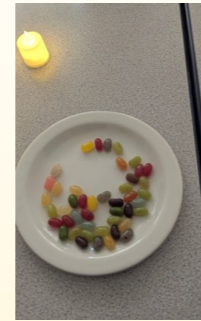
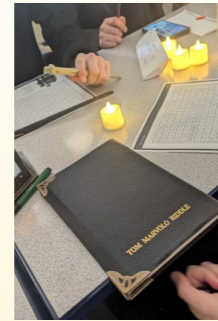
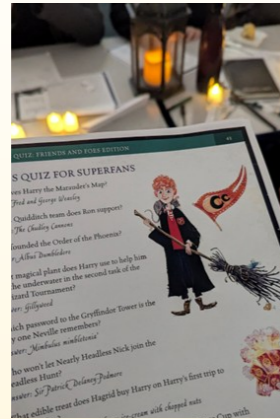


Harry Potter Book Night

After school on Friday 6th February, we invited some Year 7 students to take part in a Harry Potter Book Night. The students had lots of fun trying some of Bertie Bott's Every Flavour Beans, acting out some scary characters like a boggart, duelling with each other and completing a very tricky quiz!

Miss N Hedges, Teacher of English



Blue Bombini Roadshow

The Blue Bombini Roadshow at UNLOC delivered a series of workshops to our Y10 students, focussing on developing people skills, confidence, creativity and an entrepreneurial mindset.

The activities ranged from practising interviews with the HR & Marketing Director of Blue Bombini, where students showed excellent and confident communication skills, to taking part in a staged auction where they had to make decisions about high amounts of money and whether to spend or not spend. Finally, they took part in an enterprise situation to create a new sustainable housing complex and pitch it to the dragons. It was a great day.

Mrs L Zambo, Assistant Headteacher



Year 8 Careers Trip

14 Year 8 students recently visited the University of Portsmouth where they took part in a range of engaging workshops in Engineering, Screenwriting, and Psychology. The sessions were interactive and gave students a valuable insight into what studying these subjects at university level could involve. Students also had the opportunity to experience the university environment and ask questions about student life. All students represented the school exceptionally well and showed enthusiasm, curiosity and excellent behaviour throughout the visit. Miss H Dennis, Head of Year 8



News

Dear Parents

Welcome to our final newsletter of the Spring term; apparently summer is around the corner!

As always, this newsletter is packed with a number of interesting experiences in which our students have participated. I am always struck by the variety and range – from a Pi Day Bake off, to a trip to see Blood Brothers, to a Harry Potter Book Night! There are so many experiences that are on offer at The Cowplain School, it's just a case of signing up to something that interests you and going for it!

Talking of which, I wanted to take a little bit of your time to talk about attendance. We know that good attendance is the main factor in achieving well at school. This might sound a bit obvious; clearly the more you attend, the more you learn, and missing days means that any learning taking place that day is lost for anyone not attending as there is no guarantee that lesson will be repeated. All the statistics for GCSE results show that those who attend more get better results.

Of course, for the majority of you I am preaching to the converted; over half our students have attendance of 100%, or very close to it. However, there are some students whose attendance is not as we would like and we fear that they will miss out, not only on learning the curriculum, but also the great activities we offer, some of which are featured in this newsletter. It's also easy to think things are going well when actually quite a lot of time has been missed; so rather than think of percentages, we focus on days lost. 90% attendance might sound OK but, over a school year, that's 19 days of missed school, 85+ lessons lost, over almost 4 school weeks.

Because we want every child to experience a great time at Cowplain, we are sharpening our approach to attendance. So, for example, we aim to phone the majority of parents whose child is absent on the same day he/she is absent. This enables us to discuss with you any help your child needs to return to school. In addition, during that call we may give you a tough message, sometimes you may not have realised that your child's attendance isn't where you and we would like it to be and we may need to point that out. We will always offer help and advice but ultimately, we do expect you to work with us to ensure your child attends school regularly.

I am sure, as always, we will continue to work in partnership with all our parents and maintain the strong relationships we have enjoyed over a number of years.

I would like to wish you and your family a great Easter break and look forward to welcoming your child back to The Cowplain School on Monday 13th April.

Mr I R Gates, Principal

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



THE COWPLAIN SCHOOL

www.cowplainschool.co.uk

Pi Day Bake Off

The Maths Department are once again in awe of the incredible Cowplain Pi Day Bake Off entries that we received this year.

Well done and thank you to everyone who entered.

The winning entry was by Rebekah Patis Y11.

Mrs L Morrish
Head of Maths



Reminder:

Easter Holiday:

Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April 2026.

School reopens at 8.15am on Monday 13 April 2026

(Week 1)



Antarctica Day 2025



Exciting news! In the Autumn Term the Geography department ran a competition for students to design a flag for Antarctica. Our school winner was Flora Konate in Year 7.

The flag was then sent on to the UK Polar Network at the Rothera Research Station in Antarctica and we received this photo back. Flora's flag was carried by Jonathan Hawkins who is a Glaciologist. In the photo you will be able to see the research station in the background. The photo was taken above the station at Reptile Ridge. If you'd like to find out more about what happens at the Rothera Research station, follow this link:

<https://www.bas.ac.uk/polar-operations/sites-and-facilities/facility/rothera/#about>

Miss C Rackett, Teacher of Geography

Blood Brothers Trip

We laughed, we cried and we enjoyed! The Y8 theatre trip to see Blood Brothers was absolutely brilliant. After studying the play in their English lessons, students were really excited to see it on stage.

The trip to Guildford allowed students to see the characters from their imaginations in action and hear all the wonderful songs sang live. There were a few tears on the way out...

Mrs H Bourton, Head of English and Media Studies



My Professional Self

Year 9 students attended an event at Portsmouth University, My Professional Self.

This exciting on-campus event was designed to open students' eyes to the incredible opportunities that higher education offers.

The day included thinking about their skills, values and motivations, taking part in practical challenges as a team and individually, as well as getting to know some of the local employers.

Mrs L Zambo
Assistant Headteacher



World Book Day

On 5th March 2026 we celebrated World Book Day by wearing non-uniform and themed costumes. Students and staff raised £434 for Bookbuzz, a Book Trust reading program for UK schools that fosters a love of reading by letting students choose and keep their own book from a curated list. It costs £3.65 per student, providing a book, bookmark, and resources to help schools build a reading culture, with options for both primary and secondary. The program helps ensure students, particularly those who might not have access to books at home, can own a book they choose.

