engaged in their practical work.

Mr Goddard



**Benchball**

### Year 5 Maths Masterclasses

In our Maths Masterclasses we looked at lots of different ways we could apply maths outside of the ordinary. We started off by using 'magic' maths to trick people into giving the responses we wanted from them, giving the illusion we could read minds. In another session we looked at the phenomena that are crop circles and used mathematical tools to create our own. Using teamwork and problem-solving skills we put our maths knowledge to the test battling each other in the big maths quiz.

Miss Monkcom



**Kin-ball**

### Year 5 Physical Education Masterclasses

Year 5 Masterclass was filled with team games ranging from Benchball to Kin-ball. The focus of our Year 5 Masterclass Physical Education lessons was to provide pupils with new and innovative games to build upon their previous knowledge, communicate with one another and take risks. The students experienced a variety of 'alternative activities' where Zac took centre stage in organising his team in a polite and effective manner in circumstances new to all students.

A huge well done to him and the rest of our Year 5 attendees!

Mr Burns

### Year 5 English Masterclasses

We had an amazing time in English with the Year 5s! We enjoyed learning new skills that they will be able to develop further at Cowplain as well as being creative with their writing.

The Year 5s even had a taster of some of our amazing books available in the library with a non-fiction session.

Miss Coultham



## News

Dear Parents

Welcome to our Easter newsletter. I hoped that by now we would start to see the transition from Winter into Spring but, so far, the wet weather continues. I hope that it improves for the Easter break and we enter the Summer Term in April feeling a little warmer and drier!

As always, it's been a very busy term. Of course, we experienced our OFSTED inspection a few weeks ago and I would like to once again thank students, parents and staff for all their efforts over those three days. You might be surprised to read three days rather than two, when the inspectors were physically on site, but now inspections start with three hours of phone calls on day one before we see the inspectors on days two and three. It really is a very thorough and intense few days for all concerned and I am really proud of how everyone connected with the school responded. The inspection report should be out after Easter and I will of course share it with you immediately when it is available.

We are always looking at how we can improve the facilities on site and I am pleased to say that work on our new Music classroom started a couple of weeks ago. The foundations are already down and I expect to see some real progress when we return in April. The building will house one large purpose-built classroom alongside two practice rooms, an office and store room. Of course, it is properly sound-proofed and will also house the latest technology available for use by both those undertaking music lessons and those receiving peripatetic tuition after school. Under the direction of Mrs Dobbyn, music goes from strength to strength and the new facility will really aid the development of the talented musicians we have in the school. We are hoping the building will be complete in late summer and be fully in use by September.

This newsletter contains lots of examples of the interesting and exciting trips, activities and experiences in which our students have participated. I managed to get on one myself not featured in this newsletter, a visit to the Globe Theatre to see Romeo and Juliet. It was a great trip, with all our students behaving impeccably and really embracing the show. You can read about trips to Winchester College, a French trip to Cote Brasserie and the Portsmouth Music Festival, amongst the many that have run this term. I do want to mention the staff who went to Seville, leaving at 2am on the Thursday morning after our OFSTED inspection finished on the Wednesday! I know they were exhausted but still went that extra mile to ensure the students on the trip had a great weekend away.

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and wish you and your family a great Easter break; we look forward to welcoming you back for the Summer 2024 Term.

Mr I R Gates  
Principal

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



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

## Congratulations!

George Taylor-Bartlett, Year 9, competed in the Schools National Trampoline Finals on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the Telford International Centre, representing The Cowplain School.

He just missed out on 3rd place out of 13 finalists.

Well done George!



### Reminder:

#### Easter holiday:

**Friday 29 March 2024 to Friday 12 April 2024.**

**School reopens at 8.15am on Monday 15 April 2024**

*(Week 1)*

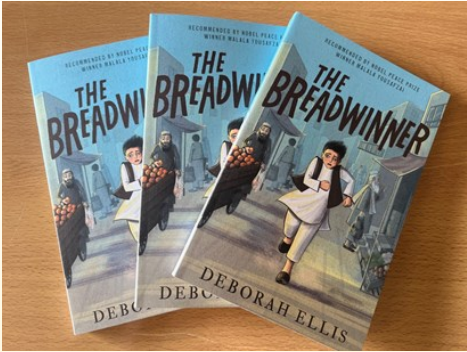


# World Book Day

Can we read a book in a day? That was the question posed to some of our Year 7 students on World Book Day for our World Book Day celebrations. They were ready for the challenge, and they really enjoyed reading about Parvana's journey in The Breadwinner.

To thank them for all their amazing efforts and showing grit by reading all 160 pages in five lessons we made them "reading goody bags" to reward their fantastic achievement.

Mrs H Bourton, Head of English and Media



# Winchester College - English

We went to Winchester College on Friday 2nd February with 15, Year 10 students. We learnt all about studying classics, translating some ancient Greek and handled real Greek pottery! We then went on to see one of Shakespeare's First Folios and learnt all about Shakespeare's source materials and how his works were edited and adapted across the centuries.

Miss N Hedges, Teacher of English



# Well done!



Well done to students and staff who raised £473.80 for Comic Relief through a non-uniform day, and a further £181.67 from a Y7 cake sale.

Comic Relief funds life-changing projects in the UK and around the world.



# Cote Brasserie trip

On 25th January, we took 26 Year 10 students to Côte Brasserie in Chichester as a reward for their amazing work in French lessons. When we arrived, they had to order their food in French and we even had a quiz in between courses about French food! One student said "Loved it so much!!! The waiters are so nice and the food is so good!!! Loved it all!!! Such a nice day out!!!" and another reported that "I loved the food and how we had to order in French. Fab trip".

Overall, the trip was a success, with members of the public stopping us afterwards to say how well the students behaved and that they should be extremely proud of themselves. Bravo!

Mr C Judd, MFL Department



# Portsmouth Music Festival Competition

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, our students in Jukebox and Attica, took part in the Portsmouth Music Festival competition:

**Jukebox:** Sam Brook Glazier, Joe Heelan, Will Holmes, Millie Horan, Poppy Mason-Ides, Kaitlyn Osborne, Reuben Talbot, Tayte Thompson, Bobby Warwick, Jacob White, Elodie Wiseman and supported by Charlie Cullen. They were Commended (84- 86%).

**Attica:** Sam Brook Glazier, Millie Horan, Reuben Talbot and Jacob White. They gained a Distinction (88-90%).

Attica picked up the awards for the Best Band and the John Gleadall Trophy, Joe Heelan won best ensemble player, Millie Horan won best vocalist, Reuben Talbot won best instrumentalist and best bassist, Bobby Warwick and Jacob White won best drummer.

Mrs S Dobbyn, Head of Music



# Prison Me No Way!

Eye-Opening Crime Awareness Day Empowers Year 10 Students

In a bid to cultivate a sense of responsibility and awareness among our Year 10 students, our school recently hosted a Crime Awareness Day presented by the Charity, Prison Me No Way, that left a lasting impact on all attendees. Throughout the day, students engaged in insightful workshops designed to explore the consequences of criminal behaviour and its ripple effects on individuals and communities.

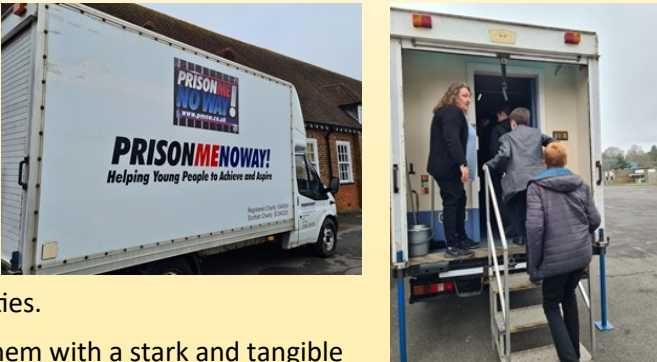
Students experienced a life-size mock-up of a prison cell, providing them with a stark and tangible understanding of the consequences of criminal actions. Additionally, the day featured compelling talks from ex-prisoners who bravely shared their personal stories, shedding light on the profound impact of crime on their lives, families, and victims. The narratives shared by these speakers served as powerful testimonials, offering students valuable insights into the real-world repercussions of illegal activities.

The Prison Me No Way sessions proved to be an invaluable opportunity for our Year 10 students to foster empathy, understanding, and a heightened sense of responsibility, encouraging them to make informed choices that positively impact their lives and the wider community.

Prison Me No Way organiser's comment:

"Been doing this for years and this was the best Y10 group they've had."

Mrs L Rogers and Miss Z Carter-Brown



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