



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 34

13th June 2025

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June

21st: Summer Fete
25th: Musical Soiree @ 6pm
27th: Inset Day (PTA Legoland)
30th: Y3 @ Ufton Court

July

1st: Moving Up Day
1st: PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm
3rd: PTA Summer Disco
4th: Parent Forum @ 9am
7th: Y5 @ Ashmolean Museum
8th: Y6 Leavers Vs Remainers Cricket Match
11th: Reports Out
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
21st: Poetry Competition
23rd: Break Up @ 2.15pm

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

JUNE

Sunday 15th:

* Families@4

Tuesday 17th:

* Y5/6 RNLI Talk

Wednesday 18th:

* Y1 @ Maidenhead Synagogue

Friday 20th:

* SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

Saturday 21st:

* Summer Fete



SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

Well done to everyone that took part in a wonderfully warm sports day this morning! Big thank you to the PTA for refreshments and welcomed ice pops for the children. The overall winners were Emerald with an overall score of **950** with Amethyst in 2nd place with **941**. We appreciate it is sometimes difficult to watch your child be upset for not winning but that is also a really good life lesson. Before sports day, we run heats in the class so that we do not have the case where the fastest is running against the not so fast. Please do speak to your children if they did not get a sticker or win a race, what their strengths are and that everyone has a passion in something. We are all not good at everything! Mrs Ferriman spoke to all the children about this in her assembly on Monday that kickstarted Healthy Schools Week.

SCHOOLS SPORT PARTNERSHIP

The Department for Education have just announced that they will continue to give schools funding for sports - which is fantastic news. We use this money to buy into our school sports partnership which then enables our children to take part in a plethora of physical activity opportunities. This year we have taken part in the following:

- KS1 Active 60 Festivals and Pillo Pollo
- Year 4 Dance Festival
- Year 1 & Year 5 Ultimate Frisbee coaching
- Years 3-6 Sportshall Athletics
- KS2 Invictus Games
- Year 3 & Year 4 Little Musketeers Festival
- Year 3 & Year 4 Mixed Dynamos Cricket
- Year 3 & Year 4 Tri Golf
- Year 5 & Year 6 are attending Girls Dynamos Cricket on Thursday
- Years 4 -6 Cross Country
- 3 National Fitness Days (10@10)
- We will be representing RBWM at the Berkshire Games in Speed Stacking

This is an incredible number of activities and thanks to the parents and staff who have enabled the children to attend. See the attached for more information on the work of the School Sports Partnership.

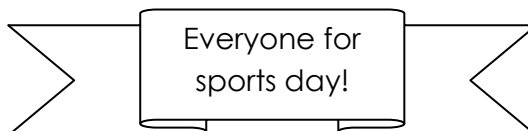
SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025/26

Please find attached the list of inset days and term dates for 2025-2026.

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

HEALTHY SCHOOLS WEEK

Today's Sports Day was a great end to another action packed Healthy Schools Week! Throughout the week, the children have enjoyed a range of physical activities and a number of lessons about keeping healthy and safe.

At one point on Wednesday every single class was on the grass or the playground completing some form of physical exercise. From skate boarding to Lacrosse, the children have picked up new skills and interests that hopefully they will continue to explore. As well as exercise, they have learnt about the importance of eating well, crossing the road correctly and staying safe online.

Finally, today's games and races showed that our young people are competitive but they understand the importance of fairness and good sportsmanship.

I'd also like to thank the parents who came into school this week for giving up their time to run a coaching session or a workshop in class.

The children and staff at the school really appreciate this.

Mr O'Gorman, PE Lead

SCHOOL GARDEN

Would you like to help water the school garden over the summer holidays? We would really appreciate it.



If so, please contact Esme on 07734596056

SUMMER FETE SILENT AUCTION

This year's silent auction is live! We have a lovely selection of generous donations from local businesses, restaurants and attractions for days out, meals, pampering and much more - over 100 listings. A special thanks to our parent businesses that have donated - your support is much appreciated! In addition, to coincide with our Deanstock festival themed summer fete we have some festival tickets up for grabs:

- 2 VIP tickets for a Heritage Live music event of your choice
- Family day ticket to CarFest 22-24 August
- 2 Family weekend tickets to FeastyFest 13-14 September
- Family weekend ticket with camping to Found Festival 22-24 August
- 4 tickets to Raver Tots Festival on 20 July
- A family weekend bundle with camping to Oh Shala Festival 24-27 July

Check out the full list [HERE](#). Happy bidding! Please feel free to share with your family and friends. Auction closes at 10pm on Sunday 22nd June.

Marie Hepworth, PTA Secretary

AUDE

I just wanted to thank the school for letting me chat with the kids yesterday about how natural products can be great for their skin. It was such a fun experience, and the kids had so many great questions! I apologize for the keen interest in aloe vera plants; they really seemed fascinated! I'm still getting everything set up, so I appreciate your patience, but if you're interested in learning more, please visit <https://www.audere.space/>. Apply 10% off all products with the promo code **CookhamDeanSC10%**. Plus, 10% of your purchase will go back to the school!

Audrey Hayes, Year 4 Parent

CATERLINK SURVEY

Caterlink is kindly asking parents/carers to complete a feedback [survey](#) by 31st July. Thank you.

SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 2 - WINDSOR CASTLE



On Monday, Year 2 visited Windsor Castle as they are learning about monarchs and castles in History this half term. They spent the morning visiting Queen Mary's Dolls house and in awe of the magnificent State Apartments. There was so much to look at including the architecture, paintings, objects, furniture, shields and so on. The children had acquired a big appetite by now and luckily it was time for lunch and a break. It was then time to take part in a Castles workshop where children learned some history about monarchs, features of castles and re-enacted a period of history during King John's reign. It was very entertaining and King John aka. Mrs Campbell was great in role! We then visited St George's Chapel and saw the resting place for Queen Elizabeth II. We were also very fortunate to have met Aggie and Otilie's Great Uncle, Lieutenant Colonel William Jolyon Willans who showed us his private residence opposite the Chapel and a special sword. The children were so well behaved and enjoyed every minute of this memorable trip!

Mrs Hussain, Year 2 Teacher

STAFFING

We are sorry to say Mrs Stevenson from Y5 will leaving us for pastures new. We wish her all the best. Miss Verhoven (TA Y4) will also be leaving us to move to Bristol. Thank you both for your contribution. Staffing structure will be as follows:

R - Miss Fernandez, Ms Smith & Mrs Gilbey (PM)

Y1 - Mrs Gardiner (4days), Miss Windle (1day) & Mrs Gilbey (AM)

Y2 - Mrs Hussain (2days), Mrs Lodge (3days) & Mrs Thrift

Y3 - Mrs O'Brien (3days), Mrs Thompson (2days) & Mrs Terry

Y4 - Ms Thompson & Teaching Assistant TBC

Y5 - Mr Salter, Mrs Reekie (0.5days) & Mrs Hamilton

Y6 - Mrs Satterley & Mrs Stephenson

INSET DAY



Cookham Dean Football Inset Day



Friday 27th June

9-3pm
£25

Children in Yr. 1-6

LIMITED SPACES

The day will be run the same as our popular holiday camps with the day broken into an AM and PM session with lunch in the middle. Children will be grouped by their age/ability with the day including small sided matches, competitions, fun skill challenges and sessions.

For more information and to book your child's place please visit

<https://mwfootballcoaching.class4kids.co.uk>






Mitch will be running a football camp at school for our inset day on Friday 27th June. Click on the poster above or [HERE](https://mwfootballcoaching.class4kids.co.uk) to book your child's place (Years 1-6). Limited spaces available.

RECEPTION - BRAYWICK NATURE RESERVE

On Thursday Reception went to Braywick Nature Reserve for their first class trip. We used our five senses to begin exploring the outside environment. We smelt herbs and made our own smelly cocktails. We also used mirrors to take a walk in the sky. We then went pond dipping and managed to catch a stickleback, a couple of ramshorn snails, some dragonfly nymphs and lots of pond skaters, amongst lots of other creatures. Finally, we had the best time den building in the woods – we even made the first 'den hotel' which was very impressive! The children all said they had had the best day, they were all wonderfully behaved and a real pleasure to take.

Ms Brown, Reception Teacher



SCHOOL NEWS

WEATHER WARNING

The Met Office has issued a yellow Heat Health Alert for the South East, which is due to last until 8am this Sunday 15th June.

OPAL

Yesterday, we had our International Play Day assembly, let by myself and the Sports Ambassadors. We focused on the importance of play, playing fairly and using the equipment nicely. At lunchtime, the children took part in some really lovely play. We had chess in the Year 2 classroom as well as new equipment being used responsibly and respectfully on the field. It's wonderful to see the children working together and supporting the younger years! I would also like to take a moment to thank the lunchtime play leaders who help make OPAL come to life and deliver exciting play for our pupils! Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

Miss Griffith, OPAL Lead





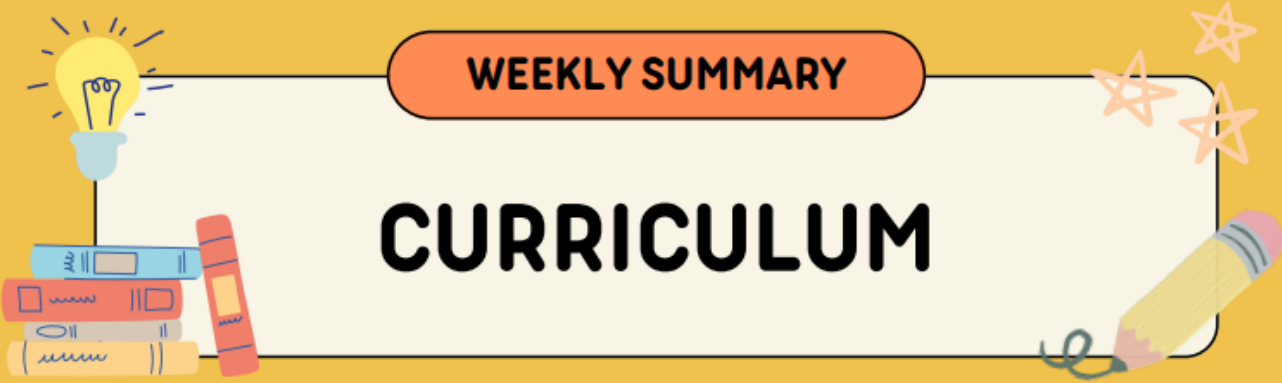
WEEKLY SUMMARY



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 had a very busy week. In phonics we have continued reading and writing our phase four words and in maths we have continued our topic on sharing. We have really enjoyed all the healthy schools week activities like fencing, skipping, scooters and riding balance bikes. We also had a fantastic time at Braywick Nature Reserve, the highlights being the pond dipping and den building - lots of photos on class soon so please make sure you take a look. Have a lovely weekend.
Year 1	Phonics - this week the children have completed their Phonics Screening Check so they have been working hard revising all the sounds they have learned throughout Year 1. English - the children continued learning about their text 'Fergal is Fuming' and this week they focused on instruction writing. This included identifying the features of instructions, putting instructions into chronological order and writing their own set of instructions to a character called Buzz. Maths - the children have been learning about Geometry including Position and Direction. They have focused specifically on quarter turns, half turns, three-quarter turns and full turns, left and right, forwards and backwards and above and below. PE - the children have been practising for Sports Day as well as lots of other fantastic sports activities this week through Healthy Schools Week including, skipping, volleyball, scooting, yoga and fencing. It's been a super active week!
Year 2	It been a busy week in Year 2! In English, the children have been writing a recount of their trip to Windsor Castle on Monday. In their planning, they sequenced the events and when writing they had to use time conjunctions and ensure it was in the past tense. In maths, the children have been interpreting pictograms where symbols represent 2, 5 or 10 items. They also had to recognise the value of part symbols as well as make comparative statements about the data. Our afternoons this week have been jam packed with sports activities and learning to look after our bodies. Dan the Skipping Man taught the class some fun games and new ways to use a skipping rope. Maisie from Little Musketeers showed us the key skills involved in fencing and how to duel with an opponent.



WEEKLY SUMMARY

CURRICULUM

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Year 3	It has been a fun, active week in Year 3. The children have loved the variety of activities they have had the opportunity to take part in. Year 3 have tried skateboarding, volleyball, skipping, a fitness bootcamp, tennis, rounders and lacrosse. It has been so nice to see the children engaging in sports that they have not tried before. Alongside this, we have started some work on fractions, focusing on adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator. Of course, all this week has been leading up to sports day, which was a wonderful celebration of physical activity and our school community. Have a great weekend everyone!
Year 4	We have had a really busy week! In maths we have been converting 12 hour time into 24 hour time and correspondence problems. In English we finished our Synopsis from our book, Flotsam. In computing, we have started to look at how audio is produced. As part of our healthy schools week, we have learnt about keeping ourselves safe in and around water, internet safety, and have investigated healthy and non-healthy food. We have taken part in skateboarding, skipping, volleyball, obstacle course racing, tennis, and rounders. The children have also shown all of the 6rs when completing their times tables check this week.
Year 5	This week we have started our new topic on Ancient Egypt. In English we have begun our new text, "Secrets of a Sun King", and have been busy planning descriptions of the four main characters we have met already. We have also been completing assessments. In maths we have finished our fractions topic and completed another assessment! Over the week we have taken part in a number of healthy schools week activities: scootering and skateboarding, skipping, lacrosse, rounders, tennis, a skincare session and understanding the benefits of meditation and quiet time. We have really enjoyed the week!
Year 6	What a wonderful week it's been in Year six our fabulous final healthy schools week. We have really enjoyed taking part in all the sports especially after last week with our cycling proficiency. What a great start to our final term. We have enjoyed lacrosse with Miss Exworth. The tennis was fab: we learnt lots of new tricks. Mrs Hayes taught us all about skincare and the importance of cleaning our skin. On Monday we showed off our new skateboard tricks and that was fun. We're all looking forward to our Friday sports day on our final big run. We know that Year five are going to soak us with the obstacle race they have created!

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

**SUMMER HOLIDAY
TENNIS CAMPS**
Bisham Abbey NSC
28th July - 29th August 9-3.30pm



Scan the QR, copy web link or send an email to book
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/livingtennis/1518873>

Learn, play, compete and have fun!

Contact John Thistlethwaite
jthistlethwaite@livingtennis.co.uk

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Leaf and Clay Ceramics

Mindful Summer Holiday Workshops

The workshops will run from 10am -12pm and 2pm – 4pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays commencing on 28th July until 29th August. Classes are a maximum of 4 and cost £50 per child. You can book just one, or multiple lessons for a mini course. This will include all materials and firing costs. This is for ALL ages and adults. Under 5's need a parent with them.

I will demonstrate a series of hand building techniques such as pinching, coiling and slab work so they can then construct and create their own pieces. Once their creations have fully dried out (this can take a few days) I will fire them in the kiln and they can either be collected, or you can book a 1 hour glazing workshop. This will be at a cost of £25 and again will include all materials and re firing costs. Pieces can be painted with glaze to add decoration, colour and produce a beautiful finish. I will re-fire and inform you when they are ready to collect.

The calming effects of working with clay are both therapeutic and relaxing. It also develops fine motor skills, patience, focus and resilience giving a wonderful opportunity to learn a new skill that will encourage the imagination and creative expression.

For more information, please feel free to contact me on 07962308411 or leafandclayceramics@yahoo.com. Follow me on Instagram for more info.

Workshops take place at my studio in Cookham.



Also available are adult workshops, after school pottery classes, birthday parties and gift vouchers.



JULY 2025 Newsletter

FACE delivers online support via zoom for parents across the UK
 Talks are 90 minutes long, £24 each or FREE with a school membership code
 Book Online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk on the PARENTS page



Schools can purchase a
FACE School Annual Membership
 which means **ALL parents** and **ALL staff**
 get unlimited **FREE access** to **ALL** 16 parent talks

Thursday
 31st July
 19:00 - 20:00
FREE



Supporting Healthy Screen Use

Screens are here to stay.
 Identifying the issues and step by step guide
 to reduce the negative impact.

Monday
 21st July
 10:00 - 11:30
 £24
 recording available



Supporting a Child with ADHD
 Challenging the stereotypes and giving
 practical interventions. Clear explanation of
 the condition in all its forms and extremely
 useful advice.

Monday
 28th July
 10:00 - 11:30
 £24
 recording available



Facing Defiance

Specific strategy to help parents manage
 defiant and challenging behaviour,
 especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA
 conditions, 5 to 12 years old.

Tuesday
 29th July
 10:00 - 11:30
 £24
 recording available



Anxiety Based School Avoidance

Understanding and supporting children
 who are anxious about school.
 Steps you can take to help them back
 into the classroom.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk