

COPTHORNE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER NO. 12 - 13th January 2012



COFFEE MORNING FOR YEAR 2 PARENTS

THURSDAY 19TH JANUARY - 8:30AM IN THE RENDALL ROOM

All Year 2 parents are invited to join us for coffee, a chat about life in Year 3 and a visit to the classrooms in the New Block.

This is an ideal time to ask all the questions that may be on your mind as you, and your children, begin to think about the move from the Pre-Prep to the Prep section of the school. Do join us if you can!

Calling all Cophthorne Horse Riders

After a fantastic Show jumping season where Cophthorne came third in the South East of England Regional points League, won various regional tournaments, currently hold the Sussex County 2011 Champions title and were placed 3 out of 4 classes at the National Schools Championships, we are very much looking forward to the 2012 season.



Throughout the year, there are various competitions for all abilities in Dressage, Eventing and Show Jumping. Courses from as low as 40 cm assisted up to 1 m including our second annual Cophthorne School Show jumping event held on Saturday 19th May, at Felbridge Showground.

If there are any pupils who have their own pony and would like to compete as part of a team or as an individual, please contact **Sally Keenleyside** on 01342 841729 or 07870 174603 skeenleyside@ssafara.net



SKI TRIP

Please can I remind parents that the balance is now overdue! The trip is full with 42 children and 7 adults looking forward to some bumper snow!

LOST PROPERTY

Lucas Reynolds-Osborne has lost his rugby boots. They are white and named!

Charlie Atkins' labelled blazer has gone missing at school before Christmas. Can we please look out for these items.



NURSERY & PRE-PREP NEWS

Annabel Ferrier is the new Gap Student for the Pre-Prep & Nursery ; she is already proving to be an invaluable member of staff and I am sure you will make her welcome!

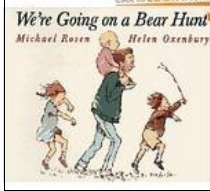
Scholarships - are taking place on Saturday 4th February. If your Year 2 child is intending to sit this exam, please will you ask Mrs Swadling for an Application Form, or download one from the website.

Reception really enjoyed a visit from the Year 8 DT classes and Mrs Richards this week. The Year 8 pupils made age appropriate games as part of their DT projects. The Reception children then had the opportunity to try these games out, and absolutely loved it! We had counting, sequencing, alphabet and even some fine motor skills games. What fun we had – and thank you to the inventive Year 8s!

We also started our new topic on farms for this half-term and would like to ask every child to please bring in an old pair of (clean!) tights for us to make grass people with next week.



Lost Property: Malak lost her named ballet shoes at the end of last term – please can you check ballet shoes carefully and return Malak's to her. Thomas Sutton has lost his school hat which is named under the front logo.



NURSERY

All the Nursery children seem very happy to be back and activities have begun in full swing! The younger classes will be talking about Traditional Stories this term and start off by going on a bear hunt next week. They have all made some colourful topic folders to hold their lovely work and these will be coming home at the end of term.

Welcome to the new children in the younger Nursery: Samantha, Marcus, Harry and Samuel who all seem to have settled in beautifully. Welcome also to Amelie in the older Nursery class.

The older children have also started work on their new topic: People who help us. We have been thinking about all the different people who help us in our community and we have arranged some exciting visits, including Nathan's Mummy Dr Lowe, the local fire-fighters and our community police officer amongst others. We will be staying even closer to home for the next few weeks however when we think about how our Mums and Dads help us and all the people who help us in our school.



Year 1 children are finishing their Science Topic, looking at the senses. This week they are exploring and experimenting with smell and taste. There will be some surprising findings!

They have also been making New Year resolutions. Good luck to the following children with their resolve:

Louis L-L is going to be nice to the teachers
Ruby is going to stop pinching her sister
Gus is going to help his mummy with the cooking
Dhruv is going to be a good boy
Tali is going to try to get up earlier
Polly is going to tidy her room

Dates for this term

Please make a note of the following dates. Further details will follow where necessary:

Monday 23 Jan	Chinese New Year
Wednesday 25 Jan	Yrs 1&2 visit - Hindu Temple, Crawley
Wednesday 8 Feb	Zoo Lab visiting Nursery
w/c Monday 27 Feb	Book Week
Tuesday 28 Feb	Dressing Up Day
Thursday 1 Mar	Visit from Korky Paul
Monday 12 Mar	Reception visit to Plumpton Farm
Thursday 15 Mar	Pre-Prep Mothers' Day Services, 9am & 11am (wrong in calendar)
Thursday 22 Mar	Year 2 football v Ardingly
Wednesday 28 Mar	Year 2 visit to Amberley Museum

Year 2 (Mrs Pitcaithly's class) decided not to make New Year Resolutions because they often get broken very quickly.

Instead they decided to think about what they can do to make themselves better people:



Janith is going to help his daddy make chocolate cake and go to bed on time; Jemima is going to pick up her clothes and do her homework on time and Jamie Ha is going to brush his teeth in the morning and in the afternoon and he is also going to stop playing Nerf with Matthew and help his mum instead!

SPORTS RESULTS

Colts 'B' Rugby v Duke of Kent - Won 35-17

Colts B were back in action today looking to get their first win of the season. With a stronger looking side out than our previous fixture before Father Christmas paid us all a visit we were confident. The B's got off to a flyer with Tom G and the rest of the pack putting DofK on the back foot. This pressure caused us to turn the ball over and release our quick backs into the game with Zak jinxing over for the first try which was duly converted by Johnny our Fly half and skipper. Two further tries another from Zak and a debut try from Sam H both converted by Johnny (Wilko) Blackmore. With a 3 try lead we did take our foot of the gas slightly and allowed DofK to score a break away try. The start of the second half saw us still enjoying our oranges and DofK got themselves back into the game with a second try. This seemed to give the boys the kick they needed and our pack started to dominate with Lani often putting us on the front foot. Johnny was starting to control things in open play with Jamie F proving to be a real find as scrum half. We continued to move the ball down the line and scored two further tries again from Zak and Sam, both of which were converted by Johnny. DofK got a late try which gave them plenty of satisfaction but it wasn't enough to deny the B's a good victory.

Final score 35-17. As the boys left the field to a warm round of applause the crowd, comments from the side lines were about how visible it was to see the improvement the boys had made. So well done to all 14 of you.

Player(s) of the Match: Johnny (Wilko) Blackmore: Fantastic kicking and great leadership & Sam Mayhew: Two tries in his first ever game along with some strong tackles. IP

Colts 'A' Rugby v Duke of Kent - Won 33-19

The Christmas break clearly did the boys some good as they started 2012 with an excellent win playing a far more expansive running and passing game. Admittedly, our opponents were not as strong as the teams we played before the Xmas break, or will be playing later in the season, but a win is a win and we did put together some good passages of play. Our forwards dominated the scrums and line-outs particularly, with Ben Kinnear and Benjamin Jennings winning all of ours and most of their ball. Matthew Hannah was excellent as a marauding loose forward and was always close to the ball. Joseph Gache, Alessandro Kroeger and Hugo Hawes all worked hard in the set pieces and contributed well with the ball in hand.

We scored first following a mazy run from Ollie Tennant, converted by James Hayes but conceded soon afterwards when we gave their star player too much time and space and he ran around our defence to equalize the score. Before half time, Benjamin Jennings bulldozed his way over from 10 metres to give us a slender 12-7 lead at half time. A team talk that extolled the virtues of running the ball from everywhere saw us score 2 more unanswered tries from Matthew Eades and Tom Flavin before their star man (who was a very quick and skillful player) took a quick tap penalty and scored while we were all fast asleep! A misplaced kick (so much for running the ball from everywhere!) straight to their star man who ran in unchallenged, made the score a little closer before Ollie Tennant put the result in no doubt with another excellent try. Ben Voller linked well, Jerome Gore ran strongly and

Evan Penlington worked hard to round off a good team performance.

No individual MOTM today but lots of positives to work on as a team.

Well played - bring on St Aubyns next week as we are on the road again! CJ

U8A v Duke of Kent - Won 7-2

This was the first game of the season, and for many of our boys it was the first time they had played a game of rugby. The boys were ready and raring to go. We got our tags on and took to the pitch, the whistle went and we could see from the start this could easily be our game. B Heaver had a great first half running in two quick tries. The boys were playing with great communication, they were handling the ball well and they were getting set in formation ready to attack or defend their line at any point. Duke of Kent managed to get a try in the first half, as well as C Pullen, who made a lovely run from half way.

The second half belonged to us, with more tries from B Heaver and C Pullen and Z Collins managing to get a quick double in. But the thing for me that shone from yesterday's game was the real team spirit, with boys willing to give up a second half to allow others to have a run around, also the boys really put into practice the things they have learnt in training.

There was no man of the match because I thought all the boys played well and it was a great team effort, with the final score 7-2 win to Copthorne. WL

U10 Rugby v Duke of Kent - Won 25-10

The U10's brought together a combination of Year 5's and Year 4's but by having not practiced together before, it was going to take some time for them to gel together and work as a team. Duke of Kent started with possession but after a solid defensive display, Copthorne finally got their reward after the ball was knocked forward and from our first attack Chris Preen ran through a few tackles to score under the posts. A second score followed soon after, when Copthorne kept the ball alive well, with constant offloading in the tackle, eventually allowing Chris Preen to get his second try of the game. After such a good start, it seemed like this was going to be an easy contest but a determined Duke of Kent side soon showed what they were capable of. After a long spell of pressure, Duke of Kent finally got their try but only after our defensive back line had been drawn into the ball, creating huge gaps in our defence. Our defence continued to wander out of position, resulting in missed tackles and inevitably Duke of Kent drew level soon after. That try seemed to get the boys thinking about their positions (with a bit of help from the Coach) and even with more pressure than before, Copthorne's defence improved, including two try saving tackles into touch as the Duke of Kent winger tried to score tries in the corner. The try of the game was scored just before half time after a superb passing move allowed Robbie Easton to touch down.

After the break, the contest was fairly even although this half Daniel Persad was able to get more involved in the game and managed to break free a couple of times and use his pace to run the length of the pitch and finish off the game. Well done to Jack Flanagan,

Ben Elliot and Nico Lopalco who worked constantly throughout the game. Man of the Match: Chris Preen. CD

1st XV v Duke of Kent

A New Year but hopefully a continuation from the victory at Cottesmore. The opponents were Duke of Kent who had been very strong at soccer at the senior level. Still a slightly new look side, mainly due to the exams being sat at Trinity, took to the field although it was likely that the cavalry would arrive by the second half. As it turned out Nils and Ollie C arrived within 10 minutes of the start, so thanks for that Mr Clarke.

Kent were certainly a sizeable outfit but we were in confident mood. Unfortunately this soon evaporated as the opposition inside centre proved to be a combination of good, big and fast. He ran in 3 tries before we could get started and the score was soon 19-0 and looked like becoming a rout. However the boys are made of stern stuff and they hit back with a converted try of their own. The secret had to be to deny their backs possession which put a huge strain on our forwards. Inevitably Kent managed to gain the ball and, to be fair, the centre was difficult enough to catch let alone stop and the points began to mount, 45 - 7 at half time.

It had now become a matter of pride and the boys showed this by the bucket full tackling and rucking for all they were worth. At 52-7 Kent subbed the big centre and Copthorne took off scoring 29 unanswered points even though the centre had by this stage returned to the fray. The momentum was all ours and at the end of the game the final score 52 - 36 was more a reflection of the contribution of one boy rather than the balance of the two sides.

The disappointment of the first half was quickly expunged by the tremendous character shown by the boys in the second. For those of you who do not know rugby, games stop when one side is 50 points ahead of the opposition and there was no way that the boys would allow this to happen. The example that sums up the team to me is the fact that 2 boys having sat scholarship exams and interviews in Croydon all morning managed to rush back to join their mates on the rugby field in the afternoon. This is a very good bunch of boys who have the potential to do very well this season. There are things to work on but if the effort is maintained then there will be a rosy future.

Scorers: Tries Ryan, Morgan, Andy, James W and Nils(2) Conversions: Morgan (3)

Thanks to our loyal band for their support but, still no medal Mr Noblett!! JC

Seconds Smash Duke of Kent in Season Opener - Won 56-0

Try Scorers: Minchan (3), Ian H (3), Ted (2), Jamie M and Connel.

Man of the match: Ted

The seconds players have been champing at the bit to get their first game of rugby and they did not disappoint when their chance finally arrived. We played 11-a side against Duke of Kent who are a similar sized school, but we had greater size, speed and power on this occasion. Our forwards were excellent throughout the match, winning virtually every scrum that took place, whether it was our put in or not. Ted and Connel stood out defensively, both putting in a huge number of tackles and Ted our captain also did a lot of damage with some strong running as our opponents struggled to bring him down. Ross put in a few strong tackles and Ian B in particular made a real try saving tackle when our opponents looked most likely to score.

Our scrum half Jamie M was quick to get the ball out of the rucks and delivered good attacking ball to the rest of the backs. Ian H and Minchan were the most dangerous backs; they ran with strength and pace at the opposition and always looked dangerous. We changed our positions around a little in the second half and Jamie W, George and Ben got more of the ball and also played very well. In the end the referee cut the game short because it was so one-sided.

Well done lads, a fantastic start to our season, but I am sure there are some tougher matches ahead! DJ