



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 7

24th October 2025

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

11th: Remembrance Service @ 10.45am

11th: Y2 @ Reading Museum

11th: Lunchtime 25 Challenge for Children In Need

14th: Children In Need - Wear Something Spotty!

20th: Y6 @ Science Museum

22nd: Lions Talent Show

30th: Families@4

December

9th: KS1 Nativity @ 6pm

11th: Christmas Jumper Day

11th: Christmas Lunch

16th: Reception Nativity @ 2pm

17th: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm

18th: Carol Service @ 2pm

19th: Santa Singalong @ 1pm

19th: Break Up @ 2.15pm

EVENTS NEXT TERM

NOVEMBER

Monday 3rd:

* Return to School

Friday 7th:

* SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am



SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

Well done to all the children that took part in the Cookham Dean Primary School talent show. The finalists and going through to represent our school at the Maidenhead Lions talent show in November are **Minnie** (Year 6), **Thomas** (Year 3) and **Emily** (Year 5). All the children were amazing and showed such confidence and talent. We are very proud of you all.

It has been an amazing first term at school. We hope you have a lovely week off and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 3rd November.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This month each class has been studying a special person who has shown resilience in overcoming prejudice and racism - from Mary Seacole in Reception to Aretha Franklin in Year 6. Each class shared their learning with the whole school in our assembly - well done to those children who spoke confidently.



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



We will be holding our own Remembrance Service at school on Tuesday 11th November at 10.45. Please join us for this special service if you would like to.

ATTENDANCE

We are aiming to keep our weekly attendance above 95%. This week's attendance is **96%**.



💎 PTA 💎

Following our AGM, I'm delighted to share that the PTA raised just over **£33,000** last year! A huge thank you to all parents, carers and families for your time, energy and support - we truly couldn't do it without you.

It was a pleasure to be able to say "yes" to every funding request the school made, helping to provide the extras that make Cookham Dean such a special place for our children.

We're now looking ahead to another exciting half term, kicking off with Bingo Night, the Panto trip, and of course our Christmas Tree Sales and Big Christmas Raffle - all firm favourites in the school calendar!

If you'd like to get more involved (even in tiny, one-off ways), we would love to have you on board. There's a role for everyone - bakers, ticket-sellers, tidy-uppers, creative-minds, admin-elves and raffle-wranglers included! Come and say "hello".

Thank you once again for being part of such a supportive school community. Here's to another great year ahead!

Pippa Jeans, PTA Chair

ALL ABOUT FAMILY

Click [HERE](#) for the autumn edition of All About Family - the free digital magazine aimed at giving parents valuable information for their children.

SCHOOL NEWS

CHILDREN IN NEED
FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2025

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Children, you can help raise money by:

1. Tuesday 11th November - Lunchtime 25 Challenge!



£1 entry to take part in the Lunchtime 25 Challenge.

Have a go at the below challenges, the winners of each challenge can choose either 25 dojos or 25 house points.

How many football goals can you score in 25 seconds?

How many netball goals can you score in 25 seconds?

How many times can you hit the tennis ball on the racket without dropping the ball, in 25 seconds?

How many times can you write your name in 25 seconds?

How many cream crackers can you eat in 25 seconds?

How many times can you take off and put on your jumper in 25 seconds?

How many smiley faces can you draw in 25 seconds?

How many countries can you name in 25 seconds?

The challenges will take place on the playground on Tuesday 11th November at lunchtime and the winners will be announced in celebration assembly on the Friday 14th November!

2. Friday 14th November - Children in Need!

Come to school wearing something spotty - hair band, socks, tie etc. £1 donation.



SCHOOL NEWS

READING CHALLENGE

To promote reading for pleasure throughout the school, your child/children will be coming home with a **'Frightfully Good Reading Challenge.'** This is something fun that the whole family can get involved with. Please return the challenge to their class teacher by Friday 7th November. Prizes of Dojos will be given to every child, with the class who has completed the most challenges, having an extra play. Good luck everyone.

Miss Thompson, Reading Lead



HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations to team Topaz who are currently in the lead with 501 points!

DIAMOND - 465

TOPAZ - 501

RUBY - 410

EMERALD - 433

SAPPHIRE - 385

AMETHYST - 432

YEAR 6 MIXED FOOTBALL

On Monday 20th, myself and eight others took part in the Braywick mixed football tournament. It was a great day we showed lots of resilience as we played 5 matches and didn't quite win any. We did show the most spirit that day by not giving up. The boys: Sam, Berry and Oliver were our goalies, they tried hard to defend. Unfortunately we didn't score any goals but we had great fun.

By Bella, Year 6

THE BABY BANK

* ✨ **Elves, assemble!**
It's Christmas calling! 🎄

For the 7th consecutive year, we are launching our Christmas Pyjama appeal, and we need your support.

We're asking for labelled gift bags with the following:

- A cozy set of brand new winter PJs
- A scrumptious selection box of chocolates
- ✨ A shiny new book to spark their imaginations

Closing date for gift is Friday 28th Nov



**Mon, Weds & Fri
9:30-12:30pm**

**Unit A2, Tectonic Place,
Holyport Road, SL6 2YE**

SCHOOL NEWS

MAIDENHEAD'S BIG READ COMPETITION REMINDER

Maidenhead's Big Read



presents a Bookmark Drawing Art Competition

Theme: "Get Moving!" — Active Adventures in Books

About the Theme

Books don't just take us on mental journeys – they inspire us to move! This year's theme is "Get Moving!". We invite you to design a bookmark that captures the energy of being active, to explore how stories encourage physical activity, sports, and energetic adventures.



Think of:

- Characters running through magical forests 🌲
- Athletes chasing dreams on the field ⚽
- Explorers hiking mountains or sailing seas 🏔️🚢
- Book heroes who inspire you to get up and move 🛡️



How to Participate

- **Who:** Open to all students upto 14 years of age
- **What:** Create a drawing - hand-drawn or digital
- **Deadline:** 1st December 2025
- **Submit to:** In person at School or hello@maidenheads-big-read.org.uk

Prizes & Recognition

- Winning entries will be printed on a bookmark during MBR2026
- Top artists will receive exciting prizes
- Selected entries will also be showcased at Maidenhead Library, MBR website & MBR social media*
- Judging will be undertaken by local Children's Author & Poet Simon Mole



Let Your Art Move the Story Forward!

Whether it's a wizard sprinting through a spellbound maze or a soccer star from your favorite novel scoring the winning goal – show us how books get us moving!



*only child's first name and age will be visible.

SCHOOL NEWS

OPAL

Half term has arrived and here are some simple at-home outdoor play ideas to keep little ones active, curious, and creative:

- Nature treasure hunt: Collect leaves, stones, sticks, and sticks, and see how many different textures and colours you can find.
- DIY obstacle course: Use whatever you have - boxes, skipping ropes, hula hoops etc - to make a fun challenge track.
- Bike & scooter rides: Now's the perfect time to practice balance and road safety in a playful way.
- Messy sensory play: Bring out water tubs, mud kitchens, or chinks - the mess stays outside and the fun lasts for hours!

We hope these ideas spark some joyful outdoor adventures at home.

Miss G, OPAL Lead

SWIMARATHON 2026



NETBALL

On Wednesday, after school the netball team played a netball match against Oldfield Primary and won. It was our first match that we played and won, all the rest we sadly lost. We beat them 6-3 and our player of the match was Arianna. We hope to win more matches in the future as a team!

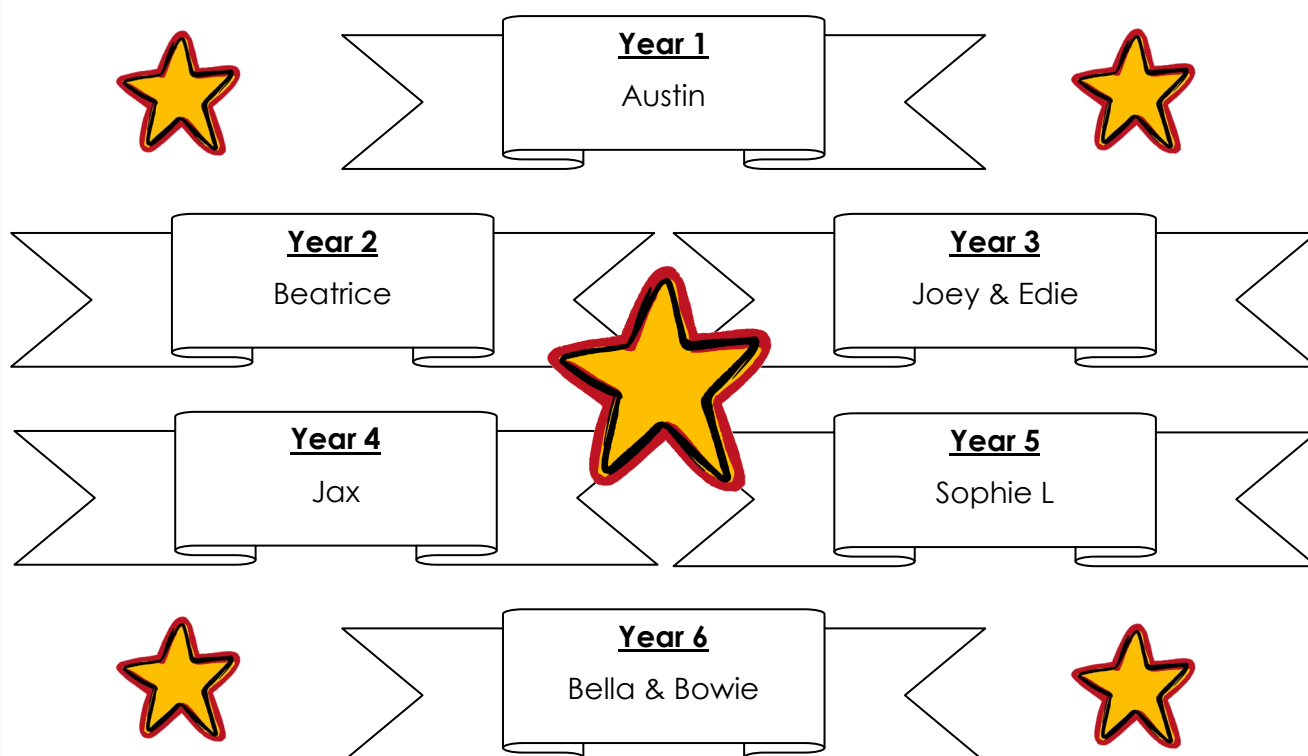
By Flo, Year 6



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.







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 terrific week. In English, we have looked at Mae Jemison for Black History Month and wrote diary entries based on her trip to space! We have also looked at the features of a non-chronological report and used all our knowledge on volcanoes to create a report. In Geography, we looked at what an earthquake is and why they happen. We then designed our own buildings that we thought we survive an earthquake.
Year 4	This week we have been celebrating Black History Month by writing a biography about the jazz singer Louis Armstrong. In maths we have been adding 4 digit numbers with one exchange. As part of our DT and English lesson we have written a set of instructions on how to make our own incredible crisps with a secret ingredient. In RE this week we were looking at why the celebration of Diwali is important to Hinduism and relating this celebration to other religions. We all hope everyone has a lovely half term break.
Year 5	It has been a great final week of term in Year 5. In maths, the children have started exploring multiplication and division, first focusing on multiples and common multiples. In English, the children were proactive in editing and improving their suspense narratives. Also, the children have enjoyed researching the life of Walter Tull, one of the first black professional footballers in England. He had a remarkable life, which I'm sure the children would love to tell you about. Have a lovely half term!
Year 6	A busy end to a very busy first term in Year 6. In Year 6 this week we have been solving problems with division including long division. We have been listening to and investigating Aretha Franklin as part of our Black History month. We wrote poems, raps and power points based on her life and legacy. We continued our still life photo realism in art and in PE we began modern interpretative dance exploring the theme of time passing. In literacy we have tackled flashbacks and time hopping through narrative.



I didn't think
I could...



Enquire or check out the website
for more information

E: info@lafosteringse.org.uk

T: 0300 131 2797

W: [achievingforchildren.org.uk/
contact-fostering](http://achievingforchildren.org.uk/contact-fostering)



...but
now I am

You could be
exactly the right
person, no matter
your background,
culture, religion,
ethnicity, sexuality
or relationship
status to be a
great foster carer!

Enquire today
to find out how
fostering could
be right for you.



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LOCAL AUTHORITY
Fostering
SOUTH EAST



Funded by
UK Government

Be part of a child's village

Join our community
of local foster carers,
experienced and new,
as you shape the life and
future of a child together.
Share knowledge, share
skills, come together and
be part of a child's village.



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for children

LOCAL AUTHORITY
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SOUTH EAST



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LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

Maidenhead Lions
Saturday 8th November

Christmas Gift Market

Christmas Gifts, Craft Stalls, Tombola, Mystery Gift Bags, Refreshments.

No entry fee
donation only
Parking available



St. Joseph's Parish Hall
Cookham Road, SL6 7EG
11.00 - 3.30pm

DEVINE FLOWERS

Christmas Wreath Academy

2nd, 3rd & 4th December 2025
Pinder Hall, Cookham 7pm-9pm



Led by the wonderfully creative and entertaining Adam Garrett, you will create a stunning Christmas Wreath.

With a glass of bubbles included -
a fabulous way to kickstart your festive season.

Scan to book
or find us on
Eventbrite



Book Here

HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

THE JOLLY FARMER COOKHAM DEAN

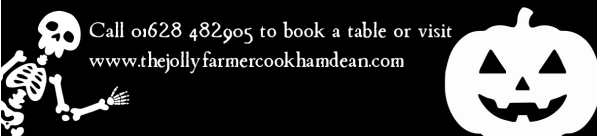
For ages 12 and under. Entries in to the pub by Thursday 30 October.
Judging on Friday 31 October. First prize - £20 Amazon Gift Voucher.

FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER

TRICK OR TREAT

2 FOR 1 KIDS MEALS FROM 4PM

Call 01628 482905 to book a table or visit
www.thejollyfarmercookhamdean.com




FREECYCLE WINTER CLOTHES

SATURDAY 1st Nov
10.00am to 12.00pm

At Cookham Library
Community Room

See us on Facebook - contact us at:
cookhamsfootprint@gmail.com

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

THE COOKHAM CHRONICLER IS COMING TO COOKHAM LIBRARY

Wednesday 29 October
3pm
Cookham Community Room

Prepare for a fusion of imagination and medieval magic. The historical tales told by David Gilbert, will explore places, events and objects from the archaeological digs at Cookham Abbey.

Free to book on Evenbrite




THE COOKHAM CHRONICLES

Ideal for ages 4 to 7

 @RBWM_Libraries  RBWM Libraries  RBWM_Libraries

OCTOBER TOUCH RUGBY CAMP

MON 27-TUE 28 OCT 
AGES 5-17 

***SKILLS *TACTICS *GAMES *FUN**

Cost: £35 for 1 day or £80 for 2 days. Contact us for a 10% sibling discount.

Timings: 09:30-15:00 

Venue: Maidenhead RFC, SL6 1BN

REGISTER

To register your Junior or for more details please email sammie@in2touch.com


Flying High: 150 Years of Birds and Beaks

Free family activities and birds of prey shows at Eton's Natural History Museum, celebrating the museums 150th anniversary.

Join us for a fun range of half term family activities at the Natural History Museum on the 30th October.

The museum will be open 1 – 4 pm.

Free entry – no need to book.

For more information, visit: <https://collections.etoncollege.com/whats-on/events/11036/>

Natural History Museum, Eton College, South Meadow Lane, Windsor SL4 6ES