



— The Cooper School —

Parent Bulletin

No 13 - Friday 5th December 2025

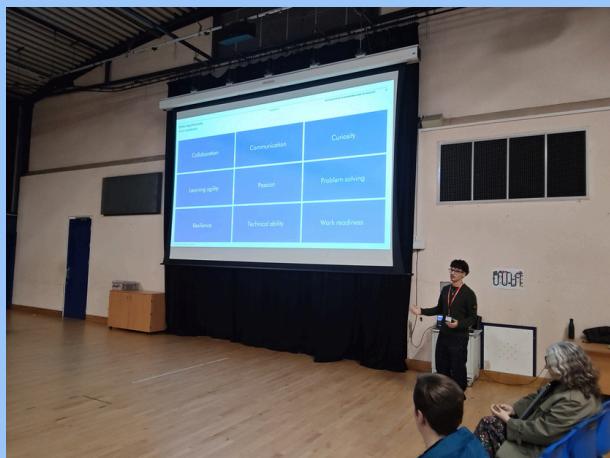
Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Wednesday 10 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GCSE Certificate Collection 3:30-4:30pm
Thursday 11 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAYKS5 Bank of England Business Trip
Friday 12 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Yr12 & 13 Art Trip to Compton Verney

Next week (w/c 8th December) is Week B

Sixth Form Alumni speaker

All sixth form students had the experience to hear all about a previous students' journey from school to currently working with Dyson! He spoke about the challenges of not always knowing the best path, but to keep trying and keep focused on your goals as there are great opportunities out there. Ryden is a true advocate for resilience and dreaming big- a great bit of inspiration for our students who are thinking about their next steps.



DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.

We are excited to announce The Cooper School's annual Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 11th December. This is a fantastic, festive opportunity for students and staff to get into the Christmas spirit while supporting a wonderful cause.

Students can wear their favourite Christmas jumper or festive accessories (like a Santa hat, elf hat, or festive garlands/glasses). Uniform MUST still be worn. The jumper or accessories are an addition to the required uniform, not a replacement .



We are asking for voluntary donations for a brilliant cause:
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/justgivingthecooperschool>

We can't wait to see all the wonderful and festive outfits on Friday, 11th December! Thank you, as always, for your generous support.



A Level Geographers - Royal Geographical Society

Last week our year 12 and 13 geographers embarked on an adventure to London to participate in lecture style sessions on hazards, global governance and water and carbon cycling from specialists in the fields. Students were then able to listen to examiners advice on key exam best practice - all of which were highly insightful for students!

Students engaged fantastically with the sessions - hurriedly making notes on lots of the useful content.

Our geographers then had some time to be geographers! Out adventuring London, we visited Buckingham Palace, Harrods and Oxford street exploring the variations in the city from the significance of sovereignty through to the success of regeneration and the influences of tourism.

Students were impeccably behaved and took a lot from the experience.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.

See full reference list on our website

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6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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