



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 1

12th September 2025

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September

24th: National Fitness Day

24th: OPAL Presentation & Parents Playdate @ 2pm

25th: Reception 'First Class Photo'

25th: Y4 @ Cogges Farm

26th: Reception & Y1 Parents Phonics Session @ 9am

October

3rd: MacMillan Coffee Afternoon @ 2pm

5th: Maidenhead Boundary Walk

7th: Individual & Sibling Photos

17th: Flu Vaccination

24th: Break Up

November

3rd: Return to School

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 14th:

* Gravity Grand Prix

Monday 15th:

* Y6 Meet the Teacher @ 9am

Tuesday 16th:

* Mad Science Assembly

* Y1 Meet the Teacher @ 9am

* Y2 Meet the Teacher @ 9am

Wednesday 17th:

* Y4 Meet the Teacher @ 9am

* Y3 Meet the Teacher @ 2.45pm

Thursday 18th:

* OPAL Assembly

* Y5 Meet the Teacher @ 9am

* iSingPOP Concerts @ 3pm & 6pm



SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

The first full week back has been full of joy. It has been wonderful welcoming the Reception children and their parents into our Cookham Dean school community. All the children have settled well back into school routine and have enjoyed a week of iSingPOP. I am sure that they have come home eager to share the songs with you. If you would like to practise or hear them (beware they are VERY catchy!) then you can access the backing tracks and dance tracks via <https://vimeo.com/showcase/10985976> Password: **isingpop6**. There will be two concerts for us to showcase what the children have learnt next Thursday at St John the Baptist Church – one at 3-3.45pm and one at 6-6.45pm.

P PARKING P

We are very lucky at our school to have plenty of parking - even if it means a short walk through a beautiful village! But there are a few points I would like to make you aware of:

1. Please can you be mindful of our neighbours when parking around school - particularly when it is raining. They are very understanding of traffic in the village so please be considerate by not parking across their drives, making sure you are not obstructing their exits.
2. Please do not park on the yellow zigzags outside school during school time as this is a danger to our children crossing the road.
3. Note that the 'kiss and drop' to the side of the staff car park is not to be parked on - this is for KS2 parents to pull in to enable their children to enter school via the back gate.
4. We are also very mindful about protecting our wonderful countryside so please do not park on the grass anywhere around school.
5. The owners of The Jolly Farmer allow our parents to park in their car park for drop off and pick up but please do not leave your cars there unless you are enjoying a drink or food at the pub.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL

There are many ways in which you can be involved in our school and we welcome any support that you are able to give the children.

1. Be involved with PTA events - help organise, attend events, come along to PTA meetings. I am sure that Pippa Jeans who is the current PTA chair would be very happy to discuss opportunities for you to be involved
2. Your teacher will be asking for volunteer readers - parents or grandparents to come into school to read with the children. Don't worry training will be given!
3. Trips - we do ask for parents to come on school trips to support the children.
4. Parent Forum - once a term, I hold parent forum meetings. This is a chance for you to share any ideas to improve our school or to discuss something particular e.g. school uniform, school lunches. The dates of these meetings are on the school website. It would be lovely to see you!
5. Jobs around school e.g. library or running a lunchtime club. If you would like to help out, please do let us know.

If you wish to be involved directly with the children, then you will need to have a DBS check. Please contact the school office to arrange.

SCHOOL NEWS

MEET THE TEACHER REMINDER

Year 1 – Tuesday 16th September @ 9am

Year 2 – Tuesday 16th September @ 9am

Year 3 – Wednesday 17th September @ 2.45pm

Year 4 – Wednesday 17th September @ 9am

Year 5 – Thursday 18th September @ 9am

Year 6 – Monday 15th September @ 9am

In addition to meet the teacher, each term you will have a parents evening - an opportunity to come into school to discuss your child face to face. The week before the parents evening, you will be sent home a report card which will inform you of your child's attainment and this will then inform the parents evening discussion. Dates are in the calendar on the website.

OPAL VOLUNTEERS

Hi, Miss G here! I'm looking for OPAL 2-4 parent helpers to lend a hand and share a little of your time and skills throughout the academic year. Here's how you could help:

- 🚗 Picking up donations and bringing them to school (a big, not-too-precious car would be perfect!)
- 🔧 Fixing & maintaining equipment, including treating our wooden sculptures, getting our DIY on!
- 🚲 Bike fixer needed! We're lucky to have lots of bikes for the children, but they do need regular maintenance - some currently have flat tyres and need inner tubes replaced.

By helping, you'll be giving your child and their friends even more amazing playtimes and wonderful memories at school. If this sounds like you (or you'd like to know more), please get in touch. We'd love your support!

iSINGPOP

We've really enjoyed learning all the great songs for our iSingPop concert next Thursday. Our personal favourite songs were Reach Out and the River Deep. Although they are all amazing songs to learn. It's a great opportunity and we highly recommend it to every other school interested. They make learning new songs very easy and enjoyable. A big shout out to Sandy who has been making our lessons enjoyable and always brings a smile to our faces! Thank you iSingPOP.

By Leandra & Lili, Year 6

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON



You are invited to come and have tea and cake on Friday 3rd October to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support. If you wish to attend, please can you let the office know (so that we know how many cakes to buy!) Thank you.

PM LETTER TO FAMILIES

Please click on the image below for the Prime Minister's letter to parents and carers on **Best Start In Life** and visit the hub at <https://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk/> for information and practical support.



COMMUNICATION

There are so many different forms of communication - it can get quite confusing! Communication from school office and myself is through email. The teachers will use dojo to share your child's learning with you but also to pass on last minute messages. Class reps will use WhatsApp to share information but please note that the newsletter is the best way to keep up to date with what is happening in school. It is not the class reps job to be your reminder!

SCHOOL NEWS

50:50 CLUB



50:50 club

Would you like the chance to WIN
UP TO £50 and help the school
while you're doing it? Then join our
50:50 club!

**Anyone can join! ask your
friends and neighbours.**

For just £2.50 a month you could help provide equipment,
resources and opportunities for pupils, and have a chance at
winning some cash yourself in the monthly draw £££.

**Sign up today and you could
be our next WINNER!!**

For more information contact Helen Jackson,
helenrymer80@gmail.com

OPAL



YOU'RE INVITED!



OPAL PRIMARY PROGRAMME



Afternoon 24th September

We are thrilled to be running the OPAL Primary Programme
at Cookham Dean.

You are warmly invited to join us for a fun-filled afternoon of
outdoor play and creativity with your child/children

Activities include:

- 🏠 Den building
- 👗 Dressing up
- 📖 Imaginative storytelling
- ★ And much more!



Schedule:

- 1:50–2:00pm → Arrive
- 2:00–2:15pm → Talk on the OPAL Primary Programme
by OPAL mentor
- 2:15–3:00pm → Free play session with the children

Please contact
office@cookhamdean.org
if you would like to attend.
We hope you can make it!

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.



BEAUTIFUL SUNFLOWERS IN THE SCHOOL GARDEN



50:50 CLUB

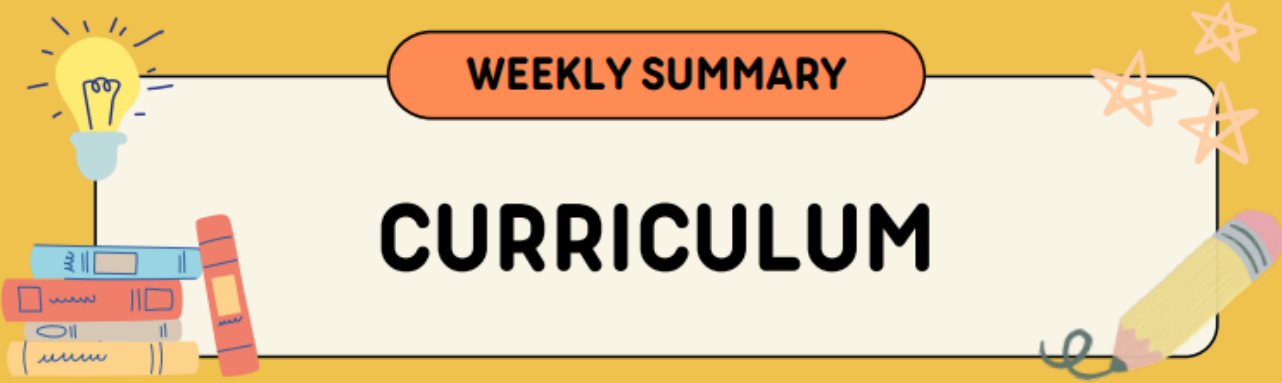
Congratulations to the August & September
50:50 Club winners:

1st prize - Nina Griffith & Rachelle Cornel
2nd prize - Isadora Bennett & Sarah McGowan

WINNERS

COOKHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Please see page 6 for the list of children's classes
at this year's Produce and Flower Show, which will
be judged on Saturday 20th September at the
Cookham Dean Fete. More details [HERE](#).

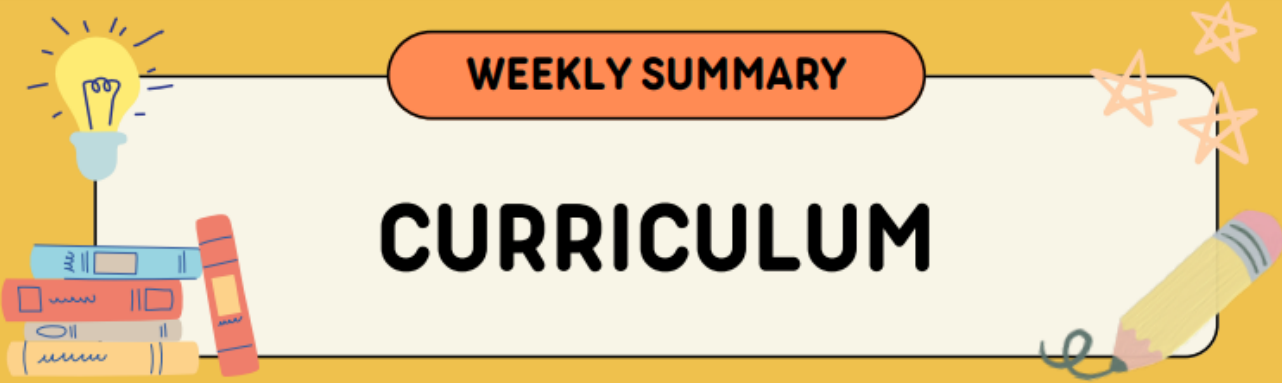


WEEKLY SUMMARY

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	Reception have made a brilliant start to school. They have been very excited to explore the classroom and outdoor areas as well as get to know each other and us! We have done lots of activities including, junk modelling, painting, practising our cutting, mark making, reading stories, playing matching games and more. The children have settled in so well and have been excellent at helping with the tidying in the classroom and listening nicely. They have also really enjoyed learning the iSingPOP! songs ready for our concert next week. Well done Reception for a super first full week!
Year 1	In Year 1 this week we have been reading the book What the Ladybird heard and discussing what we might see and hear on a farm. We then went on a sound hunt around the school listening for the different things the ladybird might hear in the different locations. In maths we have started looking at our place value within 10. We have counted and sorted objects before matching digits to the number words. We have really enjoyed learning our new songs in iSingPOP and looking forward to performing them on Thursday.
Year 2	We have had a fantastic start to the term and we are so impressed with the children's work ethic during independent work time. In English, we have started reading The Pirates Next Door by Jonny Duddle and are enjoying learning about the characters. In maths, we have been revising and learning about place value, and smashing it! In PE, we are working with coach Jo and learning ball skills/ The children listened so well and the coach was really impressed. What a brilliant first week in Year 2!



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Year 3	Year 3 have had a wonderful start to the term. In English, we have started to read Roald Dahl's <i>Esio Trot</i> . We have loved learning about all the characters and excited to find out what happens next! In maths, we have started to represent and partition numbers to 100. We have also had a fabulous week learning all the iSingPOP songs and can't wait for the concert next week!
Year 4	This week in Year 4, we have started our new class book, <i>Madame Pamplemousse and her Incredible Edibles</i> . We have been looking at adverbs and how we can swap them around within sentences, discovering new vocabulary and working out the characters from their descriptions. In maths we have started our journey of 4 digit numbers - looking at place value of each digit, placing numbers on a number line and partitioning numbers. In science we have been identifying the different types of teeth we have, and how we need to keep our teeth clean and healthy. We have also been very busy practising for our iSingPOP concert next week.
Year 5	It has been a great first full week in Year 5. The children have settled well and enjoyed cracking on with our curriculum. In maths, the children have been building on their understanding of place value, focusing on 6- and 7-digit numbers! In English, we have started to explore our book <i>The House with Chicken Legs</i> . We have enjoyed unpicking the themes of adventure and loneliness in the book so far. On top of this, we are so lucky to have had Sandy from iSingPOP back in school. The children were amazing learning the new songs and I'm sure will be practicing lots over the weekend!
Year 6	In Year 6 this week have been settling in, getting through our 11+ and beginning our new topics. We investigated how light travels and carried out our first experiments. We are loving our new novel <i>Wildboy</i> and exploring how Rob Lloyd develops characters through his wonderful use of idioms and dialect. But most of all we have LOVED singing and dancing with iSingPOP!

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

Cookham & Cookham Dean Horticultural Society

FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 20th September 2025
Cookham Dean Village Hall



Over 60 Classes

Homegrown Fruit & Veg,
Flower Arranging, Baking,
Handicrafts, Children's Classes

Children's Classes are FREE

Local Judges, Cup Presentation
& Charity Produce Auction

Entry Form Deadline

Thursday 18th September 2025



For full show details and entry form, go via the QR code above,
or go to cookhamandcookhamdeanhortsoc.co.uk,
or contact info@cookhamandcookhamdeanhortsoc.co.uk

CHILDRENS CLASSES - FREE ENTRY

Class

CLASSES for ages up to 7 years

- 57. Jam Jar of Flowers
- 58. A Collage Caterpillar, A4 size
- 59. 1 Decorated Gingerbread Man (plain gingerbread man may be bought for self decorating)

CLASSES for ages 8-12 years

- 60. Jam Jar of Flowers
- 61. A Collage Butterfly, A4 size
- 62. 6 Brownies on a Plate
- 63. Largest Sunflower Head



COOKHAM DEAN VILLAGE FETE



2025

1pm - 5pm SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

PROGRAMME

- 9am - 11am Staging of Entries for the Flower & Produce Show in the Village Hall
- 11am - 1pm Judging of the Flower & Produce Show (Village Hall closed during this time)
- 12.30pm Registration starts for Dog Show entries
- 1pm **Official Opening of the Fete**
Verona's Musical Balloon Band
Village Hall - Flower & Produce Show opens
Afternoon teas in the WI Hall provided by Elizabeth House
- 2pm - 2.30pm Dog Show: Part 1
- 2.30pm - 3pm Presentation of Cups for the Flower & Produce Show in the Village Hall
- 3pm - 3.30pm Dog Show: Part 2
- 3.30pm - 4pm Charity Auction of Produce from the Flower & Produce Show (by the War Memorial)
- 4pm Cookham Cluckers Ukulele Band
- 4.30pm Silent Auction Closes
- 5pm **Fete Closes**

All profits from the Fete go to local Charities
Thank you for your support

COOKHAM DEAN VILLAGE FETE

STALLS & ENTERTAINMENT

Food Fayre * Craft Tent * Flower & Produce Show
Stalls selling gifts and home-made produce
Art Display * Verona's Musical Balloon Band
Dog Show * Cookham Cluckers Ukulele Band
Tombola * Silent Auction

Entertainment and Activities for Children

CHARITIES

In 2024 the Fete helped to raise thousands of pounds for local charities including:

People to Places * The Luca Foundation
Family Action Young Carers * The Brett Foundation
No 22 Community Counselling Services
Cookham.com * Cookham Dean Cricket Club
Cookham Dean CE Primary School * NSPCC
Cookham Community Allotments * Elizabeth House
1st Cookham Scout Group * Maidenhead Foodshare
The Cherry Pickers of Cookham Dean

Thank you to our Sponsors:

LEAD SUPPORTER:

SHANLY FOUNDATION

OTHER SUPPORTERS:

SAVILLS

**COPAS TRADITIONAL TURKEYS
EQUITY NETWORKS LTD**

and all our local supporters for their
kind sponsorship of the Fete

NOTICE

Church Road will be closed on the day between Popes Lane and the War Memorial from 1pm until 5pm. Please respect the needs of the residents and park courteously.