



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 12

5th December 2025

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

15th: SEN Parent Support Group
@ 8.45am

15th: Y6 @ Windsor Castle

15th: Y5&Y6 Rotary Carols @
Fredrick's Hotel (7.10pm)

16th: Reception Nativity @ 2pm

17th: Rocksteady Concert @
1.30pm

18th: Carol Service @ 2pm

19th: Santa Singalong @ 1pm

19th: Break Up @ 2.15pm

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

DECEMBER

Saturday 6th:

* Christmas Tree Pick Up Party

Tuesday 9th:

* KS1 Nativity @ 6pm

Thursday 11th:

* Christmas Jumper Day

* Christmas Lunch

Friday 12th:

* Everybody Writes Day - All
Parents Welcome (9-10.30am)

* PTA Christmas Raffle Draw

Saturday 13th:

* KS2 Senior Citizen's Concert @
Cookham Dean Village Hall
(2.40pm)



SCHOOL NEWS



MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

A huge well done to our Year 3 and 4 children who put us all in the Christmas mood with their wonderful Christingle performance in the church. I have had so many parents come up to me this week to say how magical it was - thank you. It was the first time of performing our Christingle in the church so thank you for bearing with us with the logistics! The children sang beautifully, spoke clearly and made us all think about the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you Year 3 and 4!

KS1 CHOIR

What a treat this week when the KS1 choir performed to the whole school. They weren't a bit nervous (or at least didn't show it) and sang with gusto. They encouraged the audience to join in with actions and great fun was had by all. Thank you KS1 choir!

FAMILIES@4

Well done to our P4P (Pupils4Praise) who led our family worship last Sunday, recorders who played and Year 3 and 4 who sang their Christingle song. The children had opportunities to make Christingles, reflect and sing followed by a lovely tea (supplied by the parish team) with their friends. It is such a lovely event with the whole community coming together to celebrate in church. Thank you to the clergy team for making us feel so welcome.

KS1 NATIVITY

The KS1 nativity is taking place on Tuesday 9th December at 6pm in the school hall. We kindly ask that each child has a maximum of 2 spectators to ensure there is enough room for everyone. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

A reminder that Christmas lunch is on Thursday 11th December, and we are looking forward to a festive feast!

Please place your order online by Monday 8th December (roast turkey or vegetable wellington). Caterlink have updated Scopay to reflect the menu change. Children can wear a Christmas hat or accessory (as well as their Christmas jumper).

Please note that sausages will not be served on Wednesday; instead, Thursday's meal will be served (Caribbean chicken / stew).

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Next Thursday, for a donation of £1, children and staff are invited to wear a Christmas jumper in support of Save the Children (the same day as Christmas lunch).



ATTENDANCE

We are aiming to keep our weekly attendance above 95%.
This week's attendance is **95%**.



SCHOOL NEWS

OPAL

The playground has been buzzing with excitement this week! The open shed is a huge hit - perfect for creativity, cosy moments, and all sorts of imaginative play. And the bikes on the running track? Wow! The children can't get enough of them. Their smiles (and speed!) get bigger every day. It's been wonderful watching their confidence grow. Thank you for all your donations, which help us keep our outdoor space fun, fresh, and full of learning, and a special shout-out to Mrs Thrift in Year 2 for her generous contributions over the past few weeks.

Miss G, OPAL Lead

PRAYER SPACE

This week the library was transformed into a quiet, reflective Christmas prayer space. The children worked around five activities, focussing on different ways to communicate with God: saying sorry using sand; saying thank you for our amazing world using play dough and drawing; appreciating the good things about those we don't get on so well with – using a foot template to write on (being in someone else's shoes); being grateful for our talents and thinking how we could use them by decorating a paper bauble and hanging it on the Christmas tree; asking God for help with worries and concerns by writing or drawing on a post it note and placing it on the bubble tube whilst asking God for help and strength. Pupils for Praise chose the activities and led the activities with reception and Y1. Thank you to all of them for doing such a great job!

Mrs Thompson, RE Lead

ROMEO & JULIET

On Friday 5th December 2025, the Young Shakespeare company came to our school to show us a play called Romeo and Juliet. They told us their names and then they offered us parts in the play. Everyone was having lots of fun because we all got a part. It was a tragic love story and a classic Shakespeare play. It was so fun, everyone loved it!

By Evie, Emily, Charlotte & Bea, Year 5

RECORDERS



It was fun but scary playing the recorder in front of a big crowd! I loved playing, especially with the audience singing along. I loved the Christingle candle show. The food afterwards was delicious. Then I went to see the Christmas tree lights turned on.

Barnaby, Year 3

PTA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

There's just **one week left** to get your tickets for the Cookham Dean PTA Christmas Raffle! Winners will be drawn on Friday 12th December.

£5 gets you 5 tickets, and every penny goes directly to supporting our school. **Buy your tickets [HERE](#).**

Thank you for supporting the PTA and helping raise funds for our children!

Jana Harris, Year 1 Parent



SCHOOL NEWS

CHRISTMAS PARTY - TOMORROW!



Whether you are picking up a Christmas tree or not, please join us in the school hall between 11am and 2pm for mulled wine and Copas turkey rolls, mince pies and hot chocolate, crafting activities (biscuit decorating, design your own Christmas Eve plate and make your own reindeer food), an elf on the shelf treasure hunt, lucky dip, guess the name of the Jellycat (a gorgeous octopus!), stalls from school groups - the Gardening Club will be selling planted paper whites, school-grown seeds and wreaths, as well as more chutney and apple juice, Eco Warriors will be selling second hand Christmas jumpers and toys, and Bookworms will be selling second hand Christmas books! We will also have school tea towels and some fab crafts for sale from former pupils. And a performance from our Key Stage 1 Choir at midday. Please come along and support the event if you can!

And a reminder that if you're ordering your turkey from Copas, please use the code **CDP5** for the PTA to get a 5% kickback. Thank you.

Tori Dixon, Year 5 Parent

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 3 & 4 CHRISTINGLE

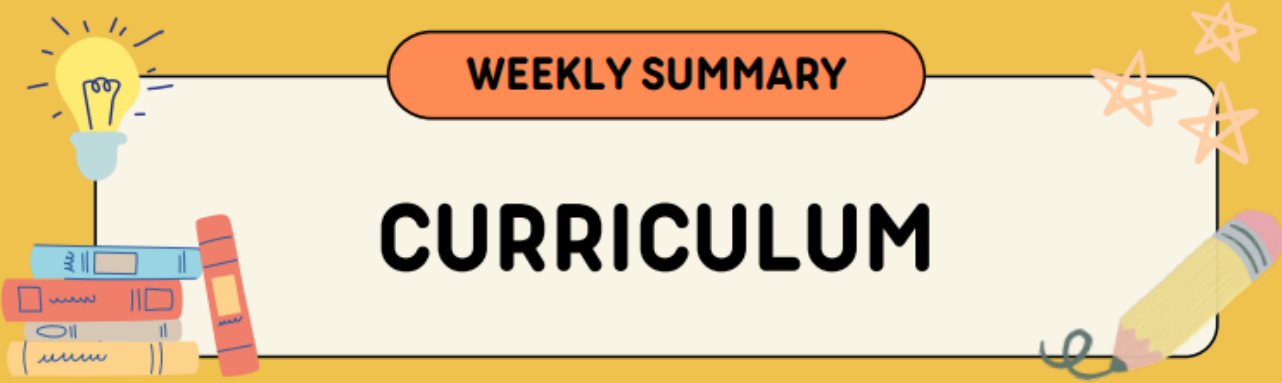
On Monday 1st December, Year 3 and Year 4 performed our Christingle service to our parents at St John the Baptist Church. Our first ever Christingle in the church was successful. Making Christingles, saying our lines and singing being conducted by the wonderful Miss Thompson, and all the money from our parents went to children in poverty. I think we can agree that the service was happy, magical and exciting.

By Margot, Year 4

YEAR 6 CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED

On Tuesday 2nd December Year 6 visited Boyne Hill Baptist Church to participate in a workshop called 'Christmas Unwrapped', where we learnt about the true Christmas story. During the workshop we made Christingle/advent table decorations and took part in a Christmas quiz. The leaders from the church included Reverend Amanda and their own Professor Xmas, who was online on a live link. We learnt all about the bubblegum and fluff of Christmas, that is the truth (the birth of Jesus) and the added extras (turkey etc). We had a great time and hope to return to find out about the mysteries of Easter and Baptism.

By Flo & Lilian, Year 6

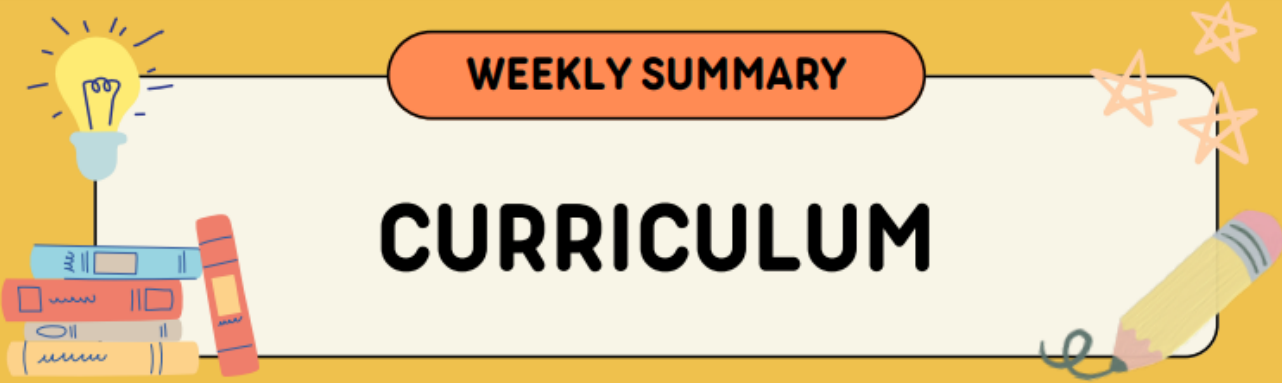


WEEKLY SUMMARY

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 really enjoyed practising for their Nativity performance, reviewing all their Phonics learning from this term and working hard on their writing. In Maths they have been learning all about shape as well as starting to learn about time, focusing on sequencing their day and night routines. Finally, in Art the children loved making their own shadow puppets and learning more about shadows in our Light and Dark topic.
Year 1	Year 1 have had another busy week. We have been busy looking at the book 'Mrs Mole I'm Home' and sequencing it using time connectives. We have been looking at 3D shapes in Maths so that we can recognise them in real life objects. In Geography we worked in a group to draw a map of the school which was great fun. We have also been practicing the Nativity with Year 2 and we are all excited to show you it on Tuesday 9th at 6pm. We finished the week with writing and the children amazed me with their progress!
Year 2	Year 2 have been busy and enthusiastic learners this week! In Maths, we have begun our final unit of the term, exploring 2D and 3D shapes, and the children have loved investigating the properties of different shapes. In English, our class text <i>Dread Cat</i> has been a big hit - particularly the intriguing character of Dread Cat himself, who has sparked lots of discussion and imaginative thinking. We have also been impressed with the children's excellent participation in PE, showing great energy and teamwork. Overall, a wonderful week of learning and reflection!
Year 3	Year 3 have had a wonderful week. We enjoyed beginning December with our fantastic Christingle Service. In English, we have written information reports on Ancient Egyptian Gods and Goddesses. In Maths, we have been focusing on the 4x table and exploring all the number facts related. We have ended our week with a trip to the Ashmolean Museum. We are really excited to explore the Ancient Egyptian artefacts and find out more about Ancient Egyptian times.
Year 4	After our fantastic Christingle service on Monday evening, we have been looking at multiples of 3 and learning a trick to work out multiples of 3 in larger numbers. Ask your child, how to do it! In English we are starting to write a persuasive speech. Our history lesson was looking at artefacts and discussing how chocolate was important to the Maya. Today, we were very excited to watch <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> which was performed by a theatre company.



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Year 5

It has been a good week in Year 5. In maths, we have continued with fractions. The children worked hard to compare and order improper fractions with different denominators. They used their times tables facts to help them with this. In English, we have been building up to writing a diary entry, imagining we are a courtier in Henry VIII's court who has witnessed some treasonous behaviour! In RE, we have started to tie up our Incarnation unit, focusing on the importance of Christmas to Christians. Have a lovely weekend!

Year 6

What a week! We have been entertained, educated and let our creativity blossom in Year 6 this week. We started the week thinking about newspapers and journalistic writing, especially reviews. We ended the week writing a review of the fantastic production of Romeo and Juliet by the Young Shakespeare Company. What a treat that was! On Tuesday we visited Boyne Hill Baptist Church to take part in their Christmas unwrapped workshop. We are still working hard on both our Science where we learnt to make dimmer switches to add to our Christmas projects and our DT buzzer games. We have also started our Novella: A Christmas Carol.

On 5th December KS2 watched a production of Romeo and Juliet by the Young Shakespeare's Company. It was performed in the school hall and the good thing about it was that we could join in with the performance as there were only 4 actors. The company came to our school to make us more interested in the writings of Shakespeare. The story was about 2 families that were at war: the Capulets and the Montagues but both families' children were in love. In the end the young couple killed themselves leaving both families confused. My favourite character was Romeo as in the dress up party he wore a spider man outfit a bit of modern life I would say. I really liked the performance because it was a love story part tragedy what I really like, and it has made me even more interested in Shakespeare. In my opinion I think they should make a sequel to the show as I really enjoyed it and if they come next time in think, they should get EVEN more characters in the show so that even more people could do a part in the show. I would like to thank the whole company for all the productions I've seen when I was at the school and I hope you do more in future for the other classes to come as this is the last year, I will see it because I'm in Year 6.

By Flynn

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

Norden Farm presents

THE LANTERN PARADE

**CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS
OUR ANIMAL NEIGHBOURS**

Saturday 6 December 2025 from 4.30pm
Maidenhead Town Hall



With music from Bollywood Brass Band and Dhol Collective. Free to attend!

4.30pm Entertainment starts outside Maidenhead Town Hall
5pm Parade departs from the Town Hall
5.45pm - 6.15pm Entertainment continues
Get parade ready by joining us at a Lantern Making Workshop!

Free Event

FIND OUT MORE



FR REGULATORY
Reg. Charity No. 118947

Proudly sponsored by



**Alexander Devine
Christmas Treecycling**

Supporting your local children's hospice service.

Do you find disposing of your Christmas tree a hassle?
Hate having pine needles in your car?
If you live in SL4, SL6, SL7, SL8 or RG10 postcodes, then we can help you!

For a donation to our charity, our volunteers will collect and recycle your Christmas tree between Thursday 8th and Saturday 10th January 2026.

Scan here to book your tree collection.



Book your collection on our website by **midnight on Sunday 4th January 2026**. Our service is popular so book early to avoid disappointment!

www.alexanderdevine.org/trees

THE
JOLLY FARMER

COOKHAM DEAN

KIDS' MEAL DEAL

Monday to Thursday
3-5pm

Just £5

Veg sticks / Main meal / Juice
Just £5

Check out our menus at
www.thejollyfarmercookhamdean.com.
Please follow us on Instagram @thejollyfarmercookham
for more deals and information.

 **SPRINGBUCKS
GYMNASTICS CLUB**

FUN & GAMES - PARACHUTE - CHRISTMAS CRAFTS - LEGO

Need some Christmas shopping time without the kids?

TRY OUR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CAMPS!

Hazlemere Youth Centre
Rose Ave, HP15 7UB
Monday 22nd Dec 2025

Court Garden Leisure Centre
Marlow, SL7 2AE
Tuesday 23rd Dec 2025

OPEN TO CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES
& EXPERIENCE AGES 3 - 12 YEARS

Times - Mornings 9 - 12 (£18)
Lunch Club 12 - 1pm (£4)
Afternoons 1 - 4pm (£18)
Full Day 9am - 4pm (£40)



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