

Coopersale & Theydon Garnon C.E Primary School



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Newsletter – April/May 2021

We are so proud of all our children who during this half-term have impressed us with their enthusiasm and joy for learning! You all would have received your Phase Newsletter as well as a Learning Journey Leaflet at the beginning of the term. This will provide you with key updates on the learning experience your children will be engaging in over the course of this term. A reminder, we have a page on our website to keep electronic copies of these – just in case you misplace the hard copies. Here is the link: [Coopersale & Theydon Garnon C.E. \(V.C\) Primary School - Learning Updates \(coopersaletheydongarnon.essex.sch.uk\)](http://www.coopersaletheydongarnon.essex.sch.uk)

Have a safe, happy and healthy half-term break. We look forward to seeing the children back at school on, Monday 7th June.

COVID updates

With the easing of restrictions, life is slowly getting back to normal for many of us. However, schools are currently expected to operate within similar restrictions that we had in place before the Easter break – due to contact tracing in schools remaining. This means that, as a school, we are still operating strictly within a system of 'bubbles' throughout the school day. Our next expected guidance will be released to schools for the Government's June 21st roadmap out of restrictions.

Do therefore, continue to follow safety guidelines when on our School premise. This means socially distancing, wearing a mask and not staying on the premises for any longer than necessary. We must continue to do everything to ensure that the School stays open and that any future contact tracing expected by the school does not lead to unnecessary part-school closures.



Sports Afternoon

Due to Covid restrictions, we will be holding 'phase' sports afternoons on the field on the dates below. We will be inviting parents to watch. More details will come closer to the events, once we have updated Covid-19 guidance from the Government. We expect the events to start at 1.30pm and finish at 3pm.

Monday 12th July Year 3 & 4 Sports afternoon
Tuesday 13th July Reception Sports afternoon
Wednesday 14th July Year 1 & 2 Sports afternoon
Thursday 15th July Year 5 & 6 Sports afternoon



Parking outside the school



Please park considerately when dropping off/collecting your children. We do appreciate that parking is not always easy at busy times, but this is not an excuse to park directly in front of the residents' driveways or on yellow zig-zag lines. Please can we remind you to respect this request for the safety and wellbeing of not only our school's pupils and their families, but also residents of the community. We have had complaints from some of our neighbours who have been unable to get out of the own driveways!

Remember, there is a 20-minute window from when you can collect or drop-off your children, you do not have to come at the busiest times.

Whole-School Cross country competition

On Friday 30th April, the whole school took part in a cross-country competition which was supported by Gillian Newlyn (West Essex School Sport Partnership coach). Although long-distance running requires plenty of endurance, our children thoroughly enjoyed running with their friends. Leading up to the event, teachers had scheduled practice times to help the children improve their performance and race times.

Dementia Action Week 2021

Being a 'Dementia Friendly school' not only means learning about Dementia but also that we are educating our young people about protecting their own wellbeing and the importance of a healthy lifestyle, including diet and exercise which have been shown to be a risk factor for dementia. Pupils were encouraged to wear blue on Friday 21st May (the colour of the forget-me-not flower) as well as take part in activities. The event was organised by Miss Usher who has a passion for raising awareness of not only dementia, but also the importance of the role that care workers can play.



We wanted to say a special thank you to Ruby from Hazel class who held a bake sale after school this Wednesday. She was joined by her friend Penny from Beech class to sell delicious home-made cakes with all proceeds going to The Alzheimer's Society. £143 was raised through the sale of the cakes, however Ruby's dad has kindly doubled this to **£287**. Thank you so much!



Climate focused week -led by the Clergy Church Team

On 6-13 June, the Epping Team are having a climate-focussed week, with a couple of events aimed specifically at children.

- 6th June 4pm: Forest Church. Short outdoor worship & activity session. Parents are asked to accompany children. Meeting at St Alban's Coopersale, Parish Rooms. We will be building shelters and exploring spirituality through nature.
- 9th June 3.30-5pm: Eco-Craft. Making art through rubbish (Upcycling). Please accompany children & sign up by emailing Jaimee on summersaimee@gmail.com. Free entry & refreshments. Please bring your own mug. Activities will include: recycled plastic stained glass windows, t-shirt fabric weaving, plastic weaving, collage, making wrapping paper and cards from rubbish, paper bead making, and making coasters from rubbish.
- Sunday 13th June: Prayer walk & journeying through the wildflower labyrinth at All Saints, Epping Upland.
- Sunday 13th June 10am: Nature Sunday @North Weald Sunday Morning Church invites people of all ages (dogs welcome too!) to St Andrew's North Weald Church yard for an outdoor, informal morning of fun & worship.

National assessments cancelled

Due to the disruption on education by the Covid-19 pandemic, the DfE (Department for Education) have cancelled the statutory Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 tests and key teacher assessments planned for summer 2021, including the Key Stage 2 tests in reading and mathematics. In addition, the early years' foundation stage (EYFS) profile report will not be completed for our Reception parents. We will continue to use assessment during the summer term, relying on pupil's schoolwork and testing papers (including past SATS papers where appropriate). This will inform teaching, enable the School to give information to parents on their child's attainment in their annual report, and support transition to their next year group (including secondary schools for our Year 6s).

The DfE are planning for a full programme of primary assessments to take place in the 2021 to 2022 academic year.

Contact Tracing – informing the School across the half-term holiday period

Please notify the School via Studybugs, if your child starts to display symptoms in the first 2 days of the half-term break. Do not wait until they have a test result. This early notice to School leaders will help us, if contact tracing is required.

From 31st May to 6th June, if symptoms show, do not inform the school – please use the NHS test and trace service. www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/

