

Jukebox and the Sambistas

Jukebox headlined at Bands Night in May, brilliantly supported by Year 9 band **Project M**. We also welcomed Scarlet Town UK to Cowplain for the evening; the band has vast experience and played some original material as well as covers of well known songs.

Jukebox appeared in *Music Showcase* at The Spring in Havant on 22 May organised by Music Fusion and Hampshire Music Service. The band performed a number of covers including *Proud Mary*, *Valerie*, *Don't Look Back in Anger*, *Mr Brightside* and *RESPECT* - a fantastic evening showcasing young talent from the area.

The **Sambistas** performed at the iconic Royal Albert Hall in London as part of the *Hampshire at the Hall* show. This spectacular showcase featured 2000 performers from across Hampshire with special guests from the Armed Forces. The concert also commemorated those who have fought and died in war and featured the anthem *We Will Remember Them* and *Passchendaele*.

Everyone joined in with the grand finale to sing *Land of Hope and Glory*, waving the Union Jack as hundreds of balloons were released from the ceiling.

Well done to all involved!



Attendance

We expect every student to attend at least 97% of the school year.

Current attendance % for the whole school: 94.27%

We had a large amount of students hit by flu in December which took our attendance figure down by 1% compared to the same time last year

Please look on the school website and Insight for attendance and health information

We **will** fine parents where there is a concern for high levels of absence whether general or through unauthorised holidays in term time. Parents of this school have been taken to court by HCC and found guilty under the Education Act 1996 section 444(1)

Parents are reminded to book medical and dental appointments out of school hours wherever possible.



News

This is a timely newsletter as by now we are two weeks into the annual exam season! Therefore, I can comment on how well those first exams have gone for Year 11. All students have arrived on time and followed the instructions of staff to the letter. The pre-exam sessions have also worked well, and we have responded to student feedback to improve them as we have gone along. For example, we changed the venues of the E&P session to individual classrooms as we felt that would work better for the next session, which it did. Again, we want to work in partnership with our students to ensure they get the best possible preparation for their exams. We also supply breakfast for exams taking place in the morning and many students have been here as early as 7.30am revising. I know students and parents have been very grateful for the help and support shown by staff; now, it really is up to each individual child to do his or her best!

We have also seen Year 10 return from work experience. This was the first year that we left the decision to attend work experience to individual children and parents and I think it has worked well. Those who attended achieved a great deal from the experience whilst those who preferred to stay in school received more curriculum time. The reports we have received back from employers have been 100% positive and I know some students have obtained part time jobs and promises of future employment on the back of their efforts over those two weeks.

Finally, I cannot finish this introduction to our newsletter without paying my own personal tribute to our wonderful Year 11 student Bethany Tiller, who very sadly died recently. Bethany fought her illness with great bravery and determination, aided by her fantastic family. Bethany was also supported by many of our wonderful students who showed great maturity and care beyond their years to help her. We will continue to support them all over the forthcoming months.

Best wishes and, once again, thank you for your continued support.

Mr IR Gates, Headteacher

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



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Bethany Tiller

Everyone at The Cowplain School was deeply saddened to hear that our student and friend passed away on 26 April. Beth was a fantastic member of the Cowplain community; she worked hard and was popular with students and teachers alike.

Beth was happy to be involved in different aspects of school life and volunteered to appear in the prospectus to promote the school. Throughout her illness Beth attended school whenever she felt able. We will greatly miss her positive outlook and wonderful smile.

A large number of students and Cowplain staff attended Beth's funeral to pay their respects to this remarkable young lady and to show their support to her family at this difficult time.

Students have created a Condolence Book and, in time, we will decide on the best ways to remember Beth.

Reminder:

School reopens at 8.15am on Monday 4 June 2018. (Week 1)

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May 2018

Work Experience

Our Year 10 students took part in work experience fortnight at the start of the summer term. This very worthwhile opportunity gave students the chance to learn new skills in a different learning environment; whilst the majority of students chose a local placement, this year we had students working as far afield as London, the New Forest and Wiltshire.

Feedback from our students and employers was very positive; a number of students have been offered part time or summer jobs and some are looking to discuss apprenticeship opportunities in the future. We would like to thank all the employers and staff who offered valuable and worthwhile placements to our students including:

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| BAE Systems | Purbrook Infant School | Waterlooville Library | La Espanola |
| Oh So's Café | South Downs Funeral Service | Hart Plain Pre School | Parkers Pets |
| Easterlea Rest Home | Denmead Infant School | Hart Plain Infant School | boxChilli |
| Staunton Country Park | Denmead Junior School | MS Adams Plastering | Santander |
| Cosham Orthodontic Practice | Denmead Pre School | Queen's Inclosure Primary School | SSE |
| Wickham Montessori School | Rachel Madocks School | The Ship and Bell | New Look |
| Whitman Laboratories | DJ Groundworks | The Hampshire Rose | Waitrose |
| Estee Lauder Cosmetics | Acorn Community Centre | Southern Arts Academy | Riverside School |
| Horizon Leisure Centre | Bayith Rest Home | Havant and South Downs College | CM Sports |
| Purbrook Junior School | St Peter's Vets | Professional Music Technology | Buoyz Toyz |
| JF Lawson and Sons | Universal Vehicle Services | ICEE Managed Services | Manor Farm |
| Ferny Croft Activity Centre | OHM Improvements | Havant and Waterlooville FC | AW Motor Co |
| Keys Newsagents | iPhone Repair Doctor | Lee Fletcher Funeral Service | Superdrug |
| 3D Hair and Beauty | Military Prep College | The Petersfield School | The Rusty Cutter |
| Helen O'Grady Drama | J Atkinson (East Meon) | Arundel Aviaries and Fisheries | Premier Inn |
| Portsmouth Demolition | Portsmouth City Council | Tibbott's Signwriting | CKK Electrical |
| 1710 Naval Air Squadron | SERCO Marine Services | Independent Financial Solutions | Morris Crocker |
| Taylor and Son Joinery | Axis Architecture | SMR Automotive Mirrors UK | Formaplex |
| Cliffdale Primary Academy | Excell Metal Spinning | Bell Microsystems | Boots |
| Waterlooville Flower Centre | Fareham College | Michael Hall Carpentry | Speedy Mech |
| The Petersfield School | DDC Nursery and Pre School | The Bakehouse @ Denmead | Game |
| Stuart Houghton Kitchens | Ms L Hunt | L Lockton Roofing | HM Forces |

Mardi Gras workshops

We are very pleased to be working with young pupils from our local primary schools. The schools are all working together to prepare for our Mardi Gras celebration next half term.

Recent sessions have included French, Drama and Art workshops where pupils have written their invitations in French, created mocktails and made masks. Traditionally Mardi Gras masks contain three colours: gold, green and purple to signify power, faith and justice.

Our Mardi Gras event will take place on Tuesday 17 July in the Main Hall.

Pupils will rehearse during the day and build a shanty town before the Year 5 parents join us for a full Mardi Gras experience with mocktails, a BBQ and a procession with samba style dancing and our samba drums!



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award students have now completed their practice and assessed expeditions.

For the final expedition the students camped at Butser Ancient Farm; they also met some Saxon reenactors and played Saxon instruments. Thanks to the astrophysicists who turned up with their telescopes, the students also managed to fit in some star gazing!

Twelve students have now completed the expedition section of the Award this year.

Our Silver DofE training and practice expedition will be taking place in the New Forest over half term; their assessed expedition will be in September in the Purbecks.



Many congratulations to Year 11 students **Sarah Fanner** and **Matthew Lander** for being the first students from The Cowplain School to achieve the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Congratulations to all students who participated in the DofE programme this year and were invited to the East Hants DofE ceremony to receive their Awards.



Silver Award:
Emily Arnold, Jack Arnold, Natalie Benham, Sarah Fanner, Beth Jones, Matthew Lander, Ellie Otton and Willow Turner.

Bronze Award:
Samuel Adams, Ewan Eastland, Leah Flood, Nathaniel Glasgow, Ellis Maudsley, Josh Stevens and Edward Westlake.

Pictured:
Emily Arnold receiving her Silver Award and **Ewan Eastland** receiving his Bronze Award from Cllr Elaine Shimbart, Mayor of Havant.