



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 23

13th March 2026

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

24th: Easter Service
25th: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm
26th: Sponsored Elephant Run for Thames Hospice
27th: Y3 Swimming Finishes
27th: Easter Bonnet Parade
27th: Break Up @ 2.15pm

April

13th: Inset Day
14th: Return To School
21st: Governors In School Day

May

1st: Child Choice Day
1st: Y4 @ Chiswick Thames Trip
1st: Caterlink Taster Session @ 2.30pm
4th: Bank Holiday
8th: Y5 @ Cookham Festival
11th: Y6 SATs Week
12th: Y5 @ Ashmolean Museum
15th: Class Photos
17th: Y6 @ Rhosy
18th: Walk To School Week
22nd: Mix Up Maths

EVENTS NEXT WEEK MARCH

Monday 16th:

* Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Tuesday 17th:

* Little Musketeers Assembly
* KS1 Choir Performance

Thursday 19th:

* Cupcake Competition for Red Nose Day - £1 Donation

Friday 20th:

* Crazy Hair Day for Red Nose Day - £1 Donation
* World Down Syndrome Day (on Saturday 21st but we are celebrating it on the Friday)
* SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am
* Everybody Writes Day @ 9am
* Y3 Swimming

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who attended the parents evening sessions this week - it is always so lovely seeing you in school. I hope that you all got a chance to look at the books and that the children were proud to share their work with you.

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

It is very busy next Friday - Red Nose Day, Everybody Writes Day and World Down Syndrome Day.

Red Nose Day - see the information from the School Council.

Everybody Writes Day - see the information from Mrs Satterley.

World Down Syndrome Day - children can wear their boldest and brightest socks to represent that chromosomes look like a pair of socks, and people with Down Syndrome are born with an extra chromosome.



RED NOSE DAY



On Friday 20th March, it will be Red Nose Day. School Council have decided to hold a crazy hair day and a cupcake decorating competition, as well as a free quiz for anyone who want to have a quiz-tastic break! For the crazy hair day, children can come in with whatever style or colour they would like. For this 'pupil choice' experience, you must bring in **£1** for the Red Nose Foundation. Next up, we have cupcake decorating. On the Thursday before Red Nose Day, you can bring in a 'fairy cake' that you have decorated to be judged by the School Council. **Remember: NO NUTS ALLOWED!** (You also don't have to make the cake you can just buy a plain cupcake from a shop.) It is compulsory to bring in **£1** if you would like to participate in this activity.

By Minnie & Flo, Year 6

EVERYBODY WRITES DAY

Everybody Writes Days are one of our favourite days of the year. We would like to warmly invite parents and carers to join us in school on Friday 20th March from 9-10am for a special writing session. During this time, you will have the opportunity to work alongside your child as they complete an Easter-inspired piece of writing. It will be a lovely chance to see how writing is developed in the classroom and to support your child as they build on their ideas.

Mrs Satterley, Writing Lead

CATERLINK TASTING

We have a new cook in school now and Caterlink are keen to introduce you to Charlotte and taste some of the food on the menu. The tasting will take place in the school hall on Friday 1st May at 2.30pm. Please let the office know if you would like to attend so that we can ensure enough food is prepared. Thank you.

PARKING

Please make sure you are **NOT** parking across our neighbours' drives. We try very hard to foster good relationships with our local community and some parents who are parking inconsiderately are spoiling this for us. Thank you.

SCHOOL NEWS

NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK



Next week is Neurodiversity Celebration Week, and our school will be celebrating the amazing differences in how people think, learn, and experience the world. To mark the week, we will be having a **poster competition** in school. All children will have the opportunity to create a poster based around neurodiversity. The poster could provide information about a specific neurodiversity, or it could be a handy helpful guide, showing adults and children how they can support someone who is neurodivergent. The winning posters from each class will be copied, laminated, and displayed around school!

If you would like to talk to your children about neurodiversity at home, below are links that you may find useful:

- <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/powerpoint-presentations>
- <https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/what-is-neurodiversity-videos-for-children/>
- <https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/factors-that-impact-mental-health/vulnerable-children/neurodiversity/>

Also, below are links to free webinars that you may be interested in watching:

- <https://lexxic.com/ncw25-events>
- <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/events-2026>

Miss Windle, SENCO

FREE ONLINE WEBINAR



Presented by

Professor Amanda Kirby
CEO of Do-IT Solutions
International expert in neurodiversity

Understanding Neurodiversity: Practical Support to Help Children & Young People Thrive

For anyone supporting children and young people
across Bucks and Berkshire

ONLINE
Thursday 19 March
6.30-7.30pm

[Click here to book](#)

Held during Neurodiversity Celebration Week

- Understanding neurodiversity
- Different ways brains think, learn and experience the world
- Removing barriers, unlocking strengths
- Everyday strategies that make a difference
- Helping young people feel understood
- Local support and connection routes



For queries email: hello@brighterfuturestogether.org.uk

RARING2GO!

Click [HERE](#) for the spring 2026 issue of the raring2go! magazine - a handy local guide of what to do and where to go for parents and children.

OPAL

This week, we have been busy planning and creating new activities and resources.

We are always thinking about ways to make our outdoor environment inspiring, engaging, and full of opportunities for the children to learn through play. There are lots of exciting ideas in progress! Thank you again for your continued support - it helps us to keep improving and expanding what we can offer.



Miss G, OPAL Lead

SCHOOL NEWS

SEWING CLUB - SUMMER TERM



Cookham Dean school
After school Sewing Club (Yr.1 - Yr.6)
Starting: Monday 20th April 2026

Let's have some sewing fun! I am very excited to announce the sewing club for the summer term. Children will be doing creative sewing using different techniques and various types of fabrics.

Course Details:

This term Yr.1,2 & 3 will be making:

- Minion
- Handmade present for Father's Day
- Pencil case

Yr.4,5 & 6 will be making:

- Learn block printing and make a pouch
- Handmade present for Father's Day
- Pen holder bookmark

Duration: 11 weeks (20th April to 13th July) No club 4th May due to bank holiday

Time: 3.20 to 4.30pm

Fee: £110 (All materials included)

You can also pay by following childcare vouchers

Edenred, Sodexo, Care4, Fidelity, Computershare, RG, Enjoy Benefits

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. If your child would like to join, please text/WhatsApp on **07782253565** to book the place.

Thank you.

Anita Kulkarni

Email: anita@dhaaga-sewing.co.uk

Follow us on [facebook.com/Dhaaga](https://www.facebook.com/Dhaaga)

YOGA CLUB - SUMMER TERM

nurturekidsyoga

YOGA AND MINDFULNESS WITH SALLIE

Balance, joy and movement for children



COOKHAM DEAN

Summer 2026
 After School Club
 Thursday 3.20pm to 4.30pm
 14th April to the 14th July
£9 a session, paid termly
All years..Free Trial available - contact me if interested.

Fun and engaging classes that teach mindfulness, coordination, and relaxation through storytelling and postures.

@nurturekidsyoga

07846992824

sallie.windsor@nurturekidsyoga.com

<https://nurturekidsyoga.com>



SHED

We are wanting to take down a small shed before the Easter holidays - is there anyone that could help us? Please let the office know. Thank you.

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.



Year 1

Tom



Year 2

Jeevan

Year 3

Harvey

Year 4

Everyone

Year 5

Arthur

Year 6

Max



SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 4 CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM

On Thursday 12th March, Year 4 went to the Chiltern Open Air Museum to learn more about the Anglo-Saxons. It was a very windy and cold day, but we all had fun making Anglo-Saxon brooches, weaving with wool to make a cloak, writing Anglo-Saxon Runes and playing Anglo-Saxon games. In the afternoon, we became archaeologists and explored lots of different artefacts. We also tried on an Anglo-Saxon helmet, carried a sword and shield, which was incredibly heavy. We couldn't believe that the Anglo-Saxons wore these every day. A great day was had by all!

Miss Thompson, Year 4 Teacher



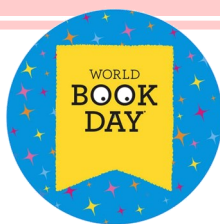
WORLD BOOK DAY WINNERS

HINT OF A BOOK

Reception - Elise
Year 1 - Beatrix
Year 2 - Zlata
Year 3 - Edie
Year 4 - Sophia
Year 5 - Jamie
Year 6 - Berry

READING IN THE STRANGEST PLACE

Ernest, Year 3
Noah, Year 3
Margot, Year 4



BOOK IN A BOX

Reception - Sophia
Year 1 - Ophelia
Year 2 - Jude & Aiyla
Year 3 - Ben & William
Year 4 - Tilly & Bella
Year 5 - Otis
Year 6 - Zander

TRUNKS ACROSS THE THAMES

Apple the elephant, is now painted. Thank you to Willow's mum, Bodie's mum and Amelie's mum! We have so far raised **£260** using our [JustGiving page](#) which is an incredible start and thank you to all those who have sponsored us! Our target is £1,5000 and I have said to the children if we reach the target I will dress as an elephant on the last day of term. If you haven't already, please use this link to sponsor us for the Elephant Run on 26th March. The children will run for 30 minutes around our running track. The number of laps will be recorded and confirmed to you by the end of the day on 27th March. Thank you for your support for this worthwhile charity.

BOOKWORMS & LIBRARY UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who supported the book sale last Friday - we raised over **£100**. The bookworms have been gathering suggestions of new books from their classes and will hold a vote soon to decide on some new books to buy for the library with the money.

We are adding new books all the time - you can find the library catalogue online now at: <https://library2.libresoft.co.uk/8683021-7uhda4qmeh10zoj3t9cu-cdcps/>

In order to keep the loans ticking over, **children can now only take out one book at a time**. Some children have overdue loans, which means they won't be able to take out another book until they have returned the book(s) they already have out. We would appreciate those overdue books being returned ASAP so other children can enjoy them. If your child is still enjoying a particular book, they can bring it back and get it renewed on the system. If books aren't returned, we will have to start charging for them as books being lost or damaged is costly to the school. Thank you for your help with this!

Miss Thompson, Reading Lead



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

YEAR 3 STONE AGE EXTRAVAGANZA

On Thursday 12th March 2026 we lined up and waited for a stone age man called Twig. He was very funny pulling down peoples hats and he even crossed my shoe straps. He then welcomed a girl called Mema and they took all of us to their tent with real animal skins that we had to sit on. Twig showed us a dehydrated mackerel and sliced it and cooked it. Then we got to taste it and everyone wanted more! It was yummy. Then everyone got to hold an animal pelt and hold big pieces of flint that are the size of your hand that they used to kill animals with but are now blunt. With only a few minutes left we ventured round until we had to say goodbye but some of us didn't want to leave!

By Charlie & Kayla, Year 3



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY 2026



Who are we?

World Down Syndrome Day is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.

On **21 March** each year we create a single global voice advocating for the rights, inclusion and well being of people with Down syndrome.

Visit worlddownsyndromeday.org to learn more.

The World Down Syndrome Day website and associated activities are coordinated by **Down Syndrome International** in collaboration with the **National Down Syndrome Society** and the **Down's Syndrome Association**.



Visit worlddownsyndromeday.org to learn more.



Visit ds-int.org



Visit ndss.org



Visit downs-syndrome.org.uk



Together Against Loneliness



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.

Reception	This week Reception have been doing lots of Phonics practise and as well as handwriting practise. In Maths we have been working on conceptual subitising to 10, number bonds to 10 and revisiting 1 more and 1 less. In Literacy we have continued working on our class text 'Goodnight Gorilla' and have focused on discussing the story and answering questions on the story. The children also really enjoyed their visit from author Simon Mole and had fun in the interactive session where they listened to poems and then went on to draw their own dinosaur characters. In RE we learned all about the Easter story and how Christians celebrate Easter.
Year 1	Year 1 have been enjoying a new story in English called <i>Hibernation Hotel</i> . We have been working hard on using adjectives in our writing and joining ideas with the word 'and' to make our sentences more interesting. In Maths, we have started learning about height and length by comparing objects and then measuring them using non-standard units. The children had great fun measuring each other using their hands and feet! In Music, we have continued exploring the story of <i>The Snail and the Mouse</i> , discussing how the tempo changes at different points in the story.
Year 2	Year 2 have had a fantastic week of learning. In DT, the children began building their own fairground wheels, exploring how to create a strong structure and testing different ways to make an effective axle so the wheel can turn smoothly. We were also very proud to perform the song Count on Me in assembly to introduce our new Year 2 Friendship Ambassadors and share their important role with the rest of the school. In maths, the class have been really enjoying learning about measurement and have been working hard to compare and measure different lengths and heights. Well done Year 2!
Year 3	Year 3 have had a very exciting week! In Maths, we began looking at fractions and thinking about unit and non-unit fractions. However, the highlight was definitely our 'Stone Age Day' on Thursday. The children were all completely captivated by our visitors and all the fascinating information they had to share. Everyone enjoyed dressing up in Stone Age clothing, eating mackerel cooked on the fire and being mesmerized by all the interesting objects in the tent!



WEEKLY SUMMARY

CURRICULUM

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Year 4

This week we have been working hard by finding missing lengths of perimeters in maths and have started to develop the character of Roz from our book, The Wild Robot in English. In our gymnastics lesson, we have been doing shoulder stands and bridges. Our best day was our school trip to the Chiltern Open Air Museum to study Anglo-Saxons.

Year 5

It has been a brilliant week in Year 5. In maths, we have completed our small unit on multiplying and dividing fractions and will start on decimals and percentages next week. In English, we have started exploring our new book, Everest by Alexandra Stewart and Joe Todd-Stanton. The children have loved finding out facts about the world's highest mountain. We were also very lucky to welcome Sophie D's dad this morning. He shared his experience of climbing to Everest base camp and talked more about what makes Everest so special. Below are some photos. From everyone in Year 5, a big thank you to you Mr Dixon.



Year 6

In Literacy this week, we have been developing our diary writing skills. We created thoughtful diary entries that combined both past and future tense, reflecting on themes of loss. This helped us practise using different tenses effectively while also expressing emotions and ideas in a reflective and imaginative way. In RE, we became journalists reporting from Jerusalem in the year 33 AD. After "interviewing" biblical witnesses, we wrote newspaper reports describing the important events we had learned about. This activity helped deepen our understanding of the historical and religious context while developing our reporting and questioning skills. In Science, we have been exploring different biomes around the world. We learned about the unique environments found in each biome and investigated how organisms have adapted to survive in these conditions. We looked at examples of physical and behavioural adaptations and discussed why these are important for survival. In Maths this week, we have been revising fractions, decimals, and percentages. We applied these concepts to real-life contexts, helping us see how mathematical skills are used in everyday situations such as shopping, measurements, and problem-solving. In Art, we have begun looking at the work of David Hockney. We explored his distinctive style and discussed some of his famous artworks. We will use these ideas as inspiration for our own creative pieces in the coming lessons.

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

TRACKSTART

Mini-Lympics Pentathlon Event!

Sunday 29th March / 10:00 - 14:30

Compete in the Track Starts Indoor Pentathlon! Record your official results and show off your hard work and talent in a real competition atmosphere!

Entry £20!

Ages 7 - 12

5 Athletics Events Include:

- 60m Sprint
- Long Jump
- High Jump or Vertical Jump
- Shot Put
- Turbo Javelin or Howler Throw

Depending on age

Scan to Enter

www.trackstart.co.uk

info@trackstart.co.uk
01753 770037

TRACK START
U.K.

SmartRasperry

cookery school

Easter break Holiday Workshops

Sign your up budding young bakers and chefs to cook some fun recipes this Easter break holidays! Ages 5-11 years

Cookham Scout Hall, Cookham,
Maidenhead, SL6 9TE

7th, 8th, 9th & 10th April, 26

10:00 AM - 3 PM

Booking link below

↓

[Cookham Scout Hall, Maidenhead](#)

07944234618
www.smartraspberry.com
hema@smartraspberry.com

Up and coming Junior golf opportunities.

At Winter Hill Golf Club

- Easter break, 1st April, 2-4pm, 11-16yrs, grp lesson
- During Sch term time
Sun group lessons, 6/7yrs, 12-1pm,
Sun group lessons for 11-16yrs, 4-5pm
- Bookings/queries contact Winter Hill Golf Club Golf Coach, Gavin Clark (PGA member) on m 07789 766 872
e gavinclarkgolf@gmail.com

THE PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS ASSOCIATION

GC GOLF COACHING

PGA

— PROFESSIONAL —

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



ROYAL BOROUGH OF
WINDSOR &
MAIDENHEAD
WWW.RBWM.GOV.UK



Train to Teach in Windsor & Maidenhead

RBWM SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training)

Providing Exceptional Local Teacher Training Since 2002

We offer a high-quality, bespoke training experience with personalised support. We are proud of our success: **100% of our trainees** have achieved Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and gained employment.

Partnership with Bath Spa University
All trainees gain a **Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)** worth 60 Master's credits alongside their QTS.

Choose Your Pathway

- Postgraduate Fee-Funded (Primary or Secondary)**
 - Primary:** ages 3–7 or 5–11.
 - Secondary:** ages 11–16 or 14–18 across a wide range of subjects.
 - Structure:** September to July. 4 days a week in a lead school / 1 day in central training. 6-week second placement in a contrasting school environment.
 - Funding:** Training costs of **£8,000** are covered by Student Finance.
- Postgraduate Teaching Apprenticeship**
 - Salaried Route:** A 1-year employment program for those with **considerable school experience** (e.g., HLTAs or TAs with 3+ years experience).
 - Funding:** Training costs of £8,000 are covered by the apprenticeship levy.

Why Train With Us?

- Local Expertise:** Training is delivered by advisers and leading practitioners.
- Diverse Settings:** A wide variety of schools, including nursery, primary, secondary, and middle schools.
- Financial Support:** Bursaries or scholarships of up to £31,000 may be available for fee-funded trainees. See: [Teacher Training Funding](#)

Entry Requirements

- Degree: UK Honours degree (2:2 or above).
- GCSEs: Grade 4 (C) or above in English and Maths (plus Science for Primary).
- Overseas qualifications must be verified by UK ENIC (see [UK ENIC website](#))
- Equivalency tests can be gained through the following provider: [Equivalency Testing](#).

How to Apply

- Apply through the Government's Apply for Teacher Training service ([Apply for Teacher Training](#))

Useful Links
[RBWM SCITT website](#) [Bath Spa University](#) [Apply for Teacher Training](#)
[Get Into Teaching](#) [Student Finance](#)

Contact
claire.murray@achievingforchildren.org.uk
 07710 913454



Follow us @ [rbwm_scitt](#)



TRACK START

START YOUR JOURNEY IN ATHLETICS!








Monday 30th March - Thursday 3rd April
 Tuesday 6th April - Friday 10th April

Week: £116 | Day: £34 | Early: £8 | Late: £10

RUN THROW JUMP



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

READING BLUE COAT ED-VENTURES PRESENTS...

Nature to Narrative

(Creative Writing)

Step beyond the classroom and let adventure fuel your imagination.

Our Nature to Narrative Creative Writing Course blends outdoor challenges with storytelling, using exploration, teamwork and hands-on activities to inspire original writing. Join us for a live author visit from Iszi Lawrence and experience an interactive Birds of Prey experience!

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW!

TUESDAY 7 APRIL TO THURSDAY 9 APRIL
8.30AM TO 5PM DAILY

COST: £70 PER DAY
(10% DISCOUNT FOR RBC STUDENTS)
EXTRAS INCLUDED: HOT LUNCH

AGES 8-12

BOOK NOW

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: CHILDREN'S FICTION AUTHOR VISIT AND WORKSHOP; BIRDS OF PREY EXPERIENCE; CREATIVE WRITING CHALLENGES; LAZER TAG; AXE-THROWING AND ARCHERY

READING BLUE COAT
rbc.org.uk

EGG HUNTS
FUN & GAMES
ART & CRAFT

EASTER GYM & TRAMP CAMP!

Wed 1 & 8th April Hazlemere
Thurs 2 & 9th April Marlow

PARACHUTE
GYMNASTICS & TRAMPOLINING
LEGO LUNCHTIMES

Springbucks Gymnastics Club Holiday Camps are suitable for children from 3 - 12 for gymnastics and age 5 - 16 for trampolining camps. All ability levels welcome!

3 & 4 year olds - half day camp (9am - 1pm £25)
5+ year olds - full day camp (9am - 4pm £45)
Email springbucksqc@gmail.com or call 07581384176

SPRINGBUCKS GYMNASTICS CLUB

the Word Witch

ABC

Because words are spells and reading is magic.

Dyslexia and Literacy Tuition

fun fun fun

www.thewordwitch.org