

Y6 Crime and Punishment Day



We were pleased to welcome Year 6 from Hart Plain Junior School to support their learning of 'Crime & Punishment'.

During the day they took part in a forensic science lesson, looking at a crime scene and establishing 'who done it' whilst looking at finger prints. During this lesson the students also worked with a forensic science university student, sharing information about vital clues to look for.

In History we looked at the medieval crime and justice system.

During the day students had the opportunity to work through a crime with the police looking at the implications and how things can evolve.

Mr S Smart, Primary Liaison/Transition Co-ordinator

Y4 Superheroes

Year 4 students from Woodcroft Primary School came and took part in science lessons based on the super powers of superheroes.

Just as Magneto drew the iron out of humans we managed to pull the iron out of cereals and with the powers of Dr Strange and Storm we were able to use static electricity to move objects and bend water.

Mr S Smart, Primary Liaison/
Transition Co-ordinator



Children in Need 2019



Well done to all our students and staff who raised £792.93 for Children in Need this year!

Christmas Jumper Day 2019



Well done to all our students and staff who raised £853.10 for Save The Children this year!
Y9 students pictured



News

We have now finished the longest term of the year and I know everyone is looking forward to the Christmas holiday!

As always, the school has been very busy and I believe we continue to make progress. We have received many visitors over the term, with Cowplain seeming to be gaining a reputation as a 'go to' school for colleagues from around Hampshire to look at our strategies to help maintain excellent behaviour and ensure good progress for our students.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been delivered a number of events that have recognised the excellent achievement of our students. Firstly, we held our annual awards evening to present GCSE certificates to our ex-Year 11 students. It was great to recognise their success and learn about how they have gone from strength-to-strength since leaving us in the summer. This week, we have held our termly celebration assemblies and I think I have handed out around 250+ certificates to recognise the success of our current students! These certificates are hard won and fully earned so, if your son or daughter has received one, please congratulate him or her; each recipient fully deserves the recognition of his or her success and hard work.

In what was a busy end of term, this week we have also held the annual school show; as always it has been great to see so many talented singers and dancers perform on the stage. We really do have a talented group of students at The Cowplain School!

Finally, like me, I am sure you are glad that the election is finally out of the way and we can all enjoy a politics free Christmas! I would ask you though, to continue to consider how our elected representatives, no matter what political party they represent, are funding schools; please join with me in continuing to apply pressure to them so that they ensure that our school, and all others in the country, receive the appropriate funding to give all children the best possible education.

Most importantly, I wish you and your family a great Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2020!

Best wishes.

Mr IR Gates
Headteacher

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



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Jukebox at Morrisons



Jukebox was asked to play at Morrisons on 22 October. The band collected donations for the store's chosen charity, Clic Sargent, and raised £196.48.

Sara Potten from Morrisons said, "Once again Jukebox are a credit to you and the school. Everyone enjoyed listening to them".

Reminder: Christmas Holidays:

**Monday 23 December 2019 to
Friday 3 January 2020.**

**School reopens at 8.15am on
Monday 6 January 2020
(Week 2)**

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



December 2019

Certificate Evening for 2019 Leavers

It was a great privilege for staff at The Cowplain School to welcome back last year's Year 11 Leavers for our annual Certificate Evening. GCSE Certificates were awarded by Mr Gates and Mrs van den Braak to all those who attended, and this was followed by subject awards presented by Heads of Department and Mr Gates to students who had achieved the highest marks in their examinations.

There are too many worthy recipients to name them all here, but mention must be made of Maia Kiany and Cameron Prince who were awarded certificates for Outstanding Academic Progress in all their subjects, and Natalie Andress and Sam Predeth who were awarded certificates for Outstanding Exam Results.



This year our Outstanding Contribution to the School Community Award went to Aimee Easton who during her time in Year 11 at The Cowplain School and subsequently has raised awareness of, and money for, Cystic Fibrosis, a disease which has affected her and her family directly.

Congratulations to all our leavers and those who received special awards.

Mr N Brockhurst, Deputy Headteacher



EFL Cup 2019



On Friday 8 November, the Y7 and Y8 Girls' football team represented The Cowplain School in the EFL Cup 2019 for the Portsmouth area. After a difficult start with two losses and a draw, the girls held their heads high and showed great determination to work as a team and won the next two games, finishing strong.

The girl of the tournament was Eva-Marie Green (Y7) who was solid at the back and managed to score 2 goals. A big well done to her and her fellow Y7 team mates, Lacey and Eira, for playing so well against mostly Y8s from other schools.

Also a big well done to our Y8 girls Ruby, Ruby, Taliah and Tessa who showed great leadership and encouraged the Y7s throughout. I was left feeling very proud with their development during the day as the girls got used to how each other played, as well as their behaviour and attitude throughout the day.

The picture is the whole team with Portsmouth U18's player Harry Kavanagh, who is a former student of The Cowplain School.

Mr O Johnston

PE Update

There have been many success stories in PE so far this year!

- Our Y11 netball team have had a fantastic season, winning their league
- The Y9 netball team finished second in their league
- The Y7 football team have reached the quarter final of the Hampshire Cup
- Well done to all the students that have represented the teams. Good luck to the Y7 football team for the quarter final
- Bradley Jeffery, Matthew Childs, Luke Davies and Isabella Murtagh did really well in their cross-country event at HTC.

Well done to all of the students that have represented our school this year in extra-curricular sport.

Mr A Moger, Head of PE

Computing

We have been very busy in the Computing Department this half term. On Tuesday 3 December, a team of Y9 Computer Science students had a fantastic experience with their robot, 'Baby', at the First Lego League Regional Championships. This was our first time at the international competition and the team had been preparing in an after school club since September. During the competition, the team had to code the Lego robot to complete as many missions as possible in two and a half minutes. They also had to do several presentations to technology Industry judges. The students were a credit to the school throughout and received the Judges' Award as a result. The judges were impressed by our team's integrity, honesty and ability to work around their strengths and weaknesses to achieve amazing results. Our outstanding team was Raizel Nunez, Alex Curphey, Josie Spicer and Evie Taylor. They are already preparing for next year's competition!

Furthermore, Evie Taylor achieved one of the best scores in the country in the Bebras Computational Thinking competition, which is organised by the University of Oxford. In January, Evie will be travelling to Oxford to compete in the second round. A number of other students scored in the top 10% nationally and have the opportunity to compete in another online competition in March. Congratulations to Megan Wilkins, Preston Lewis, Evie Taylor, Alex Curphey, Matthew Brown, Tom Banks, Owen Hooker, Jacob Plant, Ryan Bennett, Harrison Branch, Ethan Fry, James Millar, Michael Oakley and Callum Murfin.

Mrs R Connell, Head of Computing



Top of the Bench



Four students took part in the Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench competition. Students had to solve a series of Chemistry challenges and work efficiently as a team before presenting their results to other schools.

Thank you to Mrs Paull, Senior Science Technician, who took our students to this competition, and congratulations to her as she retires at Christmas after 29 years' service to the school.



A Christmas Carol

On the 21 November, 40 of our Y10 students entered into the Christmas spirit when they went to see Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' at the Groundlings Theatre in Portsmouth. The entire play was acted by two actors and it had a female in the role of Scrooge. It was a fantastic re-telling of the much loved Christmas story and all the pupils said they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and took away lessons about kindness during the Christmas period.

Mrs Bourton, Head of English and Media

BAE Apprenticeship Opportunities Event



On 11 December 2019, six Y11 students visited BAE Systems Maritime Services at Portsmouth Naval Base for an apprenticeship opportunities event. Students heard a presentation from staff at BAE Systems about what is available to them if they were to apply for an apprenticeship with the company. The students were also able to tour the training centre and speak to instructors and current apprentices.

Those that attended from The Cowplain School experienced the vast opportunities that an organisation the size of BAE Systems can offer young people considering working in this engineering environment.

Mr M Simmons, Apprenticeships, Careers and Mentoring Co-ordinator