

## Open Evening 2024

We held our annual Open Evening on Wednesday 25th September. Students, staff, parents and academy trustees enabled parents and pupils to sample the quality and breadth of lessons children experience and the enrichment activities and events that we run each year.

Our Open Week tours ran throughout the school day in the following two weeks, and many families booked for a tour of the school with a member of our Senior Leadership Team.



Our popular Yayoi Kusama Obliteration room



**Y6 PARENTS—Don't forget that the deadline for applications for the Y7 Admissions Round is Thursday 31st October 2024.**



## News

Dear Parents

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 24/25 academic year!

As always, it's been a busy half-term. We welcomed our largest number of Year 7 children to the school in September and I am pleased to report that the vast majority of them have settled in extremely well. When I see them around the school they appear to be happy and have embraced the challenge of moving from primary to secondary school very well.

You'll read in the newsletter about some of the many activities and opportunities in which are students have participated. Amongst them, is the visit to SERT, who are a training and recruitment company for new green technologies, for example, solar power, heat pumps etc. Following our students' visit to the company, we have brought them on site and have been able to offer electrical training to a small number of our Year 11 students. My point in writing about this is to highlight the breadth of the curriculum offer at Cowplain. Apart from the wide range of 'traditional' subjects our students study in Years 7 and 8, before choosing options ready for Year 9, we now have opportunities such as SERT, Hair and Beauty training with a company called HaHa, construction training at the Apex Centre in Havant, as well as the opportunity for some to attend Forest School, work with Music Fusion and Hampshire Music Service, Pompey in the Community, the list goes on! We are determined that the curriculum offer we make to all our students is as broad as possible because we are keen that every young person's experience of school is positive, providing a base from which they can go on and be successful in college, university, an apprenticeship or a job.

Changing the subject, I know that school time holidays are a big talking point and I have certainly received a number of requests for time off during the school term. I need to let you all know that we were issued new regulations in the Summer, as to coding absence during school time, that makes it virtually impossible for me to authorise time off from school. Of course, as a parent, it is your decision whether to take your child out of school but please understand that the absence is likely to be unauthorised. Of course, we would encourage all children to attend during the term and I am grateful for your support in ensuring your child attends school every day.

As always, thank you for your continued support and I look forward to welcoming your child back to school after the half-term break.

Mr I R Gates, Principal

**Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.**



**THE COWPLAIN SCHOOL**

[www.cowplainschool.co.uk](http://www.cowplainschool.co.uk)

### SERT visit

At the end of last academic year, we were invited to visit SERT Industries.

SERT train and recruit people to work in the electrical, gas and green energy industries.



Our students were able to find out about future career opportunities and sign up to work with SERT at The Cowplain School.

**Reminder:**

**INSET Day: Friday 25 October 2024**

**October half-term:**

**Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024**

**School reopens on Monday 4 November 2024**

*(Week 1)*



## Disneyland Paris - Dance

From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October, 38 students went to perform in the magic at Disneyland, Paris. They were lucky enough to perform on the Videopolis stage which is situated in the Discoveryland part of The Magic Kingdom.

Our students performed a 20-minute set which was titled 'Dance Through The Decades'.

All of their hard work, time and dedication really paid off. They performed beautifully and were a real asset to The Cowplain School. Their performance was really well received by the audience with some students being stopped around the park to be told how fabulous they were.

I am incredibly proud of all their hard work and dedication and I know they made memories that will last a lifetime! Well done.

Mrs Leng, Head of Performing Arts



## Music Building

We were delighted to have moved the Music Department into the new Music Building this term. Students have really enjoyed the space and the sound-proofed practice rooms have been popular for after school lessons and breaktime rehearsals. The main classroom has a lovely acoustic for music making and the portable tables make changing the layout easy for different types of lessons and rehearsals.

Mrs Dobbyn, Head of Music



## Careers Fair

On 11th July, we hosted our very first Summer Careers Fair. All students had the opportunity to meet with Further and Higher Education providers as well as local apprenticeship providers and employers. The event was a huge success with parents also invited to come after school as well. We will be hosting again in July 2025 and hope more parents can join us then.

Mrs Cobbold, Careers Leader



## Winchester Planetary Visit



Congratulations to all the Year 7 students who took part in the Winchester Science Centre trip at the end of last term! Your enthusiasm and curiosity truly shone as you explored the fascinating world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). By actively engaging in hands-on activities and asking insightful questions, you have shown a remarkable passion for learning and discovery.

Well done on making this trip an inspiring and educational experience. Keep nurturing your interest in STEM, and continue to explore the wonders of science and technology!

Ms Perry, Lead Teacher Science



## World Dance Championship 2024

Huge congratulations to Sophie Heaton, Myla Wooton and recent leaver Jessica Knight, who competed in the 2024 World Dance Championship in Croatia with their dance school Southern Arts Academy.

They were awarded several medals including firsts in ballet, tap and adult couple categories.

Well done girls, such an amazing achievement!

Mrs Leng, Head of Performing Arts

