



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 11

28th November 2025

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

30th: Families@4

December

1st: Y3&Y4 Christingle @ 6pm

2nd: Y6 @ Boyne Hill Church

2nd: KS1 Choir Concert @ 2.45pm

3rd: Y6 NCMP

5th: Everybody Writes Day

5th: Y3 @ Ashmolean Museum

5th: Romeo & Juliet Performance

6th: Christmas Tree Pick Up Party

9th: KS1 Nativity @ 6pm

11th: Christmas Jumper Day

11th: Christmas Lunch

13th: KS2 Senior Citizen's Concert @ Cookham Dean Village Hall) (2.40pm)

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

Tuesday 2nd:

* Y6 @ Boyne Hill Baptist Church

* Y3 @ SJB Church

* KS1 Choir Concert

Wednesday 3rd:

* Y6 NCMP Assembly

Friday 5th:

* Everybody Writes Day

* Romeo & Juliet Performance



SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

A huge well done to the children who represented Cookham Dean Primary School at the Maidenhead Lions Talent Show. You may remember at the end of last term, we held our own internal talent show and chose (and it was difficult) 4 children to showcase their talents at Furze Platt Senior School, in their theatre. In front of an audience of parents and friends, Thomas from year 3 played a grand piano, Emily from year 5 performed amazing gymnastics stunts, Minnie from year 6 sang one of my favourite songs from Little Mermaid and Archie made our sides split with his comedy routine. I am so very proud to announce that out of all the schools that entered, Cookham Dean came first. Congratulations to all the children that took part in the first round and an extra special congratulations to Thomas, Emily, Minnie and Archie!



FAMILIES@4

Don't forget our next Families@4 service is on Sunday 30th November at St John the Baptist Church. The service will be led by our Pupils for Praise, and Year 3 and Year 4 will be singing their Christingle songs. All families are invited and we hope to see you there.

PARENT FORUM

Next Friday 5th December at 2pm, I will be holding a parent forum. This is your opportunity to discuss anything about school with me. If you are not able to attend, but you would like us to discuss something, then please let the office know.

CATERLINK

Mel, our cook has left us today to work in a smaller school for Caterlink. We will be welcoming a new cook, David on Monday. We wish Mel all the best.

MIX UP MATHS

An enjoyable morning was spent with classes mixing with each other to carry out different activities with a focus on times tables and division. From cracking codes, making chatter-boxes to test each other, playing snakes and ladders using their multiplication skills, making emojis by getting the correct answers, and many other activities, the buzz around the school was amazing.

Miss Thompson – Maths Lead



EVERYBODY WRITES

On Friday 12th Dec 9.00-10.30am all parents are invited to join us for a Christmas writing experience. It will be based on the attached short film and Michael Morpurgo book 'Coming Home'

You may remember it as the Waitrose Advert from a few years ago. It will begin with a short assembly to introduce the task, all parents are welcome to join us for the assembly and work with your child in their classroom.

<https://youtu.be/bjA9TBfk0w>

Listen to Michael Morpurgo reading the book here:

<https://youtu.be/RslbtKSrns>



OPAL

To help your child fully enjoy the experience—rain or shine—please ensure they come with: **WELLIES + OVERALLS / WATERPROOFS**

This will allow them to take part comfortably in all outdoor activities, including mud kitchen, den-building, cycling, and nature exploration.

Thank you for your ongoing support in making our outdoor play and learning programme a success!

We introduced New play zones this week:

- Human JCB area
- Lego caravan (slowly developing)
- Den area at the back of the field

Open storage shed for easy access

Miss G, OPAL Lead

SCHOOL NEWS

INVICTUS GAMES

On Tuesday, 10 KS2 children took part in the Invictus Games. We went to Braywick Leisure Centre with lots of other schools. The trip was so good that Mrs Reekie asked me to write this. It was so much fun. We did archery, danger ball and pillow polo. We all really enjoyed it.

Yousef Fouda Y3

PRAYER SPACE

Next week our library will be transformed into a prayer space where all the children in the school will have a chance to focus on ways to be thankful, sorry and ask God for help with their worries. The theme for the space is Advent and Christmas. The Pupils for Praise selected the activities and will help run the sessions for the younger children. All the materials and resources are provided by a charity called BeSpace. Please ask your children about their time in the prayer space next week.

Mrs Thompson
RE Subject 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.



Year 1

Tom



Year 2

Audrey

Year 3

Blossom & William

Year 4

Leo

Year 5

Jamie

Year 6

Stanley



SCHOOL NEWS

PTA

CHRISTMAS PARTY! SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

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.



Join us for a

CHRISTMAS

Party



Performance
BY THE KEY STAGE 1
CHOIR, 12PM

SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER
11AM - 2PM
PICK UP YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE, STAY FOR...

MULLED WINE - COPAS TURKEY ROLLS - HOT CHOCOLATE
- MINCE PIES - CHRISTMAS CRAFTS INCLUDING
DECORATE A XMAS EVE PLATE AND MAKE YOUR OWN
REINDEER FOOD - GUESS THE NAME OF THE JELLYCAT -
STALLS INCLUDING CHRISTMAS BOOKS, SEEDS AND
PAPERWHITES, APPLE CHUTNEY, LOCAL CRAFTS &
COLOURING - KS1 CHOIR PERFORMANCE AT NOON!

Cookham Dean CE Primary School Main Hall, Bigfrith Lane
Order a Christmas Tree online: <https://xmastreescdps.square.site>

COOKHAM DEAN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas Trees for sale

BRITISH GROWN
PREMIUM QUALITY
NORDMANN FIR TREES

ORDER ONLINE:

<https://xmastreescdps.square.site>

DELIVERY AVAILABLE:
FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER
SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

COLLECTION AND PICK-UP
PARTY 11AM-2PM,
SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

ORDER
ONLINE:



CHRISTMAS TREE SALE & PICK UP PARTY

□ Christmas trees for sale! (We think it might be the school's 20th year of selling Xmas trees!)

<https://xmastreescdps.square.site>

Delivery available or come and enjoy a mulled wine and turkey roll at our Pick-up Party on Saturday 6 December from 11am-2pm! □

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Support Cookham Dean PTA and
be in with a chance to win one of
our epic hampers.

Winners will be drawn on 12th
December.

Every ticket sold helps fund school
trips, resources and upgrades —
making a real difference for our
children. Thank you for your
support!

Scan me to
buy
tickets.



WEEKLY SUMMARY

CURRICULUM

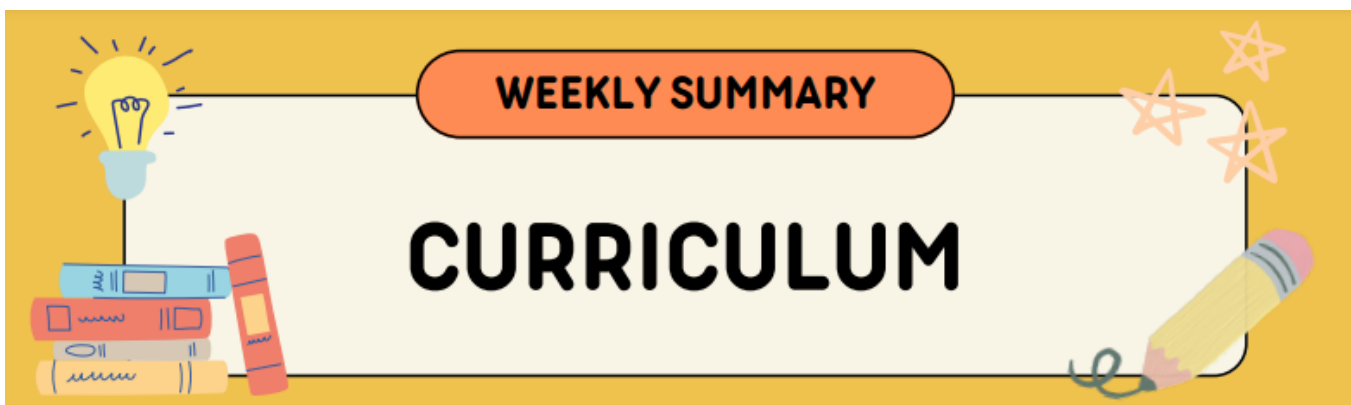
Each week we will be letting you know in this newsletter, a snapshot of what the children have been learning in class. For an overview of the term's work, please go to the [class pages](#) on our website where you will find more information.

Reception	This week reception have focused on the /sh/, /ch/, /ng/ and /nk/ di-graphs and have practised spelling and blending these sounds in words. In literacy we have started a new book called Snowball by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet and the children have gone on an outdoor hunt to find signs of winter coming and have written predictions on what the title of the book is. In Maths we have been learning all about shape focusing on squares and rectangles. In PSED we learned about how we are all special and valuable individuals and discussed that it is ok to be different and to like different things. Finally, we have had lots of fun rehearsing for our Nativity and learning the songs!
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Year 1	In year 1 this week we have been practicing forming a sentence by saying it out loud before writing it down. We also used the word 'and' to join to sentences together. In Maths we have been looking at 3D shapes and naming them. We have been busy practicing our nativity songs and ensuring that we stay in time with the music ready for our nativity in a couple of weeks.
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Year 2	This week in Maths, the children have been working hard on comparing numbers, using mathematical language to explain their reasoning with growing confidence. In History, we have continued exploring schools in the 1900s, comparing classrooms from the past with those we know today. During RE, the class has been working towards answering our key question: "Why does Christmas matter to Christians?" The children have shown thoughtful insight as they explore the meaning and importance of this celebration. I am so pleased with the children's positive attitude to learning and their attentive listening throughout the week. Well done, Year Two!
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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	This week in English we have been planning and starting to write our information text on Ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses. We are really enjoying our Egyptian topic. In art we looked at various Egyptian artefacts and pictures and selected sections to copy, focussing on shape, colour and design. In maths we have been continuing our work on multiplication and division, ending with a times table focus in mix up maths on Friday. We have spent a lot of the week practising for our Christingle Service in Cookham Dean church on Monday 1st December at 6pm. We are looking forward to sharing this with our families.
Year 4	This week in year 4, we have been busy rehearsing for our Christingle Service. In maths, we have been finding out what area means and calculating the area of rectilinear shapes. In English we have been trying hard to include all of the punctuation needed for speech and have made a conversation between the two main characters from our book, The Chocolate Tree. In history, we have been discovering why chocolate was important to the Mayans and today, we worked out different ways to answer times tables and division facts to complete lots of activities.
Year 5	It has been a busy week of learning in Year 5. In maths, we have continued our work on fractions. The children have worked hard to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, and vice versa. In english, the children have been focusing on a character's thoughts and feelings. They wrote a letter describing Will's thoughts and feelings while meeting King Henry VIII for the first time. In computing, the children worked effectively to create vector drawings. We had some wonderful sheep, a chocolate bar and a Dalek!
Year 6	In maths we did Mix up Maths, different activities with an older or younger year such as IT Rockstars, crossnumber multiplication and division sheets. In English we wrote a letter from Miss Helena to the Home Office and a reference for the Northern School of Ballet, inspired by our class book - No Ballet Shoes In Syria. In computing we used Tinkercad (3D creation software) to create our dream house. In DT we are continuing our Christmas buzzer games, using a source to make the buzzer and we are planning to make a Christmas decoration that uses light and buzzers.

We're switching on the Christmas Lights!



Outside the Village Hall

Sunday 30th November from 5:00pm

Singing round the tree

Mince pies, mulled wine and other refreshments available

