



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 15

9th January 2026

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

19th: SEN Parent Support Group
@ 8.45am

23rd: Y1 @ Milestones Museum

27th: Y6 @ Holdenby House

February

2nd: Reception NCMP

2nd: Y2 @ Windsor Castle

6th: Mix Up Maths Day

10th: Safer Internet Day

13th: Break Up

23rd: Return to School

March

5th: World Book Day

5th: PTA Storytelling Night

10th: Parents Evening

12th: Parents Evening

16th: Neurodiversity Celebration
Week

20th: Everybody Writes Day

24th: Easter Service

25th: Rocksteady Concert @
1.30pm

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

Thursday 15th:

* Y5 @ Starlight Express

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!!**

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a big thank you to all the parents who gave us cards and presents for Christmas. It was so lovely having a rest but we are all ready and raring to go! I was very pleased not to see snow this morning at school. If we have snow, I will assess whether the school is open dependant on how safe the roads around school are and how safe the school site is. I will endeavour to make a decision by 8am at the latest and you will be notified by a text message on the morning. It is always a difficult decision whether we should open for school when it has snowed but please know that safety will always be our first priority. Thank you.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Please see below a link to our parent questionnaire. We value your ideas and opinions so please do take time to answer. The deadline to complete it is Friday 23rd January. The replies will be fed back via the newsletter and will be discussed at the next parent forum.

<https://forms.gle/zTrVgqJqsMJVbTWc8>

PARKING

Can I please remind all parents and carers that they should never park on the yellow zigzag lines outside of school during school hours between 7.30am and 6.30pm (the times that after school are also using our buildings) - this is for the safety of the children. Please see note from RBWM (page 2). Thank you.

SNACKS

We try very hard to educate our children on keeping themselves healthy - minds and bodies. This includes healthy eating and I would like to reiterate the list of snacks that we encourage children to have for their mid morning snack. Thank you for your support in this.

cheese / yoghurts / crackers / plain rice cakes / fruit

SWIMARATHON

Sunday is a big day! Almost 100 of our pupils will join in the Maidenhead Lions Swimarathon at Braywick Leisure Centre. The children (with the help of very lovely volunteers) will swim as many lengths as they can in 1 hour. All money we raise will be used to support the school with big projects and day to day book balancing!

Pippa Jeans, PTA Chair

DONATE HERE



SCHOOL NEWS

50:50 CLUB

Congratulations to the January
50:50 Club winners:

1st prize - Sarah McGowan

2nd prize - Lorna Sykes

WINNERS

METRE MARKET

On Friday 16th January we will be the chosen charity receiving proceeds from Metre Market's weekly raffle. Head to Cookham Dean Village Hall between 8.30am - 1.00pm to purchase a raffle ticket. At £5 each, you can be in with the chance of winning an incredible hamper with produce donated by their generous stallholders from local makers and creators. All proceeds of the raffle will go towards supporting our school. Visit the [Metre Market website](#) for more details.



OPAL

Welcome back - we hope you all had a lovely break! I have been busy tidying up our OPAL equipment around the school. Thank you again for the generous donations - they are hugely appreciated. The LEGO caravan will be opening soon, so keep an eye out for updates. I'm looking for a small group of parent helpers to help with picking things up, making and creating, or some brute force to move things. Please email the office if you can lend a hand. Please also keep an eye on the newsletter for an exciting designing project coming soon.

Miss G, OPAL Lead

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.



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

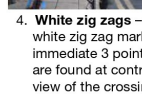
Road traffic laws are not optional they are legal requirements to keep all road users safe.

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.

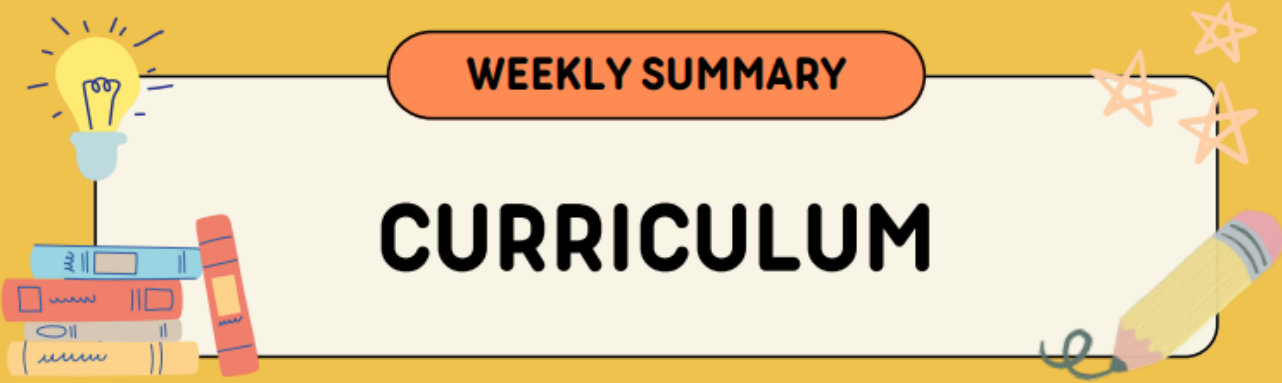


Pedestrians

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.



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	We have had a great first few days back after Christmas. Reception have recapped all the sounds they learned last term and have practised their blending and spelling. We have also started learning about our new topic 'All Around Us' by thinking about our local area and finger painting a winter landscape picture of Cookham Dean. Additionally, we have been working hard to recap and learn our number bonds to five in Maths. Well done Reception for a great start to Spring term!
Year 1	Year 1 have settled back into school routine well after the Christmas period. We have started to look at our new book Ivy and the Lonely Raincloud discussing how Ivy and the Raincloud feel at different points and how they show this. In Maths we are looking at Place Value within 20 and representing the numbers in different ways. We have also been working on our reasoning and explaining how we know the number is that number.
Year 2	It has been lovely to see the children again after the holidays and to hear all their news. They have shown fantastic learning attitudes this week, demonstrating amazing knowledge in maths by confidently identifying the value of different coins and notes. In English, the children really enjoyed the start of our new book The Great Kapok Tree and have shown a growing interest in the animals that live in the rainforest.





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Year 3	Year 3 have had an amazing start to 2026! We have started a new book, 'Hello Lighthouse' and discussed why lighthouses are so important. In Geography, we have begun looking at different types of settlements and thinking about our local area. However, the highlight of our week has been swimming lessons at Braywick! The children were amazing and we can't wait to go next week.
Year 4	Happy New Year to everyone! The first 3 days back have been very busy. In maths we are continuing our journey with multiplication and division - looking at relationships and patterns. In our writing we have made a start on writing an information leaflet on our Geography topic, Antarctica and finished our History topic on the decline of Ancient Maya.
Year 5	Year 5 have had a brilliant first (half) week back. We have been at Ufton Court, exploring the Tudor period. They put on some brilliant activities, including Tudor games and dancing, a Tudor banquet, military manoeuvres, as well as re-enacting a Tudor raid on potential Catholics! The children were all amazing and embraced being away from home as a group. Have a nice weekend all!
Year 6	Welcome back. This week in Year 6 we seemed to have crammed a lot into a few short days. In Science we have begun to look at classification methods for living things. Specifically we have investigated the work of Carl Linnaeus and taxonomy. We had a fun maths investigation, subitising and trying to come up with our own ideas about number. In art we looked to the skies, creating watercolours of stormy, windswept sunsets. We are very much looking forward to our WW2 topic and have started to explore the leaders and politics of the time.



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

FREE FUN GIRLS SESSION

SUN JAN 25TH 2026

1.00-2.00PM

Bike and equipment will be provided and 10 girls can be accommodated, so places are limited. If it's successful we will aim to run more sessions throughout 2026.

Girls need to be able to ride an ordinary bike and stand up and pedal.

Girls also need to wear long trousers, ideally jeans. NO Leggings.

- ✓ Girls Only Session
- ✓ BMX exercises
- ✓ Skills & BMX techniques
- ✓ Fun games & mini laps



HAWKS
BMX
CLUB



HAYES HAWKS BMX TRACK

Lake Farm Country Park, Dawley Road, Hayes, UB3 1EJ

Registration via email

hello@hawksbmx.co.uk

The Free Session will be run by a
Female Coach, Harriet Alexander



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FOR FREE



Now showing, **CONFIDENCE!**

Drama, dance & singing classes
designed to help 4-12 year olds shine

**“My son has adored his first term at Perform.
He has blossomed and I've seen his confidence grow every week.”**

Pippa Wotton

