COPPICE SCHOOL

"A Learning Trust for Excellence School"

COPPICE PRIMARY SCHOOL
TRINITY ROAD, FOUR OAKS,
SUTTON COLDFIELD,
WEST MIDLANDS
B75 6TJ
www.coppiceprimary.org
Headteacher: Mrs. S. Lees

"Reaching New Heights"

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Langley School Dog**

I am writing to let you know that Langley has decided to take on a school dog. This decision has been made following extensive research, discussion with other schools that have a School Dog and previous experience of introducing and managing a school dog in a Specialist School Setting. A full risk assessment has been completed.

Teddy is 4-year-old Cockapoo and belongs to their deputy, Miss Oliver. They have researched and seen the many benefits of having a school dog.



- Dogs teach children about responsibility – by children having to remember to feed and give water to the dog it can give them a sense of importance and satisfaction that they may not get from other responsibilities.
- Dogs can help children to calm and to support self-regulation.
- Dogs teach children compassion – just like us dogs feel pain and emotion.
- Dogs teach children about socialisation – by the children learning how to interact with a dog they can better learn how to socialise with other children.
- Dogs can help children grow in confidence as they are able to instigate cause and effect play. Dogs teach children patience – they do not always do as they are told first time!
- Dogs are fun – they greet you with a wagging tail every day and put a smile on your face, even on a bad day.

Teddy is a member of the Dog's Trust which means he has public liability insurance. This means he will be able to come into school. Teddy regularly goes to the vet for yearly vaccinations, flea and worm treatments.

Teddy will be based in the Langley offices which is separate from Coppice's side of the building.

When he is moving around the school, including all communal areas, he will be on a lead and always with an adult. Teddy is a therapeutic dog for Langley children, as he settles in, he will come and visit Coppice throughout the year as well, however, his main focus is to support Langley.

We appreciate that some children can be nervous of dogs. Teddy has worked with lots of these types of children in the past and he helps to develop their confidence and understanding of him so that they then enjoy that interaction and gain confidence in managing their fear.

This half term, it has been arranged for the Dog's Trust to come into school and give all the children an assembly on how to 'Be Dog Smart.'

If you have any individual questions or queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

**IMPORTANT:**
**If your child has a dog allergy requiring medication, please fill in the Microsoft form by the 19th January 2024.**

**https://forms.office.com/e/gUzTvNjhdc**

Best wishes,

Mrs Lees
Headteacher