



# Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 26

17th April 2026

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

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### April

28th: Y2 @ White Waltham Airfield

29th: Y5 Play @ 6pm

30th: Y4 Violin Project Starts

### May

1st: Child Choice Day

1st: Y4 @ Chiswick Thames Trip

1st: Caterlink Taster Session @ 2.30pm

4th: Bank Holiday

5th: Governors In School Day

8th: Y5 @ Cookham Festival

11th: Y6 SATs Week

12th: Y5 @ Ashmolean Museum

15th: Class Photos

15th: Y5 STT Meeting @ 3.30pm

17th-23rd: Y6 @ Rhosy

18th: Walk To School Week

19th: Reception @ Braywick Nature Reserve

22nd: Mix Up Maths

### June

5th: PTA Non-Uniform Day

5th: Everybody Writes Day

8th: Healthy Schools Week

8th: R & KS1 Drama Workshop

8th-11th: Y6 Bikeability

15th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

18th: PTA Summer Disco

19th: Inset Day

22nd: Y3 @ Upton Court

27th: Summer Fete

### July

1st: Musical Soiree @ 6pm

9th: Spanish Assembly

13th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

15th: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm



## SCHOOL NEWS

### MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

I hope that everyone had a lovely Easter holidays - with lots of rest and family time. This term as always is a very busy term with lots of things organised. Please check the school calendar for important dates and the class pages on the website to find out what your child will be learning this term. If you are able to support the curriculum in any way e.g. coming in to talk to the children about your passion or job if it ties in with the curriculum, please do get in touch with the class teacher.

### HEALTHY SCHOOLS WEEK

Week commencing 8th June will be our healthy schools week. In the mornings of this week, the children will continue with maths and English but in the afternoons we will be focussing on how to keep ourselves safe and healthy. There will be a separate timetable put together for the whole school which will include skipping workshops, skateboarding, golf, yoga, dance and fencing. These sessions will be supplemented by lessons on eating healthily, water safety, road safety and mental health. If you are able to help us in any way e.g. running a session on healthy eating if you are a chef, or if you are a dentist coming in to talk to the children about oral hygiene, please get in touch with the office. Thank you in advance.

*Mrs Reekie, PE Lead*

### TRUNKS ACROSS THE THAMES



On Tuesday, we welcomed back to school Apple the Elephant - she is looking glorious! She has now left school to join the herd of elephants as part of Thames Hospice art trail. Thank you to everyone who sponsored the children's run. We have raised **£1,377** - just short of our target of £1,500. If you have any more sponsorship to come in, could you please add to the [JustGiving page](#) and see if we can meet our target. A big big thank you to Mrs Price and Mrs Phillpot who completed the finishing touches to make sure Apple looked her best! We will let you know in due course where you will be able to find Apple during July and August on her travels.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### HOMETIME

I am sorry but I have to request that parents and children vacate the school premises by 3.30pm. Please can you make sure that you leave the school site immediately after picking up your child at the end of the day. Thank you.

### GRAVITY GRAND PRIX

Well done to all the children who entered their designs for the Cookham Dean Primary School 2026 entry. Each year the entries have had more and more thought put in to them! This years winner was Caiden in Year 2 who based his design on the 'Wind in the Willows'. The team will now be bringing to life Caiden's vision to be ready for the race on September 13th. Well done Caiden!



### 50:50 CLUB

Congratulations to the April  
50:50 Club winners:

**1st prize** - Marie Hepworth

**2nd prize** - Nicola Studer

# WINNERS

### THE SKIN LAB

A new SKIN CARE after school club is coming to Cookham Dean on Thursdays for children in Years 4-6. Further details, including how to register, will be shared in the newsletter soon.

BY AUDERE PURE  
**The Skin Lab**  
NATURAL SKINCARE AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

### SCHOOL CLUBS REMINDER

Visit the [school website](#) for details.

|                  |                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | Little Musketeers (AM)<br>Sewing (PM)<br>Golf (PM)                                                                                |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | Yoga (PM)<br>Cookery (PM)<br>Netball (PM)                                                                                         |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | Kickboxing (AM)<br>Spanish (lunchtime)<br>Rocksteady (during school day)<br>Cookery (PM)<br>Football (PM)<br>Performing Arts (PM) |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | Tennis (AM)<br>Spanish (lunchtime)<br>Netball (PM)<br>The Skin Lab (PM) - COMING SOON!                                            |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    | Running (AM)<br>Tennis (AM)                                                                                                       |

## SCHOOL NEWS

### COOKHAM CANTATA



**Our Children's Cantata**

**The Commons of Cookham**

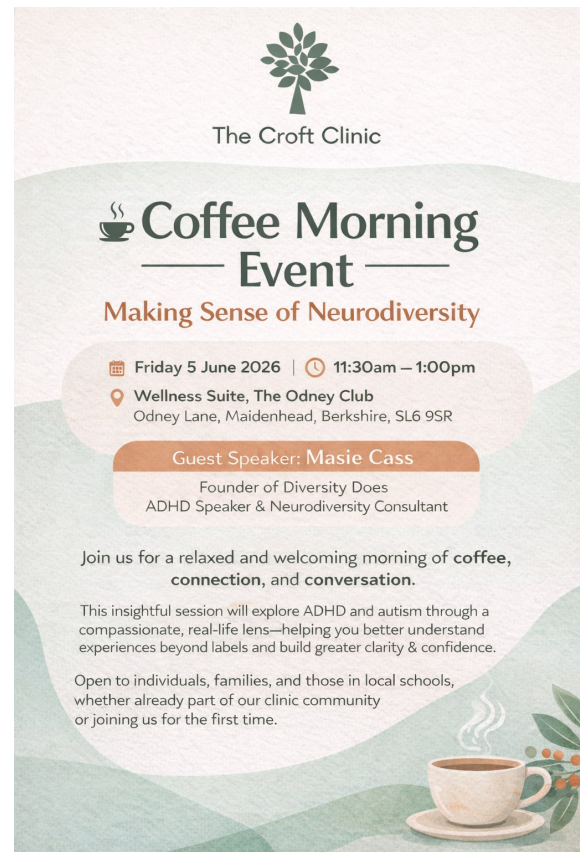
Don't miss our children from all four local Primary Schools perform in this fantastic cantata by Rob Castell.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Sir Bernard Miller Centre, Odney Club**  
**Two performances: 1.30pm & 3pm**

BUY TICKETS NOW



### NEURODIVERSITY EVENT @ THE ODNEY CLUB



The Croft Clinic

**Coffee Morning Event**

**Making Sense of Neurodiversity**

Friday 5 June 2026 | 11:30am – 1:00pm

Wellness Suite, The Odney Club  
 Odney Lane, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 9SR

Guest Speaker: Masie Cass  
 Founder of Diversity Does  
 ADHD Speaker & Neurodiversity Consultant

Join us for a relaxed and welcoming morning of **coffee, connection, and conversation.**

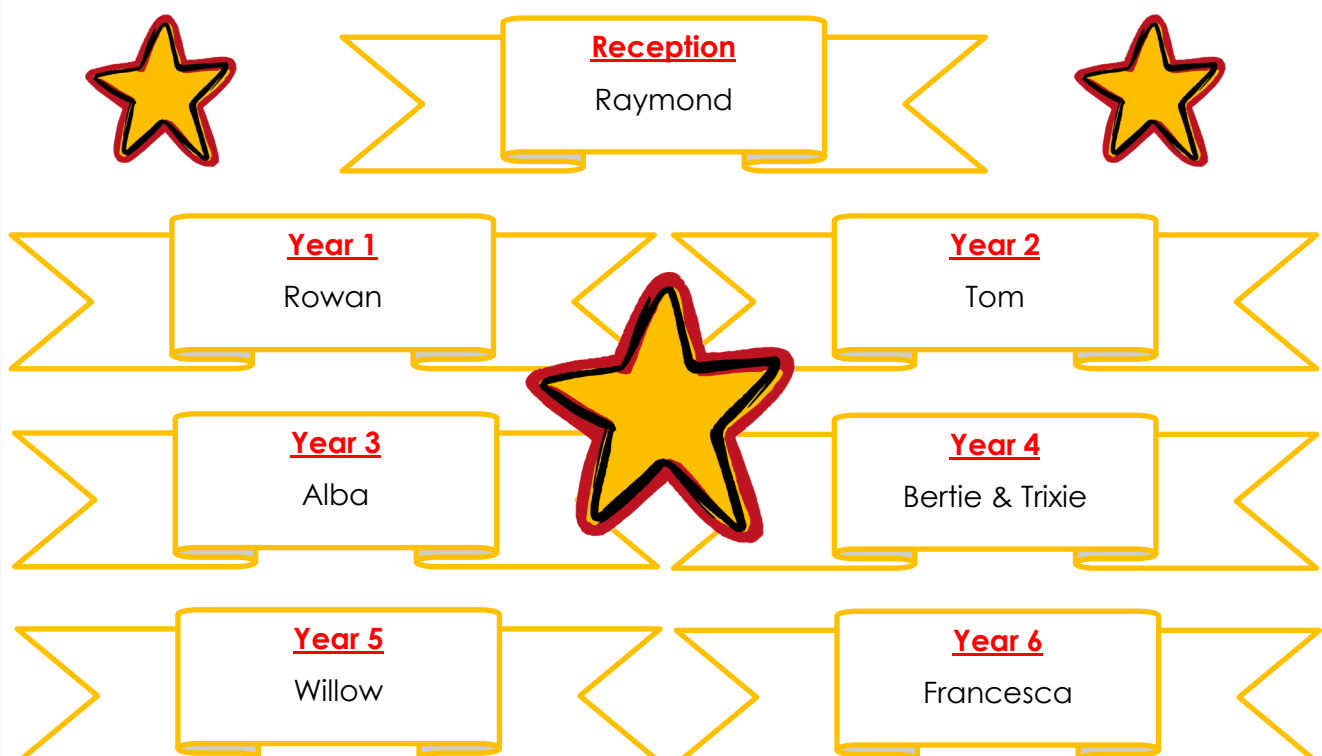
This insightful session will explore ADHD and autism through a compassionate, real-life lens—helping you better understand experiences beyond labels and build greater clarity & confidence.

Open to individuals, families, and those in local schools, whether already part of our clinic community or joining us for the first time.

### 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**  
Raymond

**Year 1**  
Rowan

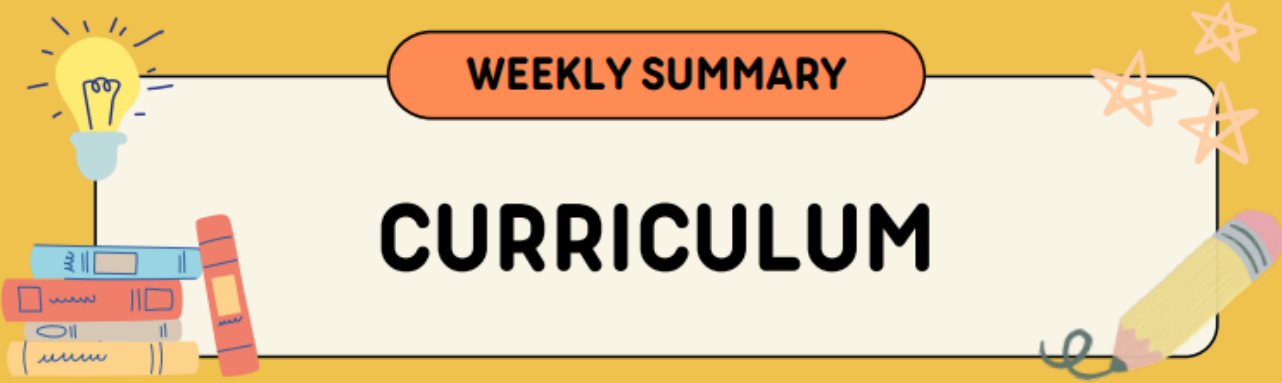
**Year 2**  
Tom

**Year 3**  
Alba

**Year 4**  
Bertie & Trixie

**Year 5**  
Willow

**Year 6**  
Francesca



## 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> | Reception have had a super first week back. We have spent the week reviewing our Phonics learning from last term and started learning some of the Summer term tricky words. The children have also been practising their letter formation in their handwriting books. In RE we started to learn about why the word 'God' is important to Christians and about the Creation Story. In Literacy we have started our new text called 'Are you a spider?' by Judy Allen and wrote about why we do or do not like spiders and how spiders make us feel. In Maths we have been working on numbers beyond 10 and thinking about the composition of these numbers, using tens frames to help think about the different parts in two-digit numbers. |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | Year 1 have had a brilliant first week back after the Easter holidays and have settled in wonderfully. In English, we have begun exploring the story <i>Dogs Don't Do Ballet</i> and have been learning how the prefix "un" changes the meaning of words. In Maths, we have started our multiplication and division unit, focusing on counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s to find totals. We have also been learning to identify how many are in each group and how many groups there are. To finish the week, we explored sculptures in Art and created our own tube sculptures using paper.                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | It's been a fantastic start back this week. We've begun our next RE topic, taking a deeper look at Judaism, with thoughtful discussions already underway. In English and reading, the children are thoroughly enjoying our new texts, especially <i>Pip and Egg</i> in guided reading. PE has been a real highlight too, with excellent focus and skill shown throughout. It's great to be back!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |





## WEEKLY SUMMARY



# CURRICULUM

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|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Year 3</b> | Year 3 have been so busy this week! We have started our new topic in maths, looking at mass and measuring in kg and g. Our class writing text is also new: we are now reading "Lights on Cotton Rock" by David Litchfield and using that as our writing stimulus. This week we have been focussing on figurative language, e.g. similes, and writing a setting description. In Geography, we are now learning about rainforests. Over the next few weeks, in RE we will be learning about the importance of Pentecost. Today we looked at a variety of pieces of art by artists from around the world, depicting Pentecost: we were given a quarter of the picture and tried to finish it off before looking at the actual piece of artwork. The children were very creative! Well done Y3, great work in every subject and a super start to the summer term.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Year 4</b> | This week in Year 4 we have been writing descriptions about settings, using alternative nouns and adjectives. In maths we have been looking at mixed numbers and in science we have begun to look at how scientists use keys precisely classify living things. A very busy week. Don't forget to practise times tables.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Year 5</b> | It has been a great first week back in Year 5. In maths, we have been focusing on decimals up to hundredths. In English, the children came up with vivid descriptive sentences imagining they were at the top of Everest. In PE, we started a unit of athletics, first focusing on pacing when running. I hope everyone has a nice weekend!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Year 6</b> | This week in Year 6 has been full of engaging and thought-provoking learning across the curriculum. Our writing lessons have focused on desert settings, whilst our reading has focused on Martians. In Science, we have been exploring the importance and composition of blood as part of our learning on the circulatory system. The children have learned about the different components of blood, including red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets, and plasma, and discussed the vital roles they play in keeping our bodies healthy. In Maths, we have been focusing on angles. Pupils have been identifying, measuring, and comparing angles of all types and sizes, while developing their understanding of the correct mathematical vocabulary, such as acute, obtuse, reflex, and right angles. In RE, we have begun our topic on Hindu pilgrimage. The children have started to explore what a pilgrimage is and why it is important in the Hindu faith. We look forward to developing this further in the coming weeks. |

## LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

### WHAT'S ON FOR KIDS AT COOKHAM FESTIVAL? 1<sup>ST</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

SEE THE FULL  
PROGRAMME  
AND BUY TICKETS



#### HISTORY IS FUN

**Sunday 3rd May**  
Step into the exciting world of history and archaeology with a fun-filled two-hour workshop run by the Friends of Cookham Abbey - perfect for curious minds aged 8-16. With games, VR and hands-on activities to spark the imagination.



#### KIDS WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP WITH ZOE DUNCAN



**Saturday 9th May**  
A workshop specifically designed to allow children to learn the building blocks of watercolour - using wet on wet and wet on dry techniques. Experimental, exciting and most importantly - great fun!

#### COOKHAM CHRONICLES: A MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

**Tuesday 12th May**  
Step into the haunting world of Saxon Cookham Abbey in a spellbinding live performance by Friends of Cookham Abbey trustee David Gilbert and the Queen Chronicles. A captivating experience for all ages - a story to delight the whole family!



#### BUGS & DINOSAURS WITH SIMON MOLE

**Saturday 2nd May**  
An interactive session for children 4+ who love dinos and mini-beasts!



#### ART CARD WIZARDRY FOR ALL AGES WITH KAREN GOLDSCHMIDT



**Sunday 10th May**  
Be Inspired! In just over one magical hour - start with card... add colour and creative wizardry... to produce an inspirational 3D work of art!

[cookhamfestival.co.uk](http://cookhamfestival.co.uk)



Well known in the area for high standards and excellent performances

For children from 7 years old upwards

**Children's Choir**  
(meets Saturday mornings in termtime 10.00-11.00)



**Boys' Choir**  
(meets Saturday mornings in termtime 11.15-12.15)

Contact Gillian Dibden:  
[gillian.dibden@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.dibden@gmail.com)  
07799 413746

Find us on social media:



@taplowchoirs



@Taplow Choirs

## SPRING YOGA AND MINDFULNESS COURSE

For Primary Children  
Starting in April!



WILL BE HELD IN  
**COOKHAM**



TIME:  
5:00 PM - 5:45 PM

Help your child build confidence, improve focus,  
and have fun through yoga and mindfulness!



#### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Improved Flexibility & Strength
- Better Concentration
- Relaxation & Mindfulness Skills
- A Fun, Supportive Environment

#### TRY A FREE CLASS! FIRST ONE FREE!!

Would you like to learn more?  
**PLEASE CONTACT ME!**

07846992824

SPACES WILL BE LIMITED — DON'T MISS OUT!

100 YEARS 1926 2026  
UNIVERSITY OF READING

### CENTRE for AUTISM WELLBEING HUB

## Autistic Thriving at School and Beyond

As part of the University's centenary celebrations, we are hosting a free public hybrid (in person and online) event on the evening of 6 May on the theme of Autistic Thriving at School and Beyond.

Join us for an evening that brings together autistic children and young people, their families, students, professionals and researchers to explore what supports autistic children to flourish in education and everyday life.

The event will include talks from:

- Professor Elizabeth McCrum, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education and Student Experience) at the University of Reading
- Dr Fiona Knott and Dr Jo Billington, Wellbeing Hub project leads
- Andy Smith, founder of Spectrum Gaming, and a passionate advocate for young people's voices in education.

For in person attendees, there will also be an opportunity to review a poster presentation of current autism research from academics and students in the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences. Refreshments will be provided.

#### Wednesday 6 May

G10 lecture theatre,  
Palmer Building,  
Whiteknights Campus,  
RG6 6EW

In person:  
18:45-21:00

Online:  
19:00-20:30 via  
Microsoft Teams

For more details and to book your place, please visit our website.