



7 MARCH 2025

# Principal Letter

Our weekly letter - bringing you the Academies current week's news, as well as helpful information and reminders for future events.

*This letter is available in different languages upon request.*

Dear Parents, Carers and Students...

I hope you had a good week. We have loved seeing students settled back at CoPA and have provided them with another jam-packed week:

## BAE Systems

The BAE Systems Roadshow visited on Monday to give Year 7 students an insight into the world of science, technology, engineering, and maths [STEM], exploring the science behind AI. The students were in awe of the robotic dog Lexi!

The content covered AI (all with a focus on the need for human skills):

- Utilising AI to generate song lyrics, music and an accompanying video
- Robotic dog demonstrations include voice control, completing a maze using LIDAR and sensors and speaking about what it can see
- Using an avatar of a team member and 'putting words in their mouth' to demonstrate deep fakes and how to spot them



More information can be accessed here:

[Schools STEM roadshow reaches 20 year anniversary and secures funding for next five years | BAE Systems](#)



## KS3 Enterprise Workshops

We celebrated National Careers week with back-to-back enterprise workshops for Years 7, 8 and 9. We welcomed representatives from Air Products, British Airways and NatWest who are the sponsors of the enterprise days in partnership with the Inspirational Learning group.

Year 7 students were tasked with designing a sustainable town of the future. The new town included a key employer, transport links, housing, and food production. Air Products' gases were used within the town to promote sustainability. They persuaded other businesses and residents to relocate to the town by showcasing the benefits of these innovations.

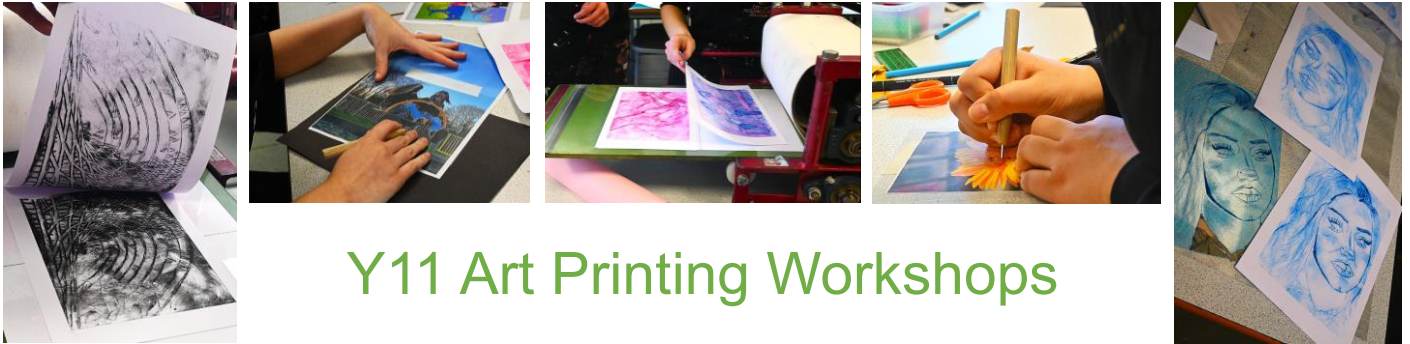
Year 8 created a new airline for British Airways. They planned who would use it, decided the destinations their airline would fly to as well as deciding on how to provide the best service to customers. They were all given the challenge in ensuring your airline is forward thinking, sustainable and commercially viable as well as creating their own flight safety presentation.





Year 9 developed a business idea that took inspiration from the history and heritage of their local area. After developing an idea for a business concept, they considered how they would scale up their business to operate nationally or globally, taking into account the financial constraints that can come with expanding a business. They were also tasked with creating an advertisement which they then presented with the rest of their plans to the whole year group.

The winning team from each year group will now move on to represent the academy at the National finals later this year in London. Students developed a whole range of skills from teamwork, communication, creativity as well as presenting skills.



## Y11 Art Printing Workshops

This week, we had the pleasure of welcoming back 'Curwen Prints,' a renowned printmaking studio, to collaborate with our Year 11 Art students as they prepare for their upcoming examinations. This engaging workshop provided students with a hands-on opportunity to deepen their understanding of etching and various printing techniques.

Throughout the day, students were guided through the intricate process of etching acrylic plates based on their own images. Under the expert tutelage of the Curwen Prints team, they learned how to prepare their plates, applying their designs and using scribes to create distinct textures and lines. This technique allowed them to explore their creativity while honing their skills in printmaking.

In the afternoon, the focus shifted to a captivating traditional method known as Chine Colle. This technique involves adding layers of coloured paper and patterns to the etchings, enhancing the visual depth and richness of their artwork. Students experimented with different colours and textures, discovering how these elements can transform a simple print into a vibrant piece of art.

By the end of the session, students had not only created a diverse range of personal responses to their initial images but also gained invaluable experience and insight into the world of printmaking, preparing them for their artistic endeavours ahead.



On Thursday, some of our Year 10s got to see some projects in Babraham research institute.

They worked on two different projects; the first group worked on worms which were used to investigate the effects of aging – something that can be a breakthrough in curing diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases in aged people.

They got to work on live worms and move them around petri dishes under the microscope while looking at lysosomes.

The second group investigated DNA samples to clone different sizes of genes.

The scientists commented that the questions our students asked were very good, even with our students being the youngest ones amongst the visitors there.

It was a great experience for all!



# World Book Day

CoPA students celebrated World Book Day with several events running throughout the week: £1 book tokens to be given to all students

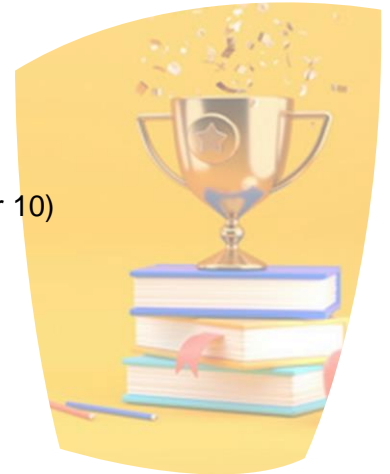
- Photo competition – students were asked to send a photo of themselves reading a book in the weirdest and strangest place they could think of. We look forward to sharing the winning photos with you in future editions
- Bookmark competition for voucher prizes
- Tutor time quiz
- Book suggestion box in library
- The library was open for new student registrations

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY  
6 MARCH 2025

## Students of the Week

Our Students of the Week for this week are:

<b>English</b>	Enrika P (Year 10)	<b>EAL</b>	Student A (Year 10)
<b>Maths</b>	Aneeba T (Year 7)	<b>Year 7</b>	Student C
<b>Humanities</b>	Student C (Year 9)	<b>Year 8</b>	Ruqaya Monudi
<b>Science</b>	Elisha-Jade Howton (Year 10)	<b>Year 9</b>	Teri M
<b>Performance</b>	Gemma Stevens (Year 10)	<b>Year 10</b>	Isaicc Pereira
<b>Spanish</b>	Student L (Year 10)	<b>Year 11</b>	Student D



### Congratulations to them all!

If not done so already, please can I ask that you take a moment to complete our '[Permission to Publish Student Details Form](#)', whereby you can opt in or out of certain student details being published within newsletters (such as the above table). We'd love to share your child's success! Thank you to those that already completed this. Please note that if your child is 13 years old or older they can grant permission themselves as per government guidelines.

## Year 11 Plan to Exams

PPE data is now in, feedback is being given to students in all subjects, and reports will be produced for students and families by Friday 14 March.

If you haven't made an appointment for parents evening on Monday 17 March yet, please do so. The evening will be held on-site at CoPA and will be the last time staff will be able to provide detailed feedback to families in the run up to the written exams in May and June.

Appointments can be made here: <https://copa.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Students studying practical subjects have a number of important assessments this month:

- Food Technology: 19 -21 March
- Dance: 24 March
- Music: 27 March

Coursework deadlines for OCR Sport, Enterprise, Child Development and Health and Social Care are being set internally by staff, with additional time being provided to students where needed. Easter Holiday Revision will also be on offer. Timetables will be shared with families later in the term



## Attendance Matters

We are continuing to focus on attendance at CoPA with the goal of every member of the community attending for at least 96% of the academic year. Please help us by sending your child to school every day unless they are too unwell to attend.

# Open Fridays

After the success and positive feedback regarding our last Open Mornings we have released more dates for those that previously missed out. We are hosting these on Friday 14, Friday 21 and Friday 28 March. If you, or anyone one you know, would like to join us then please use this link to book your place: <https://forms.office.com/e/GT9xAfPjfh>

Please note that due to capacity places are limited so will be assigned according to booking date/time. If we are unable to accommodate your request, we will ensure to contact you to explain. We look forward to welcoming you to the Academy soon.



## Key Academy Dates

<b>17 – 20 March</b>	Year 7 & 9 Shakespeare in Action
<b>Monday 17 March</b>	Year 11 Study Skills Workshop
<b>Monday 17 March</b>	Year 11 PPE Results/ Parents Evening
<b>Tuesday 18 March</b>	Year 10 ARU Campus Visit
<b>Thursday 20 March</b>	ARU Celebrations
<b>Friday 21 March</b>	Football Trip
<b>7 – 21 April</b>	Easter Holidays

## And finally...

This Saturday we celebrate all the smart, strong and successful women who work within the CoPA community as part of International Women's Day 2025.

Thank you to the women who break barriers, spark ideas, and inspire change. We appreciate everything you do, today and every day.



INTERNATIONAL  
**#ACCELERATEACTION**  
WOMEN'S DAY

And finally...

Have a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs N Treacy**  
Principal



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