



# Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 29

8th May 2026

[www.cookhamdean.org](http://www.cookhamdean.org)

[office@cookhamdean.org](mailto:office@cookhamdean.org)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### May

17th-23rd: Y6 @ Rhosy

18th: Walk To School Week

19th: Reception @ Braywick  
Nature Reserve

21st: Census Day

22nd: Mix Up Maths

### June

5th: PTA Non-Uniform Day

5th: Everybody Writes Day

8th: Healthy Schools Week

8th: Sports Day

9th: R & KS1 Drama Workshop

9th-12th: Y6 Bikeability

15th: SEN Parent Support Group  
@ 8.45am

18th: PTA Summer Disco

19th: Inset Day

22nd: Y3 @ Ufton Court

27th: Summer Fete

### July

1st: Musical Soiree @ 6pm

9th: Spanish Assembly

13th: SEN Parent Support Group  
@ 8.45am

14th: Leavers Vs Remainders  
Cricket Match

15th: Rocksteady Concert @  
1.30pm

17th: Y6 @ Legoland

21st: Leavers Church Service

22nd: Leavers Assembly

22nd: Leavers Farewell

22nd: Break Up @ 2.15pm

## EVENTS NEXT WEEK

### MAY

#### Monday 11th:

\* SATs Week

#### Tuesday 12th:

\* Y5 @ Ashmolean Museum

#### Friday 15th:

\* Class Photos

\* Y5 STT Meeting @ 3.30pm

# SATS

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

A huge well done to Year 5 who performed at Cookham Arts Festival today at The Odney Club. Local composer, Rob Castell, had composed a cantata for the four Cookham Schools to perform in front of an audience of parents and carers. All the children were amazing - performing with confidence and enthusiasm and we were so very proud of them.

Next week, our wonderful Year 6 will be sitting their SATS (statutory assessments) - we wish them all the best and thank them for their hard work and contribution to Cookham Dean school life. You've got this Year 6!

### COOKHAM ARTS FESTIVAL

From 1st - 17th May we are celebrating our local talent of artists to raise money for local charities including Cookham Dean Primary School. Go to <https://www.cookhamfestival.co.uk/> for more information.

### GOVERNORS IN SCHOOL DAY

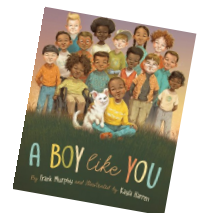
On the first day back after the Bank Holiday weekend, the Governors were welcomed in to school. We joined lessons from Reception to Year 6, enjoyed a preview of Year 5's Cookham Festival songs, a Lights Up performance and much more, in an action packed day.

The Governor in School Day is important because it gives us an opportunity to see how policies and strategies are being implemented in the classroom. This year our particular focus was on inclusion.

This means creating a learning environment where all pupils, regardless of their background, abilities, or needs, feel valued and respected.

At the feedback meeting with teachers at the end of the day, one of the Governors brought in the book 'A Boy Like You' from the Year 4 classroom. She read aloud the following as it summed up so perfectly the thread of inclusion we saw throughout the day.

***"A Boy Like You encourages every boy to embrace all the things that make him unique, to be brave and ask for help, to tell his own story and listen to the stories of those around him. In an age when boys are expected to fit into a particular mould, this book celebrates all the wonderful ways to be a boy."***



Our school is continually celebrating all the wonderful ways to be a child and it was a huge privilege to witness this first hand. Thank you to Mrs Reekie, all the staff and children for a day to remember.

*Claire Phillpot, Chair of Governors*

### ART COMPETITION

In the last edition of the parish magazine they invited all primary school aged children to create a piece of artwork based off the hymn All Things Bright and Beautiful. This could be a collage, painting, craft, decorated lyrics etc. They will display as many as they can in the June magazine! You have two weeks to submit your entries! Closing date will be Tuesday 14th May. Please send them by email to [charlotte.nel@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.nel@cofe-thecookhams.org.uk), or by handing them into the Parish Office.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### 50:50 CLUB

Congratulations to the May

50:50 Club winners:

**1st prize** - Ines Banks

**2nd prize** - Katy Bowen

# WINNERS

### YEAR 2 FROGS



On Wednesday, Joelle from Wild Cookham visited Year 2 and Year 5 to lead an exciting workshop all about the lifecycle of frogs. We had a fascinating discussion and learnt many interesting facts about frogs and their habitats. Throughout the session, we took part in a range of fun activities including observational drawings of tadpoles, listening to stories and creating our own frog lifecycle diagrams. It was a fantastic hands-on experience that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

*Mrs Hussain, Year 2 Teacher*

### WALKING BUS

We're excited to be running **Walking Bus every day for Walk to School week** - not just Wednesday - and would love as many children as possible to give it a go! It's a brilliant way to start the day: fresh air, a bit of adventure, and those all-important endorphins kicking in before the school day.

**When:** w/c 18th May

**Meet:** Cookham Dean Cricket Club

**Arrive:** 07:55 (prompt departure at 08:05)

The route is around 1 mile uphill, so it's a proper little trek! Children will need to carry their own bags and keep a steady walking pace as a group. Children in Year 2 and above tend to manage this comfortably. For younger children, it works best if they're already used to longer walks - or if a parent joins to support them along the route.

We'd love to see lots of new faces - even if it's just for one day to try it out! Sign up [HERE](#).

*The Walking Bus Team*



### The 6 Rs - CHAMPION OF THE WEEK!

Each week we celebrate children across the school who have encompassed a number of our values:

***Readiness, Reflective, Resourcefulness, Resilience, Responsibility and Respect.***



#### Reception

Jiyah



#### Year 1

Charlie

#### Year 2

Jeevan

#### Year 3

Harry

#### Year 4

Trixie

#### Year 5

Everyone

#### Year 6

Jenson





## WEEKLY SUMMARY

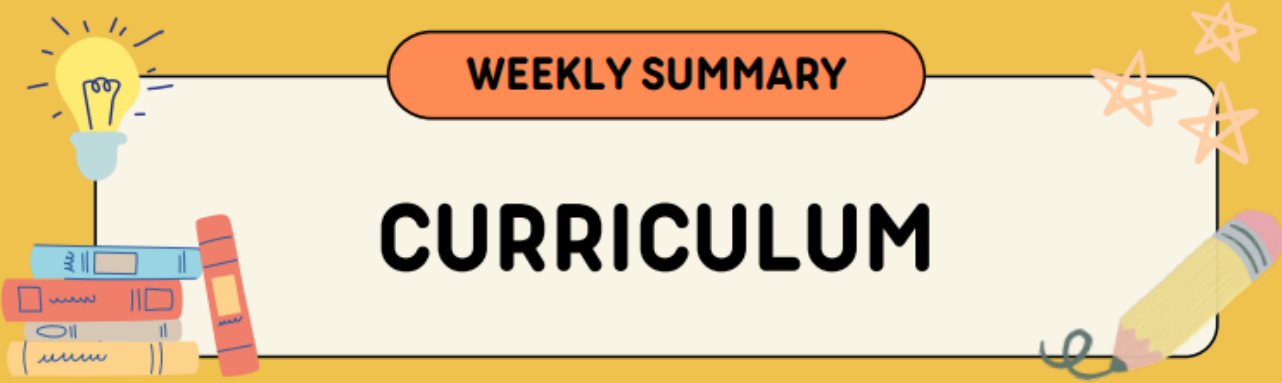


# CURRICULUM

Each week we will be letting you know in this newsletter, a snapshot of what the children have been learning in class. For an overview of the term's work, please go to the [class pages](#) on our website where you will find more information.

|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Reception</b> | This week Reception have started a new text in English called 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children made predictions about who the gold coins, golden egg and giant footprints in the classroom may belong to and created 'Wanted' posters for the boy who stole from the giant. In Maths we have continued working on addition and subtraction within 20 using ten frames, counters, cubes and other maths manipulatives. The children also revisited 2D and 3D shapes again focusing on their properties and spatial relations. In Arts and Design the children drew their favourite flower. They then used hole punchers to create patterns and threaded these with wool to make colourful beautiful threaded flowers. In Phonics we have continued to review and practise the sounds we have learned this year. We have also practised using our Phonics for spellings.                                                                                    |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | Year 1 have been enjoying the story <i>Fergal is Fuming</i> this week and have been describing what the character is like, how he is feeling, and what he looks like. In English, the children used lots of exciting adjectives to write about Fergal's emotions and appearance. In Maths, we continued our fraction work by finding one half of an amount and recognising and finding one quarter of a shape. In Art, the children developed their paper modelling skills by rolling newspaper and using masking tape to join pieces together. We worked together to create an impressive class 3D spider, which everyone was very proud of.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | Year 2 have had another brilliant week of learning! In English, we have begun exploring a new genre based around the short animation clip ' <i>The Lighthouse</i> '. It has captured everyone's interest and excitement as we watch small sections at a time to slowly uncover what happens next. We have been using expanded noun phrases to describe settings in detail, making thoughtful predictions, sequencing key events from the story and creating our own story maps. In Maths, we have continued our learning about fractions and have enjoyed identifying how to find a quarter and a third of both numbers and shapes. The children have shown great enthusiasm and confidence during these activities. In Art, we learnt how to use the clay technique 'score and slip' to join shapes to a flat surface securely. We also experimented with using different tools to create patterns and textures while designing our own decorative clay tiles. |





## WEEKLY SUMMARY

# CURRICULUM

Each week we will be letting you know in this newsletter, a snapshot of what the children have been learning in class. For an overview of the term's work, please go to the class pages on our website where you will find more information.

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Year 3</b> | Year 3 have had a lovely week. In Maths, we have worked really hard to find fractions of amounts. In English, we continued to be newspaper reporters and wrote our own newspaper reports based on our class book and the main characters' encounter with an alien! In Geography, we investigated different biomes around the world and used atlases to locate them and in science we continued to look at the parts of a plant and the different functions they have.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Year 4</b> | We've had a great week this week. Finishing our unit on fractions by adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator and have started to look at angles. In English, we have designed our own hybrid animals and have looked at the habitat they would live in on Roz's island, which we will be using in our non-chronological reports. Today, we had extended writing where we wrote a recount of our Thames trip to Chiswick. We have also been thinking about the covenant that God made with Noah in RE and in our PSHE lesson, we looked at what our local councillors do for our community and role played being a councillor and residents.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Year 5</b> | It has been a great week in Year 5. In maths, we have been ordering and comparing decimal numbers (up to 3 places!) In English, the children loved getting into role as either Hillary or Norgay to write a diary entry. We were also fortunate to have Joelle from Wild Cookham come in with some tadpoles. She spoke about the frog lifecycle, which linked nicely to our science topic. The children loved hearing from her!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Year 6</b> | What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 6! In English, we have been delving into the Wild West, learning how to speak like cowboys in order to develop authentic dialogue within our narratives. The children have been exploring how dialogue can both move a story forward and ooze character, helping readers truly hear the voices of their characters. We have been incredibly impressed with the creativity, humour, and imagination shown in their writing so far! In Science, we have been exploring the digestive system. The children investigated the fascinating journey food takes through the body and learned about the important roles played by different organs. There were plenty of interesting discussions - and a few squeamish reactions too! Our RE lessons took us on a multi-sensory journey to experience the Hindu festival of Kumbh Mela. Through sights, sounds, stories, and reflection, the children explored the significance of this important pilgrimage and gained a deeper understanding of Hindu beliefs and traditions. Alongside all of this exciting learning, the children have also been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their SATs next week. We are so proud of their determination, resilience, and positive attitudes. They have shown great maturity and should feel very proud of everything they have achieved already. We hope they have a restful weekend and come back refreshed and ready for the week ahead. |

## LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

### SmartRaspberry cookery school

#### May Half-term Holiday Workshops

Sign your budding young bakers up to  
cook some fun recipes this Summer!  
Ages 5-11 years

 Cookham Dean Village Hall, Cookham

Dean, Maidenhead, SL6 9PY

 10:00-15.00

 27th May and 28th May

Click on the venue link  
below to book on today

[Cookham Dean Village  
Hall, May Half term  
Workshop, 2026](#)

 07944 234618

 [www.smartraspberry.com](http://www.smartraspberry.com)

 [hema@smartraspberry.com](mailto:hema@smartraspberry.com)





## June 2026 Taplow United Youth Open Trial Days



**Are you looking to join a football team  
for the 2026/27 season?**  
*We would like to meet you...  
Come join us for training*

**Select your age group and register now at  
[www.taplow-utd.co.uk](http://www.taplow-utd.co.uk)  
Or scan the QR code below**

 Taplow United FC, Berry Hill,  
Taplow, SL6 0DA

**Tuesday 2nd June - 18:15 - 19:30**  
Girls U8 & U9

**Wednesday 3rd June - 18:15 - 19:30**  
Boys U7, U8, U9, U10

**Thursday 4th June - 18:15 - 19:30**  
U11, U12, U13, U14, U15

**Saturday 6th June - 09:30 - 10:45**  
Boys U7's, U8's, U9's, U10's  
11:15 - 12:30  
Boys U11's, U12's, U13's, U14's, U15's

**Saturday 13th June - 09:30 - 10:30**  
Girls U8 & U9



Coaches - Football cannot  
happen without you. We are  
always on the lookout for more  
coaches. Please get in touch  
to find out more.