



— The Cooper School —

Parent Bulletin

NO 24 - FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2026

Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Monday 23 rd March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 11 Reports• Y10 GCSE Drama Theatre trip
Thursday 26 th March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 13 Reports• Y13 Business Revision Workshop in London• Meet The Headteacher Event (from 3.30 pm) <u>Link to book tickets</u>• Y10 Work experience
Friday 27 th March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y10 Work Experience

Next week w/c Monday 23rd March 2026 - Week B

A huge well done to our Year 7 Girls Netball teams who competed against Heyford on Tuesday 17th March. We were able to take 2 teams and they played extremely well together. It was lovely to see all the students enjoy the afternoon and play some competitive Netball.

Best Wishes, Miss Shah

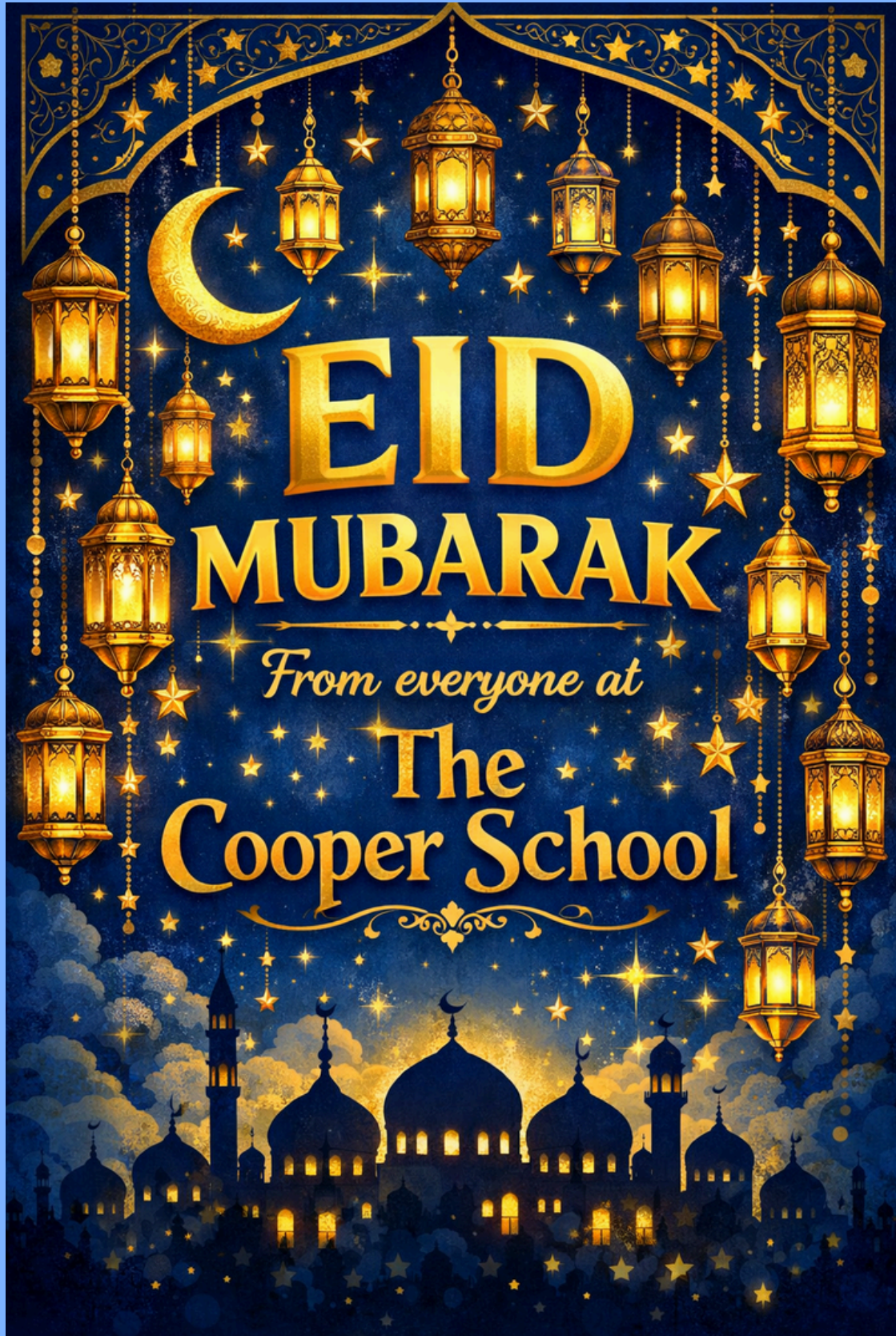


DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.

Wishing our Muslim students, families, and friends a joyful and blessed
Eid for this weekend!

May this special time bring peace, happiness, and warmth to your homes.
As you celebrate with loved ones, we hope your days are filled with love,
gratitude, and togetherness.

Eid Mubarak!



DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.

Our Comic Relief Week!

What a fantastic week we've had raising money for Comic Relief! The school has been buzzing with energy, laughter, and a healthy dose of (mostly) friendly competition—all for a brilliant cause.

Here's a look at the highlights from our fundraising fun:

Monday: The Ultimate Dodgeball Showdown

We kicked the week off with a high-stakes Staff Dodgeball Tournament.

It was a sight to behold as teachers swapped their lesson plans for sweatbands! After some tactical maneuvering and a few very narrow misses, Mr. Thomas's team emerged victorious as the 2026 Dodgeball Champions. A huge well-done to them, though some staff members are definitely still feeling the burn!

Friday: Sponge a Teacher!

Today, the real fun began. We opened up the "Sponge a Teacher" and the children certainly didn't hold back! Students lined up for the chance to soak their favourite teachers for a small donation.

A Note of Thanks: We were incredibly lucky that the sun decided to make an appearance just in time! It made getting drenched by a cold sponge much more bearable for the staff involved.

Through your generosity and the children's enthusiasm, we have raised a fantastic amount of money to help Comic Relief tackle poverty and provide vital support to people in need both here in the UK and around the world. There is still time to [donate, click here.](#)

Thank you to all the parents for your donations and for sending the children in with such great spirits this week.

So far we have raised a massive £1,150



DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.

Year 10 Careers Fair- Kassam Stadium

On Wednesday, we were fortunate to get some tickets for the annual Careers Fest at the Kassam Stadium in Oxford. There were over 40 exhibitors from a wide range of organisations and businesses. Students were able to explore resources, ask meaningful questions and start to think about what's next for them. Next year we hope to take all of the year group!

National Interview Week

Next week, on Tuesday, we have all of year 12, some year 13s and 11s, taking part in virtual mock interviews through Imployable. There are over 4000 students taking part nationwide with volunteer interviewers from organisations such as the BBC, Meta, Rolls Royce to name a few. Interview skills are invaluable in life and we know students will gain a great deal from the experience.

Year 10 work experience

Next week we have year 10 on work experience both Thursday 26th and Friday 27th March. It was great to see so many local businesses/organisations support the young workforce in gaining experience in the workplace. For those students who were unable to find a placement, they will be in school taking part in employability skills workshops

Duke of Edinburgh Award Success!

A huge congratulations to our hardworking students who have recently completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. These students have shown incredible dedication, resilience, and community spirit while completing their physical, skill, and volunteering sections, as well as their demanding expeditions.

We are delighted to celebrate the following achievements:

Bronze Award

- Tilly McMillan
- Varun Tatineni
- Ava Keen

Silver Award

- Annabell Haggard

Achieving these awards is a fantastic milestone that requires months of commitment. Well done to all of you on this brilliant accomplishment!



DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.



Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to ensure all our students stay nourished, even when they aren't feeling well enough to be in the classroom.

If your child is currently eligible for Free School Meals and is at home unwell, you are welcome to arrange a packed lunch for collection from the school office.

Please call or email the school office by 10:00 am

Lunches will be ready for pickup at a designated time (usually during the standard lunch break).



After school revision sessions for all year 11s every day!

We would welcome donations of biscuits, fruit, pastries/ cereal bars, bread, tea bags, hot chocolate, honey, marmite etc

Also any raffle prizes (eg chocolate, easter eggs)



Tesco Blue Coins - Eco-Bees @ The Cooper School

FINAL WEEK!!

I have managed to secure us as a spot in all of the Bicester Tesco stores (large and small!), as part of their blue coin scheme to support local organisations and charities! This is amazing as it gives the Eco-Bees a minimum of £500 support towards improving the environment and biodiversity at TCS. However... We are hoping for more! If we are the group with the largest amount of blue coins by the end of March, we secure £1,500 towards our improvements project!

Therefore, please please please can I ask that if you shop in ANY of the Tesco stores in Bicester at any time between now and the end of March, you drop a blue coin or 2 in the Eco-Bees box by the exit once you have done your shopping!

Thank you all massively for your support!

DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE TRENDS ENCOURAGING VIOLENCE

7 out of 10 teens report seeing violent content on social media, with over half of that content featuring fights involving young people. Most don't 'seek' it but are shown it through social media feeds or messaging groups. 91% of young people involved in violence have seen violent social media content. Viral trends, challenges, or 'wars' that are spread online risk encouraging violence offline, while real-world incidents may also be recorded and promoted online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ALGORITHMIC EXPOSURE

Social media platforms are designed to keep users engaged, meaning dramatic or extreme content can spread widely and quickly. Algorithms often recommend content that reflects users' past interactions. As a result, young people may see more violent material if they have viewed, commented on, or shared it before. Repeated exposure can make violent content appear frequently in their feeds without them fully understanding why.

WEAPONS AND CRIMINAL RISK

Teens exposed to high levels of real-world violence on social media sometimes report feeling an increased need to carry a weapon for 'self-protection'; however, carrying a weapon increases the risk of victimisation (harm and injury by others) for young people. In addition, carrying a weapon is a serious offence that can lead to police arrest and a criminal record.

SHARING VIOLENT CONTENT

Encouraging or assisting an offence is a crime in the UK, including via social media, and can lead to arrest. This means sharing, forwarding, or reposting violent content carries a risk for young people too. Showing examples of content to a trusted adult is appropriate, but young people should take care not to further spread violent material by posting it online or sharing it within large messaging groups.

FEAR, ANXIETY, AND MARGINALISATION

Research shows young people's emotional wellbeing can be negatively impacted by repeated exposure to violent online content, especially when it depicts 'real-world' violence (as opposed to fictional depictions in games or films). Posts featuring weapons, threats, attacks, and fights – or content that appears to glamourise gang activity – can increase feelings of anxiety or fear among young people. Material that encourages violence targeting people because of their identity, such as their nationality or religion, can also create disproportionate harm for children belonging to those groups.

AVOIDANCE AND ISOLATION

Real-world violence on social media can increase young people's belief that their local communities – or the 'outside world' more generally – are unsafe places. This can result in avoidant and isolating behaviours, which may negatively affect their wellbeing. As well as feeling fearful of others, teens also report feeling judged for spending time together in large groups, which may affect their social interactions and leisure time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay alert for updates from police, schools, or local authorities, and follow the advice provided. Be cautious about unofficial accounts, fake content, and misinformation, which can spread quickly online or in chat groups. Ensure you get accurate information from trusted sources and encourage young people to do the same. Remind them never to share violent content online and to speak to a trusted adult instead.

DISCUSS SOCIAL MEDIA

Encourage young people to talk about the content they see online and the effect it can have. This can be an opportunity to discuss topics such as misinformation, AI-generated material, the attention economy, and algorithms, helping them understand how and why extreme content can spread online. Explore tools available to block, report, and remove harmful content, and signpost where to get support and advice, such as reportharmfulcontent.com.

TALK CRIME AND SAFETY

In most of the UK, the age of criminal responsibility is 10 (12 in Scotland). This means there can be serious criminal consequences for carrying a weapon, taking part in violence, or filming or sharing violent content. Discuss the law with young people alongside practical safety strategies. Ask questions such as: "What could you do if you feel unsafe?" Work together on action plans and remind them they can contact a trusted adult or the police if they witness or experience violence.

ENCOURAGE POSITIVE ACTION

Focus on strengthening young people's positive experiences both online and within their local communities. Discuss strategies to reduce negative social media effects, such as time limits, unfollowing certain accounts, or taking breaks from apps. Encourage offline activities such as spending time with friends, visiting local places, and taking part in hobbies that bring them joy, purpose, and connection. Remind them they can seek support with any concerns at any time via childline.org.uk.

Contact Details:

Telephone Number: 01869 242121

Office/Reception Email: office@thecooperschool.co.uk

Absence/Appointments Email: absence@thecooperschool.co.uk

For any safeguarding concerns: safeguarding@thecooperschool.co.uk

IF YOU HAVE ANY SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS PLEASE CONTACT MASH TEAM ON 0345 050 7666

DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.