

Y3 and Y4 Primary School Netball Tournament

On 23rd April, the Year 10 Sport Studies students recently had the exciting opportunity to lead a fun filled afternoon of netball activities for Year 3 and Year 4 Primary School pupils.

Our students demonstrated excellent leadership, communication, and teamwork skills as they delivered drills, mini games, and skill-based challenges to help the younger pupils develop their confidence and enjoyment of the sport. It was fantastic to see the enthusiasm and positive attitudes from everyone involved and the afternoon was a great success. Well done to all.

Miss N Tofte, Teacher of PE/Transition Leader



Kevin Moore - Camps Volunteer

It is with great sadness that we said goodbye to our longest serving Camp volunteer, Kevin Moore, on Tuesday 12th May at The Oaks Crematorium. Kev shaped the catering on the camps and enriched the experience for thousands of students over the nearly forty years he cooked for us. The quality and diversity of his food was excellent and over the last twenty years or so he trained up more volunteers, such as Andy and Hazel, who worked alongside him year in, year out, up to three times a year. He was not only a brilliant chef and much loved member of our volunteer family, but he was so good with our students, sometimes doing demonstrations or engaging them in food prep if they were unable to take part in the activities for any reason. His dedication to our school was unquestionable and he even phoned us in his final week. He will be remembered for bringing his brilliant skills, charismatic personality and legendary humour to our community and will always be cherished and loved.

Mrs S Dobbyn, Camps Co-ordinator



News

Dear Parents

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of the year as we end the first summer half-term. As always, there is lots to read about, from our success in Technology tournaments, to Rugby competitions, to Dance Live and our work in inspiring our students to aim high in their future careers; not to mention Miss Tofte's trip to China!

Next half-term promises to be as busy; of course, Year 11 are finishing off their GCSEs, they then have their Leavers Assembly and Prom to look forward to before 'officially' leaving us at the end of June. Years 7-11 will continue to participate in many new experiences, including our traditional summer camps. We will also start welcoming Year 6 children to the school, ensuring they are ready to start with us in September. I am always struck by what almost all visitors say when they come to Cowplain; almost all comment on the calm, friendly and positive atmosphere at the school before being surprised at how many different experiences are offered here compared to most other schools. We are determined to maintain this offer to give all our students a great all-round education.

The summer and beyond promises to be a busy one in the world of education due to the amount of legislation the government is pursuing! We have new bills coming in to reshape the SEND system, news on multi-academy trusts, as well as making schools legally responsible for ensuring children do not have access to their mobile phones during the school day. On the latter, we are busy working on responding to the challenge of mobile phones in school and will soon be in a position to inform students and parents about the plans we have for September.

Finally, I wanted to share with you the good news that our plans for a theatre and changing rooms at The Cowplain School have, after 9 months, received planning permission. We now have a period of working with our architect, going to tender etc, before we lay the first brick. However, this is a very important milestone in realising our vision to bring a state-of-the-art performance space to Cowplain. I wanted to thank all of you who wrote to the planners supporting our plans, it is much appreciated.

As always, thank you for your support and I wish you and your family a great bank holiday and half-term break.

Mr I R Gates, Principal

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



THE COWPLAIN SCHOOL

www.cowplainschool.co.uk

Rotary Technology Tournaments

In March we took a group of Y9 and Y10 students to Horndean Technology College for the Rotary Technology Tournaments. They were amazing and the Year 9s won, and the Year 10s were 3rd in their category, just one mark off 2nd place. We were up against all the local schools and UTC.

Mrs H Moore
Head of Science and Technology



Reminder:

**May Half-term:
Monday 25 to Friday 29 May 2026.**

**School reopens at 8.15am on
Monday 1 June 2026**

(Week 1)



DANCE LIVE

This year 56 students from across all year groups participated in our Dance Live piece 'Unsinkable', the tragic story of the Titanic.

The students were outstanding, from exquisite vocals to clean-cut choreography. They really brought the piece to life. This was recognised on the night as we were the only school to achieve three awards!

The first award was for 'costume', the second was the 'Technical award' and the third was the most exciting, as after 10 years of performing in Dance Live, we finally placed, 3rd!

I am so incredibly proud of this achievement, the students showed professionalism and all our schools core values!

Thank you guys, now to plan for next year!

Mrs M Leng, Head of Performing Arts



Girls Touch Rugby

Our students recently travelled to Havant RFC to take part in T1 Rugby, an exciting Touch Rugby event aimed at inspiring more girls to get involved in the sport. The day was full of energy, enthusiasm and enjoyment, with all of the girls who attended representing the school brilliantly and embracing the opportunity to try new skills in a fun and supportive environment. Throughout the event, the students showed great teamwork, determination and positivity, and it was fantastic to see their confidence grow as they took part in the different activities and matches. A real highlight of the day was the chance to see the Women's Rugby World Cup trophy up close and have photographs taken with it. This was a memorable experience for the girls, especially as the trophy was won last year by the England Red Roses, whose success continues to inspire young players across the country.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Emery, who is the mother of one of our students, for organising such a fantastic event, as well as to the rest of the girls' coaches at Havant Rugby Club for making the day so enjoyable, welcoming and well organised. It was a wonderful experience for everyone involved, and we hope it has encouraged even more of our students to continue developing their interest in rugby in the future.

Mr G Humphrey, Teacher of PE



Visit to China

As part of an exciting global exchange programme we are developing, I visited schools in China, introducing Rugby as a new sport and highlighting the positive influence of a female PE teacher in leading and inspiring participation. I presented to Chinese School Principals about The Cowplain School's curriculum, showcasing the strength of our teaching and the breadth of opportunities we offer. Alongside this, I shared our eight school values and how they underpin our approach to learning.

In the future, we will be inviting Chinese students to Cowplain to spend time with our students.

Miss N Tofte, Teacher of PE/Transition Leader



UNLOC Skills for Success

On Wednesday 29th April, UNLOC, a multi-award winning education non-profit organisation based in Portsmouth, visited our school again to deliver a 'Skills for Success Day' to all of our Year 9 students. UNLOC help schools, colleges and organisations to empower young people to become changemakers. The day consisted of three workshops based on networking, public speaking, and use of body language when communicating. The third workshop was a mock interview with volunteers from a large variety of careers backgrounds; Managing Director, Project Manager, CEO, Marketing Consultant, Motivational Speaker, Product Engineer and more. Our students were challenged to step out of their comfort zones to speak in front of their peers, demonstrating resilience and self-assurance.

The volunteers commented very positively on the respect and skills displayed by our students.

Mrs E Zambo, Assistant Headteacher



Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.