

Newsletter

◆
30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. I am delighted to share some recent highlights and achievements from Coombe Wood School.

We are thrilled to celebrate Shay D, Year 13, on his recent signing with Coventry City FC's Under-21s squad. This recognises his talent and dedication in football. Shay will now link up with the Sky Blues, demonstrating commitment both on and off the pitch. We are incredibly proud of his success and wish him every continued success.

Our Year 10 students recently took part in mock interviews to prepare them for college, sixth form, apprenticeships or part-time jobs. Meeting a professional they did not know and receiving personalised feedback helped students develop confidence, understand how to make a strong first impression and gain insight into what employers look for. Many thanks to Miss Knox and student volunteers for supporting the event.

We were also delighted to welcome the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge to Coombe Wood School. Students participated fully in activities and delivered their speeches with confidence. Observers from the Jack Petchey Trust highlighted the students' courage, teamwork and support for one another - they were all great Coombe Wood School ambassadors. Many thanks to Miss Floyd, Mr Horsley and Miss Kennedy for supporting this inspiring day.

Well done to our Year 11 students who have completed their interviews, including Sixth Form applications. Students conducted themselves with confidence and professionalism, demonstrating ambition and readiness for the next stage of their education.

Thank you also to all parents and carers who attended the Year 9 Parents' Evening. Your support is greatly appreciated as this is an important step in guiding students through the next stage of their academic journey. You may have seen recent Government guidance about improving children's relationship with mobile phones and social media. The Government encourages schools to ensure phone-free environments during the school day to support wellbeing and reduce distractions from learning. ([gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)) At Coombe Wood, we already have a clear [Mobile Phones Policy](#) designed to balance student safety, learning and social development. We ask that parents and carers continue to work with us to ensure students follow the rules so that phones do not distract from learning. Students must switch off and store phones and connected devices in their bags before entering the school building. Phones should not be seen or heard during lessons, breaks, lunch or after-school clubs. Phones can be used before school and after leaving the school building, and on trips only with teacher permission. Consequences are in place for any breaches. Further details can be found on the [school website](#).

Once again, thank you for your continued partnership and support. We are proud of our students and their achievements, and look forward to the weeks ahead.

Kind regards

Headteacher

Exams Season – GCSE & A LEVEL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 10, 11 and 13 Mock Exam Window: Monday 2nd February - 10th March 2026

Parent and carers are reminded of the above mock exam window, where students from Year 10, 11 and 13 will all sit mock exams.

Students have all had a copy of the exam timetable added to their year group Google Classroom. This can be accessed via our website or using the following link [Spring Term Mock Timetable](#).

Year 10 and 11 students have attended special assemblies ensuring that they are familiar with the regulations under which mock exams are conducted. You will soon receive a letter which includes the same information. Further information relating to the JCQ Regulations can be accessed via our website or using the following link: [JCQ Guidance Documents](#).

If you have any questions about the timetable or the exam season, please contact your child's Head of Year.

Kind regards

Ms Donohue

Ms Donohue
Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum



Croydon NHS Talking Therapies – Parent Mental Health Day – 30th January 2026

Parent Mental Health Day (PMHD) is an annual campaign which takes place each year in the UK on the 30th of January and raises awareness between the vital link between parents' and carers' mental health, and the wellbeing of the whole family.

While PMHD is an important date in the calendar, the challenges parents and carers face are year-round. The current cost-of-living crisis, increased concerns about digital harms, rising rates of mental ill health and the impact of stretched services have further increased parent and carer anxiety and, in some cases, helplessness and hopelessness. Add to this, when you are a busy parent or carer, it is easy to neglect your own mental well-being.

PMHD is an opportunity to check in with how you are doing, which could help you to identify anything you may need support with. In turn, this could support you to be more available for your child's needs

If you are feeling low, anxious or stressed, you can access Croydon NHS Talking Therapies, a service that offers free and confidential talking therapies and specialist support to help you feel better.

You can find out more about Croydon NHS Talking Therapies and what this service has to offer by clicking on the link here: <https://croydontalkingtherapies.nhs.uk/>

You can access the service by completing a self-referral form by clicking on the link here: <https://croydontalkingtherapies.nhs.uk/refer-yourself/>

Parents Evenings - Dates for you diary.

Thursday 5th February 2026 -- Year 10 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Thursday 26th February 2026 - Year 7 Parents Evening (1) - In Person - Details to follow

Thursday 5th March 2026 - Year 7 Parents Evening (2) - In Person - Details to follow

Thursday 19th March 2026 - Year 13 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Monday 23rd March 2026 - Year 11 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Thursday 23rd April 2026 - Year 8 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

New Parent and Student Guide for 2025/26

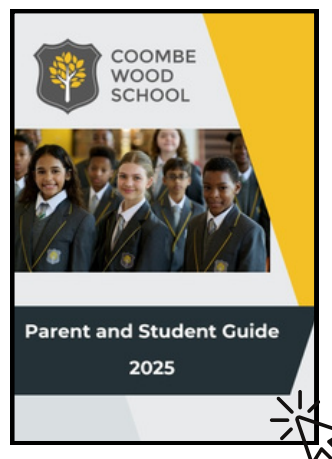
We are delighted to announce the launch of our new Parent and Student Guide for 2025/26. The aim of this document is to help you by having all our key information available in one place.

Please take a moment to review the document

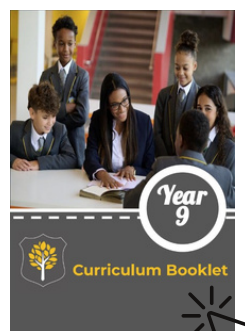
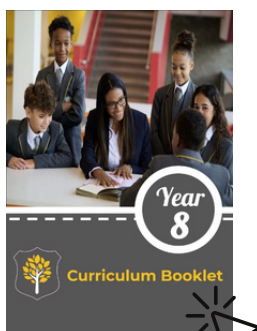
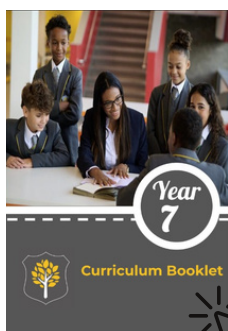
Kind regards

Mr Vass

Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral



Key Stage 3 - Curriculum Booklets



Kind regards

Mrs Kerk

Head of KS3

Communications Update - Bromcom/MCAS

Please note that **Bromcom** is our chosen platform and works hand in hand with **My Child At School (MCAS)**

We will use MCAS for all communication regarding behaviour, achievements, and detentions. Parents and carers should already have access to this platform, however please do not hesitate to contact the school office team if you are experiencing any issues.

Please take a moment to check all your details are correct on MCAS.

We will no longer be using SIMS / SIMS Parent or Classcharts as a method of communication.

This Newsletter will be sent out Bi-weekly on a Friday to all parents and carers. The next edition will be sent next **Friday 13th February 2026**

The Scholastic Book Fair - 30th Jan - 4th Feb 2026

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the Library from Friday 30 January to Wednesday 4 February during breaks and lunchtimes.

Payment for the books and stationery items can be made online.

All details will be provided.



Sixth Form Applications for 2026 - OPEN

Dear Year 11 Parents and Guardians,

Applications to join our Sixth Form in September 2026 are now open.

To find out more about our Sixth Form, please take a look at our website by following the link below.

CLICK HERE 

Please encourage your child to complete the application from as soon as possible. The deadline for submission is the **10th February 2026**.

Kind regards

Mr Brack

Assistant Headteacher/Head of Sixth Form

APPLY NOW

Jack Petchey –

The Jack Petchey programme has taken place at Coombe Wood School over the last two weeks for a number of our Year 10 students. It has been a fantastic experience for all involved, and we are delighted to share that 10 students have been selected to progress to Round 2.

The Jack Petchey programme is a highly regarded initiative that supports young people in developing confidence, leadership skills, teamwork, and resilience. Through a range of challenges and activities, students are encouraged to step outside their comfort zone, work collaboratively, and reflect on their personal strengths. The programme also promotes positive attitudes, ambition, and a strong sense of community involvement.

All students who took part represented the school exceptionally well, and we are very proud of their efforts and commitment. We wish the students selected for the next round the very best of luck and look forward to seeing how they continue to grow through the programme.

In the words of Sir Jack Petchey CBE “If you think you can, you can!!!”

Many thanks

Ms Kerk

Head of Year 10 and Head of KS3

Who was Sir Jack Petchey CBE???



Sir Jack Petchey set up the Jack Petchey Foundation to inspire young people across London and Essex to work hard and reach their full potential.

To find out more about the Jack Petchey Foundation visit their [Website](#)

Sports Update

Surrey schools X Country

Congratulations to Ruby (Y11), Charlie C (Y11) & Teddy E (Y13) who all represented South Croydon on the 17th January. Amazing achievement to get to this stage.

Y10 Sports Leaders-

On Wednesday 14th January we hosted the Primary schools indoor athletics competition. Our sports leaders did a fantastic job running the event. Well done to all involved.

Breaking News!!!

We are delighted to celebrate the success of former student Shay Dunn, who has recently signed professionally with Coventry City FC. Shay's journey is a powerful example of where dedication, perseverance, and ambition can lead, and we are proud to see him take this next step in his career. We wish him every success as he begins this exciting new chapter.

Many thanks

Ms Potkins

Head of HRF

Chefs of the Month - January 2026

Year 7

1st Place: Zara M
2nd Place: Olive S
3rd Place: Samuel-Lee L

Year 8

1st Place: Julian S
2nd Place: Aliyah F-A
3rd Place: Riley H

Year 9

1st Place: kelis L-S
2nd Place: Jessie S
3rd Place: Fabian B

Year 10

1st Place: Elsie C
2nd Place: Leo Mc
3rd Place: Rameez A



Well done to all of our Chefs!

Ms Kerslake and Ms Gordon

Food and Nutrition

School Carpark

Our school carpark is operated by Creative Car Parks. You will have a 20 minute grace period when dropping off or collecting your child. Should you need to stay longer than this you will need to enter your registration number into the i-pads which can be found in the main school reception or for out of hours in the HRF reception.

Should you incur a PCN, you will need to deal directly with Creative Car Parks, unfortunately the school is not able to intervene on your behalf.

ADVICE FOR WHEN YOUR CAR PARK USERS RECEIVE A PCN

If one of your car park users receives a PCN they may ask you for guidance on what to do next, or ask you to cancel the PCN. Please explain that you're not able to deal with PCN enquiries on site as the car park is managed by Civil Enforcement Ltd. They have one of two options available:

OPTION 1
Pay the PCN
They visit the website address shown below and make the payment. Note: a discounted rate is available if paid within 14 days of the ticket being issued.
payments.ce-service.co.uk

OPTION 2
Submit an appeal
They visit the website address shown below and submit an appeal within 28 days of the ticket being issued. Note: drivers must attach relevant supporting evidence.
appeals.ce-service.co.uk

OR

Thank you for your help in supporting our PCN process, designed to deter misuse and improve space availability for genuine users.

CIVIL ENFORCEMENT LIMITED
Civil Enforcement Ltd
Horton House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3PF
www.ce-service.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE

We are not able to deal with Parking Charge Notice enquiries on site.

This car park is managed by Civil Enforcement Ltd.

Please follow the process outlined on the original Parking Charge Notice.

CIVIL ENFORCEMENT LIMITED
Civil Enforcement Ltd
Horton House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3PF
www.ce-service.co.uk

Our Melville Neighbours

Please remember to be considerate of our neighbours in Melville Avenue and the surrounding roads when dropping off or collecting your child.

We would be grateful if you would avoid parking over their drives or idling for extended periods of time whilst waiting for your child.

Many thanks

Running Club

Due to the shorter winter days and earlier darkness, Running Club is taking a break until **Wednesday February 4th 2026**.

Well done to all of every runner this term who braved the typically British weather conditions!

We look forward to running again with you in the new year!

Mr Harrison & Miss Man



Uniform Expectations

A letter was sent out to all parents/carers this week regarding Uniform expectations at Coombe Wood School

[Click Here to Read the letter
from Mr Vass](#)



[Click Here to Access the
Uniform Statement](#)



Many Thanks

Mr Vass

Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral



Key Dates for February

Thursday 5th February 2026 - 16.00 onwards

Year 10 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Monday 9th - Friday 13th February 2026

Mock Exams - Year 11 & 13 - More information to follow

Tuesday 10th February 2026

Application Deadline for Sixth Form Applications 2026

Half Term - Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

1st day of Half Term

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th February 2026

Mock Exams - Year 11 & 13 - More information to follow

Thursday 26th February 2026 - 16.00 onwards

Year 7 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Friday 27th February 2026

Careers Fair

Mark your Calendar

Key Dates for March

Monday 2nd March 2026

Year 11 Art Mock Exams

Tuesday 3rd - Friday 6th March 2026

Year 11 Food and Nutrition Mock Exam

London Careers Week - Details to follow

Thursday 5th March 2026

Curriculum Enhancement Day (2) - More Details to Follow

Year 7 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Monday 9th March 2026

Year 11 Art, Graphics & Textiles MOCK Exam

Tuesday 10th March

A Level - Art, Graphics & Photography MOCK Exam

Thursday 12th March 2026

Year 9 Curriculum Evening - More Details to Follow

Friday 13th March 2026

INSET DAY - School Closed for Students

Wednesday 18th March 2026

6th Form Interviews - Volenti

Thursday 19th March 2026

Year 13 Parents Evening (In Person)

Monday 23rd March 2026

Year 11 Mock Results Assembly

Year 11 Parents Evening (In Person)

Friday 27th March 2026

Last Day of Term - Students finish at 3pm

Easter Holidays - Monday 30th March- Friday 10th April 2026



**HAPPY
EASTER**





Key Dates for April 2026

Monday 13th - Friday 17th April

MOCK MFL Speaking Exams

Thursday 16th April

Year 10 Curriculum Evening - From 16.00 - Details to follow

Monday 20th - Tuesday 21st April

GCSE Art, Graphics & Textiles Exam

MOCK MFL Speaking Exams

Thursday 23rd April

A LEVEL - Graphics Exam

Year 8 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Friday 24th April

A LEVEL - Graphics Exam

Monday 27th April

A LEVEL - Graphics Exam

Thursday 30th April - Friday 1st May

A LEVEL - Art and Photography Exam

In case you missed it!

MENU

Parent and Students
Handbook 2025

Curriculum
Booklets

Home Work Club
Monday - Thursday
3.05pm - 4pm
Years 7 -10

HOME
WORK

Co-Curricular Clubs
Autumn 25

13 Music Lessons

Year 12
Curriculum Evening
Slides

Year 13
UCAS Evening
Slides

