



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 36

26th June 2025

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June

30th: Y3 @ Ufton Court

12:30 Rotakids @ Elizabeth House

July

1st: Moving Up Day

1st: PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm

3rd: PTA Summer Disco

4th: Parent Forum @ 9am

7th: Y5 @ Ashmolean Museum

8th: Y1 @ Beale Park

8th: Y6 Leavers Vs Remainers Cricket Match

9th: Berkshire School Games Summer Festival @ Braywick

11th: Reports Out

11th: Volunteers Tea Party 2pm

14th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

15th: Leavers Service @ 2pm

16th: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm

17th: Spanish Assembly

17th: Year 6 Show

18th: Y6 @ Legoland

18th: Y4 @ Cookham Dig

21st: Poetry Competition

23rd: Break Up @ 2.15pm

September

3rd: Inset Day

4th: Return to School

14th: Gravity Grand Prix

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

JUNE/JULY

Monday 30th

* Y3 @ Ufton Court

* Rotakids @ Elizabeth House

Tuesday 1st

Moving Up Day

Thursday 3rd

* Summer Disco @ 4pm

Friday 4th:

* Parent Forum @ 9am

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

As you know we had a visit from the SIAMS inspector on Tuesday this week. She spent a full on day talking to children, staff, parents, governors, diocesan advisor, our local authority advisor and the clergy. She was inspecting how effective we are as a church school. A final report will be sent out to all parents before the end of term which will note our strengths and areas that we need to work on. A big thank you to all that helped the inspector come to her judgement and we look forward to sharing the report with you.

MUSICAL SOIREE

What a wonderful celebration of musical talent! From cornet soloists to whole choirs, from musical theatre to drums - it was absolutely outstanding. The children, some only 6 and 7 years old performing to a packed audience, some on their own and some as part of a group of musicians. They should all be so proud of themselves - as their teachers are. It was heartwarming to watch them support each other and be so pleased for others' achievements.

Well done to everyone that took part!

INSET DAY

Don't forget that next Friday 27th June is an inset day.



PARENT FORUM

We will be holding our summer term parent forum on Friday 4th July at 9am. School uniform value for money will be on the agenda as well as class sizes. Mrs Phillpot, our chair of governors, will be there to talk about anything you wish to discuss with her. If you are not able to make it but would like us to discuss something, please let the office know. If you will be attending, please let the office know so that we can book appropriate meeting place in school.

WILD WORSHIP

Today we took part in Wild worship with Rev Jo. It was really special as we guided Reception around the different parts. There was a blessing part led by Rev Jo, then we threw frisbees with thankyou, please and sorry and devised short prayers while we passed the frisbees. The third activity was a natural collage of a heart. Finally we created a cross of fingerprints, which will have pride of place in our classrooms next year.

Everyone worked really well together and we were all kind to each other.

Rohan, Year 6

GYPSY CARAVAN

Please do not let children use the gypsy caravan before or after school as it's used throughout the day for SALT lessons and is often left untidy. Thank you

SCHOOL NEWS

OPAL - MEET THE PLAY TEAM

Hi, I'm Jenna, one of the play team at Cookham Dean.

I love watching the children using their imaginations with the costumes and accessories on offer with OPAL. It's great to see the children problem solving whilst playing with the building equipment, such as the tyres.

Mrs Hamilton, OPAL Play Team

ACTIVE 60

On Thursday, Year 1 and Year 2 went to the Active 60 at Bisham Abbey. Our first activity was Pilo Polo. Our keeper passed it to Joey, who passed it to me and I scored, 1-0. Joey scored 4 and I scored 3. Next was bowling. We ended up scoring 600! After that it was a sort of tag game. I came 2nd. Our 4th was baseball. After it was Rob the Nest. Instead of using our hands, we used these sticks. Finally it was archery. I didn't score but it was really good fun!

Ben, Year 2

¿ADAVINA QUIÉN? (GUESS WHO?)

Year 5 have been learning to talk and write about physical descriptions this term and they had fun playing Guess Who? in Spanish on Wednesday. There was a very lively atmosphere and it was wonderful to hear them using all the language they have learnt.

Señora Pow



SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 1 TRIP TO MAIDENHEAD SYNAGOGUE

Year one went to Maidenhead Synagogue last Wednesday, 18th June 2025. A lady called Diz showed us around the Synagogue. First Diz showed us the statue of a book that turns into a dove. Secondly, Diz showed us a symbol on the door. Diz showed us a rainbow on the ceiling and told us what each colour was for. Diz showed us the kitchen and showed us the praying room.

Then Diz taught us about Shabbat. We tasted some Challah bread, it was plaited and it is very important to Jewish people. It was delicious and tasted like honey.

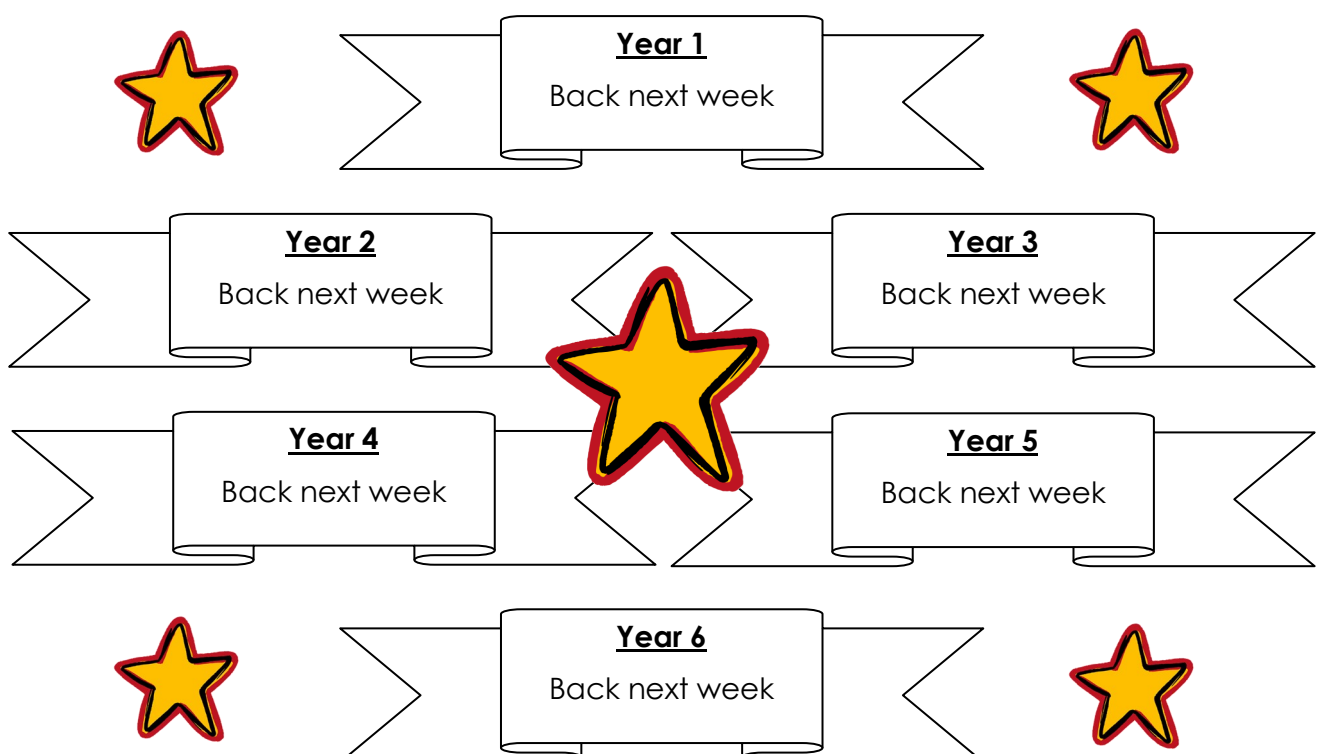
Arabella, Year 1



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 NEWS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

We are very excited to announce that our reading challenge is back for the summer. We would love every child in the school to take part and the best part it is free. All you have to do is either visit your local library or use the link on the attachment to sign up. summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

The summer reading challenge is an amazing way to boost confidence and self-esteem; children are better placed to return to school in the autumn and supports the move into their new class. Please read the attachment for the finer details. Lets make 2025 the best year yet for our reading challenge!

Miss Thompson, Reading Lead

POETRY COMPETITION

Every year at Cookham Dean we have a poetry competition, to promote the love of reading poems. We would like every child to learn a poem and take part in this annual event. It can be any suitable poem, have actions and or props. We will hold the class heats, within the week commencing 7th July. If your child is successful, you will be notified by the 12th July. The finals will be held on 21st July at 9am.

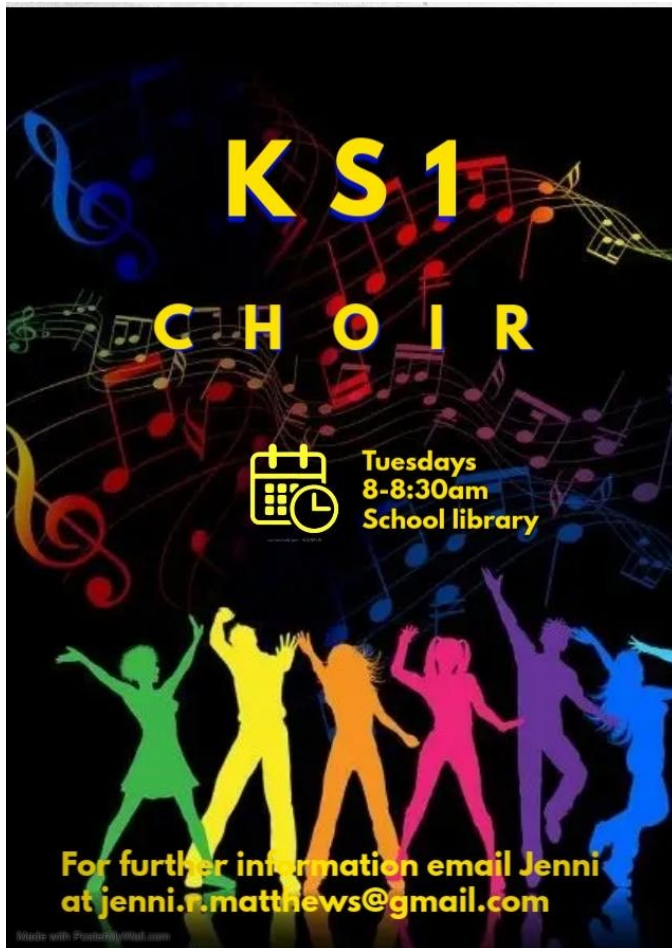
We are very much looking forward to hearing the children read a new or one of their favourite poems.

Miss Thompson

KS1 School Choir

Jenni Collingwood runs the KS1 Choir (Years 1 and 2) on a Tuesday morning in the library from 8-8:30am. Please contact Jenni

jenni.r.matthews@gmail.com



RBWM HEAT ALERT

An Amber Heat Health Alert poster. It has a yellow background with a large orange warning triangle on the right side containing a white exclamation mark. The text 'Amber Heat Health Alert' is in large, bold letters. Below it, it says 'An Amber Heat Health Alert has been issued for the South East'. At the bottom, it says 'Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead'. There is a small logo in the top right corner with the text 'www.rbwm.gov.uk' and 'Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead'.

SINGING LESSONS

🎵 **Limited Spaces Remaining for September!**
Private singing lessons with Gabrielle are filling up fast — don't miss your chance to book in for the September intake.
Try a free trial before summer!

✉ Contact: gabriellefrance1@outlook.com

PTA NEWS

SUMMER FETE

"WOW! We raised £8,700 on Saturday, thank you! It's a huge undertaking to put on an event as big as the fete, we're so very grateful to all our volunteers and we hope you had a fabulous day. We've had reports of children preferring fete to Christmas Day, a wonderful compliment from our VIPs!

We also made it into the press - check out the Maidenhead advertiser for the full story.

Hopefully they will also be around to enjoy to enjoy the Hawaiian disco on Thursday - your class reps have the link to book.

As we move into the new academic year, please keep a look out on social media for the upcoming PTA fundraiser, we've got a trick or two up our sleeve for next year!

BIG thanks from the PTA team.

Pippa Jeans, PTA Chair



FAMILY BBQ AND CRICKET

Tuesday 08 July 16:30 – 20:00, Cookham Dean Cricket Club

Calling all players for the **annual CDPS Parents' Leavers XI v Remainers XI 20/20 cricket match**

fundraiser on July 08th in which parents of those children leaving the school this year play a fun and friendly match against the parents of those remaining.

Would you like to play?

If you would like to play, please get in touch with the relevant team captain. **Luke** - (07944 987832) for the Leavers and **Sachin** (07583 330895) for the Remainers. You do not need to have played cricket before!





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	In Reception this week we have continued with our phase 4 phonics, focusing on plurals. In Maths we have been using positional language to describe where various items are situated. In PSHE we have started to think about transition, we have talked about our new teachers and have visited the classroom to become more familiar with the new environment. We will be doing lots over the next few weeks to aid the transition into year 1 but if you could please talk to your child about it at home (in readiness for Tuesday) that would be amazing! In RE we have been thinking about celebration and have discussed all the ways we celebrate birthdays – we then made invitations, cards, party hats and decorations
Year 1	Phonics - this week the children have been revising the sounds they know but also revisited and focused on some of the silent sounds including 'wr', 'gn' and 'kn'. They have done some brilliant reading and spelling this week too! English—the children started a new English text called 'Alan's Big Scary Teeth' by Jarvis. They created their own descriptive writing pieces in the form of a poster and also learned about different sentence types including statements, questions and exclamations and how to use the correct punctuation for each type. Maths—the children continued their Place Value learning which included partitioning numbers into tens and ones, locating numbers and filling in numbers on the 0-100 number line and recapping their learning on finding one more and one less than any given number. Design & Technology - this week the children learned all about food preparation skills. This included how to hold a knife and chop a piece of fruit safely. Each child had a turn at chopping an apple into pieces using the correct technique. They also learned about peeling, and juicing fruits and vegetables in preparation for their smoothie making.
Year 2	In Maths this week, we have been working with money and in particular focusing on giving change from £1 and £2. The children have been using number lines to help them to calculate the difference. Today the children opened up their own shops and were selling various bits and bobs. They loved the practical aspect of bringing the real world into the classroom. In English, we wrote a recount of Sports Day using our planning from last week. We have also created posters about how to reduce, reuse and recycle. We used persuasive words and phrases to get our point across. In Computing, we have been designing our own quiz on Scratch. Firstly, we planned out the questions we would use, the backgrounds for each slide and the sprites that would work best with the backgrounds. We then used the app on the Ipad to create our slides.



WEEKLY SUMMARY



CURRICULUM

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Year 3	This week in maths, Year 3 have completed their end of year tests, working very hard and showing lots of resilience. They have also completed their work on fractions, focusing on solving word problems. In English, they have written a jungle setting description using the five senses. In PSHE, they enjoyed exploring why we budget for things, with them planning a budget for a class party. We were also lucky to have Reverend Jo join us on Thursday for a lovely Wild Worship session. This was a great opportunity to pray and reflect.
Year 4	This week in maths we have started our journey of decimals. We have been discovering hundredths as fractions and decimals and place value of decimals. In English we have written a short story about Arthur's new magical object from our book, Arthur and The Golden Rope and have started to plan a diary entry. In computing we have looked at how we can modify a code to change how a dinosaur moves and we have had a great game of rounders in our PE lesson.
Year 5	In English this week we have continued to read "Secrets of a Sun King" and looking at formal styles of writing and modal verbs. We have written a formal letter to parents from a 1920s headteacher regarding misdemeanours at school. In maths we have been revising division strategies and mental arithmetic. In DT we have finished our spaghetti truss bridges and tested them. They were able to hold varying weights from 5g to 1kg+. The warmth hasn't helped the masking tape stickability! In computing we have started our video production module with looking at how to film a good shot. We're looking forward to filming our projects over the next few weeks. On Thursday we enjoyed a wild worship session led by Reverend Jo. A time to be peaceful and focus on being thankful, sorry and appreciative.
Year 6	We have enjoyed getting back to our WW2 topic with our new book Letters From The Lighthouse by Emma Carroll. It is about a young family dealing with the loss of their father in WW2 and the adventures of evacuation. We have been learning our show tunes. In RE we have been creating mindmaps of the top 14 world faiths and presenting them. Microbits are small credit card size computers which we programmed to display our names and play sounds. All very exciting.

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



"The move to secondary school is one of the biggest transitions in a child's life, and it can bring excitement as well as anxiety. Feeling prepared and supported is key to a successful transition."
— YoungMinds

Confident Kids: The Ultimate Year 6 Transition Course

Helping your child step into secondary school with confidence, resilience & excitement!

Preparation is key. Our expert-led Transition Course is designed to help Year 6 children navigate this milestone with confidence, equipping them with real-life skills to:

- Manage anxiety & fear of change so they feel calm and ready
- Build social confidence to form friendships & handle peer pressure
- Develop resilience for academic challenges & stress management
- Learn assertiveness & decision-making skills to promote independence



Designed by Experts, Trusted by Parents

Created by Matt Collins, founder of The Samurai Fitness Group with over 20 years' experience working with children, this course is packed with practical strategies children can use right away.

Inspired by his book **Eleven Life Lessons: Empower Your Child to Be Safe and Independent**, Matt's mission is to help kids feel strong, capable & ready to thrive.

Give Your Child the Tools to Succeed!

Don't leave their transition to chance - help them feel confident, prepared and excited for the journey ahead!

- 2 hour courses available
- Various locations near you!
- Limited spaces available
- Introductory price £39.50 per child

For more information or to secure a place in one of our upcoming courses:

- 07828 534817
- info@samuraikickboxing.com
- www.samuraikickboxing.com

"Anxiety about transition often stems from the fear of the unknown - new teachers, new classmates, and a new routine. Clear communication and support from parents and schools can ease this process."
Dr. Tanya Byron, Child Psychologist



Musical Theatre Dance & Creative Workshop

★ Act . Sing . Dance . Craft ★



Join us for an exciting workshop filled with acting, singing, dancing & creative crafts. Children will learn dance routines to the latest music & learn a choreographed piece from a well known Musical Theatre show.

Day 1 : Wed, 30 July 9:30am-3pm

Day 2 : Wed, 20 Aug 9:30am-3pm

£45 per day or £80 for both days



For ages 5-12 years.

No dance experience needed.

cathy@performersacademy.co.uk

07763 634803



Liston Hall. Marlow. SL7 1DD

www.performersacademy.co.uk



Wed @ Hazlemere & Thurs @ Marlow Venue

£18 half day / £40 full day

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SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMPS



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AGES 3 – 12 YRS, ALL ABILITY LEVELS WELCOME

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK IN EMAIL SPRINGBUCKSGC@GMAIL.COM

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.SPRINGBUCKS.CO.UK

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



£25
per day

MAIDENHEAD UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY SUMMER CAMP

July 21st - Sept 2nd

Locations

- MUFC, York Road
- Cox Green Leisure Centre
- Dedworth Middle School
- Holy Trinity, Sunningdale

Contact:

mark.nisbet@maidenheadunitedfc.org

Book
here:



FREE online talk



Supporting Healthy Screen Use

Screens are here to stay.
What are the potential harms and
how can we reduce them?

To book your place
go to the **PARENTS** page (facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Children's Weekly Swimming Lessons

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Weekly lessons run year round!

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£62 per month (per child)
Max ratio 6 children to 1 teacher
Children aged 3 to 12 years
Beginners, Improvers & Advanced

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www.seriouslyfun.com

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Join 1000's of children learning
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today

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Farnham Royal: Beechwood School (SL2 1QE) Fri after school & Sat afternoon

Cookham: Swim Street (SL6 9RF) Mon/Tue/Wed after school

Wycombe: Chiltern Wood School (HP13 5HB) Wed/Thu after school

Aylesbury: Aylesbury Grammar School (HP21 7RP) Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri after school & Sat morning

Gerrards Cross: Thorpe House School (SL9 8QA) Mon to Fri after school & Sat/Sun morning

Maidenhead: St. Piran's School (SL6 7LZ) Fri after school & Sun morning

Slough: Teikyo Japanese School (SL2 4QS) Mon to Fri after school & Sat/Sun morning

✓ Monthly payments

£62 per month (per child) for one 30 minute lesson per week (in line with school terms)

✓ Small classes

Max ratio 6 children to 1 teacher so your child gets special attention and assistance

✓ Siblings swim together

Different class levels at the same time so siblings of different abilities can swim together

✓ Water safety lessons

Every child takes part in our age specific water safety lessons every term

✓ FUN Awards Scheme

A structured, progressive and FUN awards scheme tracking your child's progress

Teaching YOUR child to swim in a safe and FUN Way!

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www.seriouslyfun.com

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