



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 18

30th January 2026

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

9th: Children's Mental Health Week
10th: Safer Internet Day
10th: Reception & KS1 Drama Workshop
11th: Y6 Rhosy Meeting @ 3.30pm
12th: Y4 Dance Festival
13th: Break Up
23rd: Return to School
23rd: OPAL Play Date @ 2.15pm
25th: Ash Wednesday
26th: Y1 Big Active 60 Festival

March

5th: World Book Day
5th: PTA Storytelling Night
6th: Report Cards Out
8th: Families@4
10th: Wild Worship Day
10th: Parents Evening
12th: Parents Evening
16th: Neurodiversity Celebration Week
20th: Everybody Writes Day
20th: Red Nose Day
21st: World Down Syndrome Day
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

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

FEBRUARY

Monday 2nd:

* Reception NCMP
* Y2 @ Windsor Castle

Tuesday 3rd:

* Deadline for Parent Governor Nominations
* Y4 @ Luckley House School

Friday 6th:

* Mix Up Maths
* Y3 Swimming

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all those who joined the PTA meeting last Friday. It is a great way of meeting up with like-minded parents, finding out about initiatives in school and how your fundraising is being spent. If you have time, it would be great to see more parents at these meetings. The next meeting is in the evening - please look out for more information from the PTA.

FAMILIES@4

Our next family service at St John the Baptist will be Sunday 8th March at 4pm. All families are welcome. As it is the Sunday before Mothers Day, we will be learning about mothers in the bible and making posies for our mums, aunts or nannies. This service will be led by our Pupils4Praise.

OFSTED

A couple of newsletters ago, we informed you that we are due an Ofsted visit this year. If you would like to find out more about the new framework which will be used to inspect us, [this YouTube video](#) might also be helpful.

OPAL

A huge thank you to everyone who donated Lego for OPAL! We now have lots, and the children are absolutely loving it. Your generosity is helping to inspire creativity, teamwork, and hours of imaginative play. We are so grateful for your support! We are also kindly asking for spare clothing to help with the occasional muddy falls and slips at lunchtime. We would really appreciate any donations of trousers, pants, tights, socks etc. Thank you again!

Miss G, OPAL Lead

YEAR 6 HOLDENBY HOUSE

On Tuesday Year 6 dressed up as evacuees for our trip to Holdenby House because we are learning about World War II. The coach was 1.5 hours long. When we got there we were greeted by a cook and a WVRS lady. First we learnt about air raid shelters and rationing. After lunch, we learnt about make do and mend. There were option of things to do e.g. sewing buttons, carpet rags and making pompoms. The whole day was really fun and exciting. We wish we could do it again. Thank you teachers who made this happen.

By Flo, Year 6

PANATHLON COMPETITION

Well done to the children who took part in today's sports festival at Braywick! "I really enjoyed the bowling." Max, Year 6
"The bean bag throwing was lots of fun." Oscar, Year 5

NETBALL

On Wednesday the Year 6 netball team played Holy Trinity. We won 14-4 and our player of the match was Minnie and the captain was also Minnie. The game started off with Holy Trinity scoring a goal. This goal set competitive streaks alive and the ball rocketed back to our shooting end. We smashed it out the park with an amazing win. Well done team!

By Minnie, Year 6

SCHOOL NEWS

REMINDER: SCHOOL TRAFFIC & ROAD SAFETY

IMPORTANT NOTICE



School Drop-Off and Pick-Up Safety

The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead Council have had an increased number of complaints regarding traffic issues around the school pick up and drop off across our Borough schools.

Officers from our Transport and Road Safety teams have been out assessing and observing the issues and have reported two common factors at all our school sites;

1. poor driver behaviour
2. lack of pedestrian road safety skills.

During their visits to schools they have witnessed drivers stopping on the School Keep Clear Markings, letting children get out of the car onto the middle of the carriageway, parking on the pavement and blocking the footway for pedestrians, parking on double yellow lines, parking on white zigzags at a pedestrian crossing, rushing children across roads, crossing roads without paying attention, looking at their phone and not guiding their children.

All residents deserve a safe environment to pick up and drop off their child at school. If everyone takes personal responsibility for their behaviour around the school gates, a safe and secure environment is created.

How to create a safe environment for pick up and drop off at school

Road traffic laws are not optional they are legal requirements to keep all road users safe.

Drivers

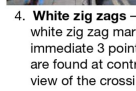
1. **School Keep Clear markings** – DO NOT STOP on the yellow zig zags, not even for one second. The markings are placed outside school entrances to keep a clear space for pedestrians to cross the road without obstruction.



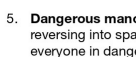
2. **Letting children out of the car** – Do not let children out of the car onto the carriageway. This is extremely dangerous. Always ensure children alight onto the pavement and in a suitable space that does not block pavements, driveways or contravene the road traffic laws.



3. **Pavement parking** – Driving along pavements and obstructing the pavement is against the road traffic law. Parking on the pavement obstructs the only safe space that pedestrians can walk. Park with all 4 wheels on the road. If there is insufficient space on the road to park then you must move until you find an appropriate space.



4. **White zig zags** – It is against the road traffic law to stop on the white zig zag markings even for a second. Stopping here carries an immediate 3 points on your licence and a £100 fine. These markings are found at controlled crossing places to ensure clear unobstructed view of the crossing for the safety of pedestrians.



5. **Dangerous manoeuvres** – carrying out three point turns and reversing into spaces where children are trying to cross the road puts everyone in danger and creates frustrations for other road users.



6. **Double yellow lines** – double yellow lines are put along the carriageway to stop vehicles obstructing the road. Parking on the double yellow lines obstructs the flow of traffic and causes frustrations for other road users.



Pedestrians

1. **Road Safety Skills** – Using the basic Green Cross Code every time you cross the road and showing your child how to look for a safe place to cross the road and then crossing with good observations will keep you and your child safe. Being distracted by mobile phones or choosing unsafe places to cross the road puts yourself and your child in danger. It also teaches your child unsafe practices.
2. **Crossing places** – Finding the safest place to cross a road. Teaching your child where and how to cross the road is essential for their safety. Use crossing facilities where possible; zebra crossing, refuge islands, traffic light controlled crossings. Where no crossing point is available find a spot where you have an unobstructed view along the road and stay patient until there is a clear gap in the traffic before stepping onto the road. The School Keep Clear markings are in place to provide a clear space to cross into school.



By complying to the road traffic laws and the highway code, a safer, calmer environment is created for everyone.

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
Austin



Year 2
Everyone

Year 3
Penelope

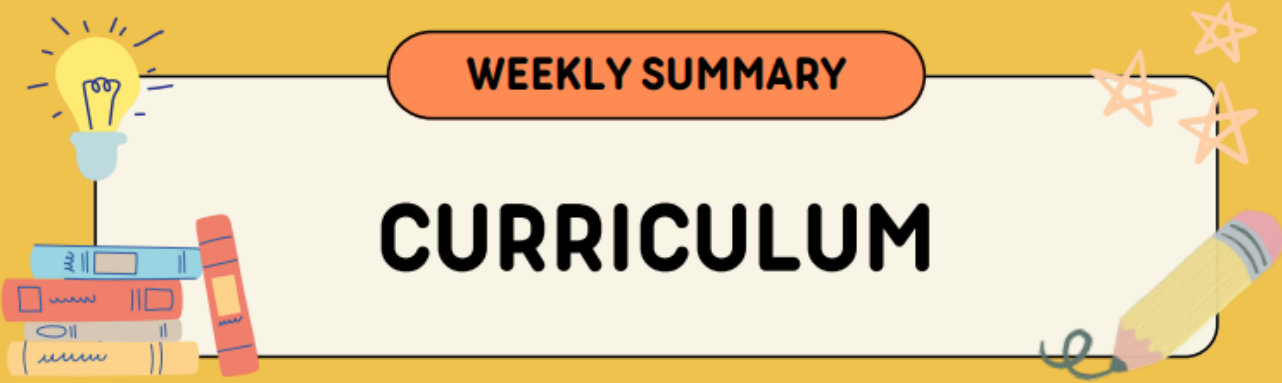
Year 4
Bertie & Orla

Year 5
Otis



Year 6
Everyone





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 busy learning about the difference between the city and countryside in our topic 'Our Wonderful World' which included comparing the features of the city and the countryside and creating their own city and countryside pictures. In Literacy Reception spent time focusing on descriptive language and wrote labels and sentences to describe an ice castle setting. In Maths this week we have been learning all about measurement including capacity and mass. This included having fun using the weighing scales and jugs to explore different weights and capacities. Reception also really enjoyed their PE lesson with coach Joe where they practised running, hopping, jumping, skipping and playing team games. Finally, as always we have been practising our Phonics and adding new digraphs which we have applied to our reading and spelling.
Year 1	In Year 1 this week we have been writing our own stories based on an ice castle picture. We have had to make sure that our sentences have capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and adjectives in them. In Maths we have moved on to addition and subtraction within 20 and using a number line to work out the sum of two numbers. In History we have continued to look at old toys and putting them into order of when they were made.
Year 2	In English this week we attempted to plan and write persuasive letters using different sentence types to convince humans not to cut down trees in the rainforest. In Maths we have begun our new topic on 'Multiplication and Division' and understanding how to share in equal groups. In History the children were fascinated about the Battle of Hastings which took place in 1066 and began learn to identify the features of an old and modern-day castle. We look forward to learning more on our trip to Windsor Castle on Monday!





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Year 3	Year 3 have had a wonderful week and produced lots of great work. In English, we wrote descriptions about the storm from our book, 'Hello Lighthouse.' I was really impressed to see all the descriptive language the children used including expanded noun phrases and similes. In Maths, Year 3 worked really hard to divide 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers and find remainders. In Science, we conducted an experiment to investigate how objects were reflected using two mirrors and what happened to the reflection when the mirrors were moved closer and further apart.
Year 4	We have had a really good week in Year 4. We have begun to use the formal method to multiply 2 and 3 digits by 1 digit, written character descriptions on the 6 main characters from our book Pugs of the Frozen North and in our extended writing lesson, have written a story based on a frozen kingdom where we particularly looked at the setting. In geography, we looked at human features of Antarctica.
Year 5	It has been a busy week in Year 5. This week, the children have worked hard to complete a Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning paper to assess their progress from Year 3. In maths, we have started a unit on multiplication and division, first focusing on using the formal method to multiply a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number. In gymnastics, the children used apparatus to develop inverted movements. These included cartwheels, shoulder stands and back bridges. The children worked safely and sensibly, so well done!
Year 6	This week in Year 6 we took part in a fully immersive trip to Holdenby House, where we travelled back in time to 1940. The children experienced what life was like as World War II evacuees, learning and practising the skills needed during the war. They explored how families coped with rationing, responded during air raids, and learned about the importance of "make do and mend." The children showed excellent enthusiasm, resilience and curiosity throughout the day. We have continued to enjoy our class book, Letters from the Lighthouse, which links beautifully to our history learning. The children have been making thoughtful connections between the story and their own experiences from the trip. In Science, we have been building classification trees for native trees, using their characteristics to group them correctly. We took a trip out to our local woodland and collected samples etc. The children worked logically and used accurate scientific vocabulary to explain their reasoning. It has been an exciting and memorable week of learning. Well done, Year 6!

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



PRO FOOTBALL ACADEMY

BIRTHDAY PARTIES WITH PFA

A Football Party They'll Never Forget



BOOK NOW

For prices, availability & bookings:

✉ maxineashman@outlook.com

🌐 www.pfabucks.co.uk

📱 @pfabucks | facebook.com/pfabucks

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- ✓ 90 minutes of high-energy football fun
- ✓ Professional PFA coaches
- ✓ Fun training drills & exciting games
- ✓ Mini matches & competitions
- ✓ Medals & prizes to be won
- ✓ Suitable for all abilities

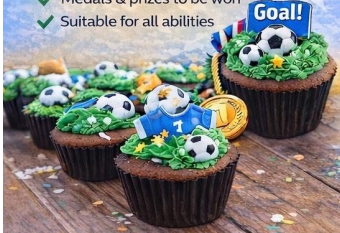
PEACE OF MIND FOR PARENTS

- ✓ FA Qualified Coaches
- ✓ FA First Aid
- ✓ FA Safeguarding
- ✓ DBS Checked

LOCATION

Held at a location convenient to you, or at one of our preferred PFA venues.

Perfect for boys & girls of all abilities



TUE 17 & WED 18 FEB 2026
09:30 - 15:00
MAIDENHEAD RFC, BRAYWICK PARK, SL6 1BN

IN 2 TOUCH THAMES VALLEY

TOUCH RUGBY DEVELOPMENT CAMP

£35 for 1 day
£60 for 2 days
10% sibling discount



SAMMIE PHILLIPS
England Athlete
Ex National Squad Coach
5 x Touch World Cups



PAUL FARRINGTON
Ex England Athlete
European & World Cups
Regional Coach
Junior Touch Cup
www.juniortouchcup.com

COACHING TEAM

Younger Groups: 5-11
Older Groups: 12-17

Contact: sammie@in2touch.com






FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-16 YRS

SCIENCE BAZAAR

Saturday 21 February 2026
9:30am - 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening
11:30am-4pm Open to all

Fun activities, hands-on workshops, experiments, talks, show, competitions and cafe



BOOK TICKETS



MORGAN SINDALL
CONSTRUCTION

www.brookes.ac.uk/sciencebazaar
sciencebazaar@brookes.ac.uk

 @OxfordBrookesPublicEngagementResearch
 @oburesearchpublicengagement

Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, OX3 0BP

NO PARKING ON SITE EXCEPT FOR ACCESS NEEDS



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

8TH MAR
LONDON
BRICK
FESTIVAL

MILLIONS OF BRICKS

CHARITY TOMBOLA

LEGO DISPLAYS

RETIRED SETS

ACTIVITIES

ROYAL NATIONAL HOTEL

LONDON BRICK FESTIVAL

PINK FLAMINGOS
NETBALL CAMP

NETBALL CAMP
Experience exciting training sessions and make lifelong friends at our netball camps.

RECEPTION - YEAR 10 GIRLS
Furze Platt Leisure Centre
£30 ALL DAY
Join the Fun And Improve Your Skills!

Make sure you bring your packed Lunch with a snack and plenty of Water.
NO Nuts!

FEB HALF TERM

If you are interested in attending the camps or enquire more information then please scan the QR code or email Leah.
p.flamingosnetball@gmail.com

TRY
RUGBY

COME & TRY RUGBY AT MARLOW

Join FREE Mini Rugby taster sessions at MRUFC on Sunday 22nd February & 15th March @10.30am.

Rugby is fun, friendly, great exercise and sociable! Please get in touch by emailing U9.ago.marlowrufc@gmail.com if you're interested. Boys and girls welcome, no experience is necessary!

Our Mini Rugby sessions (U6 to U12) run every Sunday morning during the season (registration from 9.15am) with skills training, fixtures and festivals.
Come and give it a TRY!

Marlow Rugby Club
Riverwoods Drive
Marlow, SL7 1QU
www.marlowrugby.co.uk