



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 17

23rd January 2026

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

2nd: Reception NCMP
2nd: Y2 @ Windsor Castle
6th: Mix Up Maths Day
10th: Safer Internet Day
12th: Y4 Dance Festival
13th: Break Up
23rd: Return to School
23rd: OPAL Play Date @ 2.15pm

March

5th: World Book Day
5th: PTA Storytelling Night
6th: Report Cards Out
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

April

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

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

JANUARY

Tuesday 27th:

* Y6 @ Holdenby House

Friday 30th:

* Y3 Swimming

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

Gosh what a wet week we have had! School is gorgeous in the sunshine but very muddy when it is wet!! Can you please make sure that your children have outdoor shoes and coats in school so that they can go on the field, play in puddles, dig in the mud kitchen without getting the rest of the school dirty. Thank you. However, there are definite signs of spring around the school - fingers crossed we have dry weather soon!

RSPB - BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH 2026



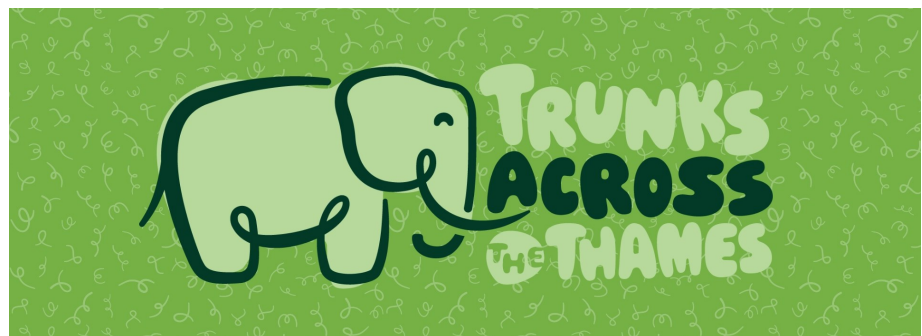
We have asked all the children to take part in the Big Garden Birdwatch this weekend. All you need to do is choose 1 hour and sit and record which birds and how many birds you see. It could be in your garden, local park, windowsill - then upload your results on the RSPB website. Let's see if we can get everyone doing it!

BLUE PETER BADGE

We all grew up watching Blue Peter and we would like every child to work towards getting a Blue Peter badge. There is a wide variety of badges from music to reading, from sports to green badge and of course the prestigious gold badge. If your child achieves one of these badges, they can wear them into school and we will share their success in assembly.



THAMES HOSPICE ART TRAIL



Our school wants to raise money for a local charity; Thames Hospice. This amazing charity helps people who are ill and cannot get better. They do all of this for free but that comes at a price. They rely on the help of donations and support from the local area which is where we come in. Thames Hospice has challenged us to raise **£1,300**. The money gets us a small ceramic elephant to decorate as a school; the elephant then becomes part of a fabulous art trail during the summer. After the art trail has finished, we get to keep our elephant at the school for everyone to see. To raise money, we have decided to do an elephant run. If you remember 2 years ago, we had a reindeer run in aid of Thames Hospice, so that is why we are doing an elephant run. This exciting event will happen on Thursday 26th March. A sponsorship form will be sent home where you can sponsor your child for every lap. If we raise **£1,500** Mrs Reekie will dress up as an elephant for the elephant run! We hope you look forward to this event. Thank you.

By Flo & Minnie, Year 6

SCHOOL NEWS

PARENT GOVERNOR

You should all have seen the communication regarding the parent governor post. The nominations will close on Tuesday 3rd February at 3pm. If you have not received the communication but are interested, please contact clerk@cookhamdean.org



YEAR 1 MILESTONES MUSEUM

Today, Year 1 visited Milestones Living History Museum to learn about Victorian games and toys.

"I enjoyed our trip today and I thought the pig was noisy." *Arabella*

"Our favourite part of today was playing all the games such as playing pick up sticks." *Lucas & Charlie*

"I really enjoyed our school trip today and my favourite part was the hopscotch." *Pera*

OPAL

OPAL continues to support learning through play, encouraging creativity, teamwork, and problem solving outside the classroom. We are now on the look out for the following den building equipment. As always, we would be very grateful for any items you are able to donate. Thank you.

Tarpaulins (any size)

Rope, string or paracord

Bamboo canes or lightweight poles

Pool noodles or foam tubing

Reusable cable ties

Old bedsheets or large fabric pieces

Pegs or clips (washing line pegs are perfect!)

Cardboard boxes (large & sturdy)

Ground sheets or old picnic blankets

Old curtains or netting

Miss G, OPAL Lead

KS2 SPEED STACKING FESTIVAL

On Tuesday 20th January we visited Altwood school to take part in a speed stacking festival. If you're wondering what speed stacking is here is some information about it! Speed stacking is when you stack cups in a certain order as fast as you can. There were ten stations and we did different activities with cups. We did jumbo stack, speed stacking bingo and lots more. It was very fun and exciting. We had the best day ever!

By Poppy & Dhaya, Year 4

NEW DRUM & GUITAR TEACHER



Drum Lesson Secrets

with
Gary O'Toole

Call 07778 157 034

email: gary@drumlessonsecrets.com

Lessons starting Tuesday 27th January

SCHOOL NEWS

NEW CLUB REMINDER

LIGHTS UP
THEATRE COMPANY

PERFORMING ARTS CLUB
Years 1-6
WEDNESDAYS
3:20-4:20

THIS LIVELY AND SUPPORTIVE CLUB WILL HELP PUPILS DEVELOP:

- CONFIDENCE AND SELF-EXPRESSION
- STAGE PRESENCE
- DRAMA AND IMPROVISATION SKILLS
- SINGING TECHNIQUES
- TEAMWORK
- FUN DANCE AND MOVEMENT SKILLS

COOKHAM DEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

<HTTPS://LIGHTS-UP-THEATRE-COMPANY.CLASSFORKIDS.IO/INFO/66>

BOOK HERE

SMART ENERGY SHOW

Cookhams Footprint
Taking energy saving steps together

Smart Energy Show

GET INFORMED & INSPIRED ABOUT GREENER HOMES

Visit us at the Smart Energy Show
Sat 7th February 2026, 1pm - 4.30pm
Moor Hall, Cookham, SL6 9QH

SCAN HERE TO BOOK YOUR FREE TICKETS

For further information please visit:
cookhamsfootprint.co.uk • smartenergyshow.co.uk

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
Everyone

Year 2
Arabella

Year 3
William

Year 4
Maya

Year 5
Axel

Year 6
Ayva



WEEKLY SUMMARY

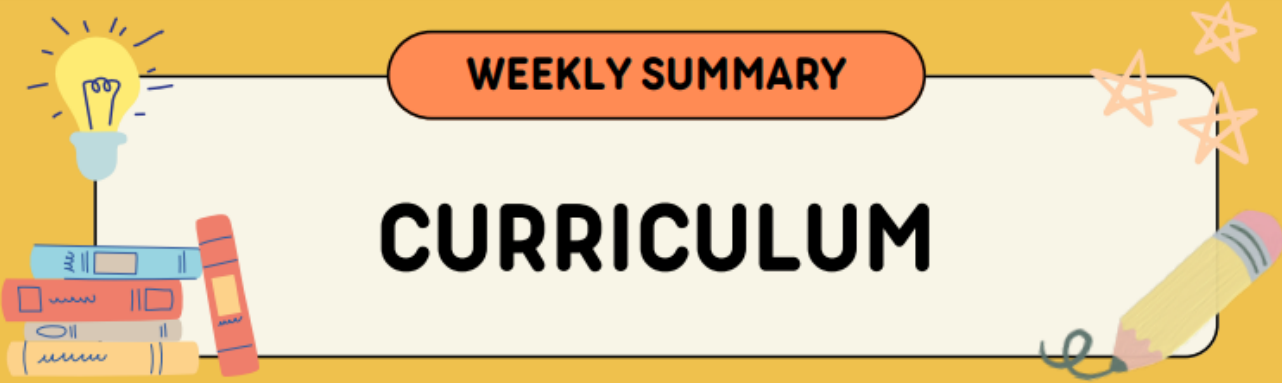


CURRICULUM

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 in Reception the children have learned more digraphs in their Phonics and have been applying these new sounds to their reading and writing. We have also really been working hard on our Tricky word spellings. In Literacy we have continued working on our new book 'Brown Bear Brown Bear' by Bill Martin Jr. and have learned about using descriptive language to write about our favourite animals. In Maths we have revisited learning about 1 more and 1 less, subitising to 5 and recapping number bonds to five. In PSED the children have started a new topic and this week we focused on our listening skills by being able to listen to a story carefully and retell the favourite parts of the story. The children listened to Goldilocks and the Three Bears and created their own story boards.
Year 1	Year 1 have had a busy and exciting week of learning. In English, the children wrote their own stories, using their imaginations and working hard on their ideas and sentences. In maths, we explored the number line, learning how it works and estimating where different numbers belong. The children showed great enthusiasm and confidence as they shared their thinking and supported one another. We also had so much fun on our school trip to Milestones Museum, where we learned about the toys and games that people played with in the past. We really enjoyed taking turns and playing all the different games.
Year 2	The children have been learning about the four main sentence types in English and have shown fantastic understanding and recall. In RE, they impressed us with how much they remembered about Judaism and the thoughtful way they shared their ideas. In Art, the children have been getting creative by exploring different textures and designing their own patterns. These will be used as the starting point for some exciting collage work later in the topic. A great week in Year 2!





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.

Year 3	Year 3 have had a great week. In English, we have been using speech marks to show direct speech in our writing and thinking about other words we could use instead of 'said.' In Maths, we have worked really hard at dividing 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. In Science, we conducted an experiment to test which surfaces and materials best reflected light and in Geography we compared maps from the past and present of Cookham to see how our local area has changed.
Year 4	We have had a very busy week. In maths we have been learning how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100 and apply this skill in problem solving. In English, we have started our reading lessons with our new book, Call me Lion and have started to think about describing the characters from our writing book, Pugs of the Frozen North. In science we have carried out experiments to explore one of the states of matter-gas. We have also been practising for our dance festival and have shown lots of resilience when changes were made.
Year 5	It has been a lovely week in Year 5. In maths, the children have been showing resilience to subtract fractions from mixed numbers. This was tricky as they had to break into a whole. In English, the children have been writing narratives based on an ice palace. In RE, we have started exploring Sikhism and understanding the significance of the Mool Mantra. I hope everyone has a nice weekend.
Year 6	Year 6 have had a busy and exciting time across the curriculum this week. In Science, pupils have been developing their classification skills by creating classification trees. They explored this concept in creative ways, using chocolate, as well as studying how birds and butterflies can be grouped based on their characteristics. In RE, the children have been thinking deeply and thoughtfully about big questions. They explored Humanism and learned about the Big Bang as an alternative explanation to the creation story in Genesis 1, comparing different worldviews with maturity and respect. Our Literacy lessons have focused on dialect and descriptive writing. The children have produced fantastic atmospheric narratives inspired by the mysterious setting of an ice palace, using vivid language to engage the reader.



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

THE ULTIMATE FAMILY DAY OUT IS HERE!

LONDON

FAMILY TRAVELLER Live
21 - 22 MARCH 2026
Allianz @ Stadium

- ★ Exclusive holiday discounts and competitions
- ★ Live entertainment and inspiration for your next adventure
- ★ Fun activities for kids of all ages including:
 - ZIP LINING
 - ABSEILING
 - PARKOUR
 - ICE HOCKEY
 - SOFT PLAY
 - SURF SIMULATOR
 - RUGBY PRACTICE
 - PLANETARIUMS
 - FACE PAINTING
 - MULTI AXIS TRAINER
 - PICKLEBALL
 - ROCK CLIMBING
 - MEET THE LEGENDS
 - SOFT PLAY AREA
 - CHANGING ROOM TOUR and more....

Book your tickets now
live.familytraveller.com

EARLY BIRD OFFER
50% OFF TICKETS WITH CODE **SCH30**

The UK's Most Immersive Family Travel Show

SmartRasperry cookery school

Spring Half-term Holiday Workshops

Sign your up budding young bakers and chefs to cook some fun recipes this Half-term holiday! Ages 5-11 years



- Cookham Scout Hall, Cookham, Maidenhead, SL6 9TE
- 16th & 17th February, 26
- 10:00-15.00



Click on the venue link below to book on today



[Cookham Scout Hall, Maidenhead](#)

07944234618
www.smartraspberry.com
hema@smartraspberry.com

TRACK START

START YOUR JOURNEY IN ATHLETICS!

MONDAY 16TH - FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

WEEK: £145 | DAY: £34 | EARLY: £8 | LATE: £10

RUN THROW JUMP

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP



SCAN ME

Ofsted Registered

let them play!

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM

Price + Offers

from £25 per day

Sibling discount: 10% off

Early Bird discount (15% off)
Code: FHT15

Age

5 - 12 Years Old

Dates + Times

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

Standard day: 9am-3pm
Extended day: 9am-5pm

Venues

Newbury:
Winchcombe School

Maidenhead:
Alwyn Infant School

Reading:
Calcot Junior School

MNR COACHING
Building. Educating. Inspiring.

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!
For Holiday Camp Enquiries - Email admin@mnrcoaching.com www.mnrcoaching.com

FOOTBALL CAMP



SCAN ME

Ofsted Registered

let them play! Football

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For Holiday Camp Enquiries - Email admin@mnrcoaching.com www.mnrcoaching.com



WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

President: Baroness Theresa May

Conductor **Joe Davies** Leader **Susie Henwood**

Saturday 14 March 2026 7:30pm
Baylis Theatre, Braywick Leisure Centre, Maidenhead SL6 1BN

GLINKA Overture: Ruslan and Ludmila
STRAUSS Horn Concerto No 1
MAHLER Symphony No 5



Horn Jessica Ortony

Tickets £15; student/child £5 from www.wmsso.org.uk

registered charity no. 1212732 www.wmsso.org.uk





SPRINGBUCKS GYMNASTICS CLUB

HOLIDAY CAMPS

Hazlemere & Marlow

2026

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