

24th April 2025



Headteacher

Mr IR Gates MA NPQH

Dear Parent

You will no doubt be aware that the nation is going to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the end of WWII in Europe, 'Victory in Europe Day' (VE Day), on Thursday 8th May.

At The Cowplain School, we recognise the importance of this day and want to contribute to the celebrations; therefore we will be running a series of events during the days leading up to the 8th and on the day itself.

Firstly, all subjects for Years 7-10 will suspend their curriculum between Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th May and instead teach lessons focussing on the period; for example, Maths will teach codebreaking, maps and bearings, English will be completing creative writing based on the celebrations 80 years ago, and Art are creating a very ambitious mural to which all those who have Art lessons that week will contribute. Year 11 are obviously starting their exams imminently so their curriculum will remain as normal.

In addition, the History department has produced tutor sessions informing students of the events leading up to VE Day and what happened on the day itself, as well as instructions on how to make bunting!

On the 8th May, all students will attend the hall to watch a play which has been devised by the Drama, Dance and Music departments and which will feature many of our students. In addition, the play will be performed again at 6pm for parents to watch; more details of how you can see it will be provided in a separate letter from the creative arts team.

If your child is in Years 7 or 8, you may have seen in a letter from Mr Elliott and Miss Dennis explaining that Year 7 and 8 students will attend a 'street party' at lunchtime on the 8th. As the letter says, please encourage your child, if possible, to bring a contribution to the party they can share with their friends; the school will also supplement what they bring with other snacks!

Finally, on the 8th May, we would like all students to wear red, white and/or blue clothes or, if they would like to, dress from the period, or wear their normal uniform. As always, can you please ensure your child respects the context of the day and dresses appropriately. I am assured many staff are also entering into the spirit of the day with their dress! We will collect the usual £1 donations which we will donate to the Royal British Legion (please use SCOPAY as normal to donate); more details about VE Day can be found on their dedicated webpage: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/stories/ve-day>.

We are looking forward to the different events we are holding on the 8th May and the days leading up to it, and hope all students learn about the significance of VE Day as well as experiencing an enjoyable day with their friends and teachers.

You can find further details of the National VE Day celebrations, including other events, at: www.veday80.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr I R Gates
Principal

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