



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 23

7th March 2025

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

17th: Neurodiversity Celebration Week
19th: Neurodiversity Market Place @ 3pm
18th: Parents Evening
20th: Inclusion Ambassadors Assembly
20th: Y4 @ Chiltern Open Air Museum
20th: Parents Evening
21st: Down Syndrome Day
21st: Red Nose Day
23rd: Families@4
25th: PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm
28th: Child Choice Day
28th: Parent Forum @ 2.30pm
31st: KS1 Choir Performance @ 2.45pm

April

1st: Easter Service @ 2pm
2nd: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm
4th: Y3 Last Swimming
4th: Break Up @ 2.15pm
22nd: Inset Day
23rd: Return to School
28th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

May

20th: RBWM Inclusion Summit

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

MARCH

Sunday 9th:

* School Garden Tidy

Friday 14th:

* Report Cards Out

* Y2 & KS2 Film Night

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

A huge thank you to Ms Thompson who organised a fabulous World Book 'Week'. The children have listened to some fabulous authors, taken part in competitions, worn a 'hint' of a character which encouraged children to talk about the books they had read, breakfast with books and storytelling night. It was lovely seeing all the children cosied up in their classrooms, hot chocolate in hand, fires burning (on the screens) and enjoying stories. Thank you to the PTA for arranging hot chocolate and beverages for adults. I hope that this week you and your child have been inspired to read even more!

DOWN SYNDROME DAY

The theme for World Down Syndrome Day 2025 is all about support. Everyone needs support sometimes. The support that we may need will be different for every person, and that's just the same for people who have Down's syndrome. To show our support for children and adults with Down Syndrome on 21st March, we are asking children to wear colourful, bright, mismatched socks. If you feel able to, please donate [HERE](#). Thank you.



THE BIG CHICK KNIT



As of next week, every afternoon the Year 6 children will be selling knitted chicks with chocolate eggs to raise money in support of Alexander Divine Hospice. Each chick/egg is £3 and all proceeds will go to the charity. Please bring cash or scan the QR code when you buy them. Thank you.

PARENTS EVENING

Our Spring parents evening will take place on Tuesday 18th March and Thursday 20th March. The link will be sent out on Monday 10th March at 3pm and will close on Friday 14th March at 3pm. Please book your appointment with your child's class teacher remembering there is 1 slot per child. There will be a chance to book an appointment with myself or Ms Windle but please do only book if you have something specific that you would like to discuss. Report cards will be sent home next Friday 14th March and these will form the basis of your discussions at parents evening.

LEAVERS

Mr O'Gorman, Year 2 teacher, has decided that he will be leaving Cookham Dean at the end of the summer term due to a change in his personal circumstances. We would like to thank him for all that he has brought to our school, particularly around OPAL and PE, and we wish him all the best for his next chapter.



OPAL

Please please please when you do your spring cleaning, look out for the items that you can donate to OPAL (see attached). We have a brand new OPAL shed and some warmer weather so we really would like new items! Thank you.

SCHOOL NEWS

NOROVIRUS



UK Health
Security
Agency

Stop norovirus spreading

Norovirus, also known as the 'winter vomiting bug', is the most common stomach bug in the UK. It can spread easily through close contact, or by contaminated surfaces, food or water.

The main symptoms of norovirus include a sudden onset of nausea, followed by projectile vomiting and diarrhoea, usually 1 to 2 days after becoming infected. Other common symptoms include a high fever, a headache and aching arms and legs.

Good hand hygiene is important to stop norovirus spreading.

To stop norovirus spreading, you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly using soap and warm water after using the toilet or contact with a sick individual and before preparing and eating food.
- stay off school or work until you have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least two days
- not rely on alcohol gels instead of washing your hands, as these do not kill the virus
- wash any contaminated clothing or bedding using detergent at 60°C using disposable gloves to handle any items
- use bleach-based cleaners to disinfect surfaces

If you catch it, stay home for 48 hours after your symptoms clear

DO



Wash clothes and bedding at 60°C



Wash hands with soap, clean surfaces with bleach-based disinfectants



DON'T



Go to work or school, visit care homes or hospitals



Prepare food for others



Most people will make a full recovery in 2-3 days without needing any medicine. It is important to keep hydrated – especially children and the elderly.

Try not to visit A&E or GP surgeries if you have symptoms of norovirus unless advised to do so by a healthcare professional, as this may spread the bug to others. Call ahead to a GP or ring NHS 111 if you are worried about your symptoms.

Further information is available at NHS 111 or NHS.uk (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/norovirus/>)

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PARENT FORUM

Our next parent forum meeting is Friday 28th March at 2.30pm. We will be talking about lunches and anything else that you would like to put on the agenda. If you are able to come, please let the office know so that we can accommodate everyone. If you are not able to come but would like the parent forum to discuss something, please let the office know.

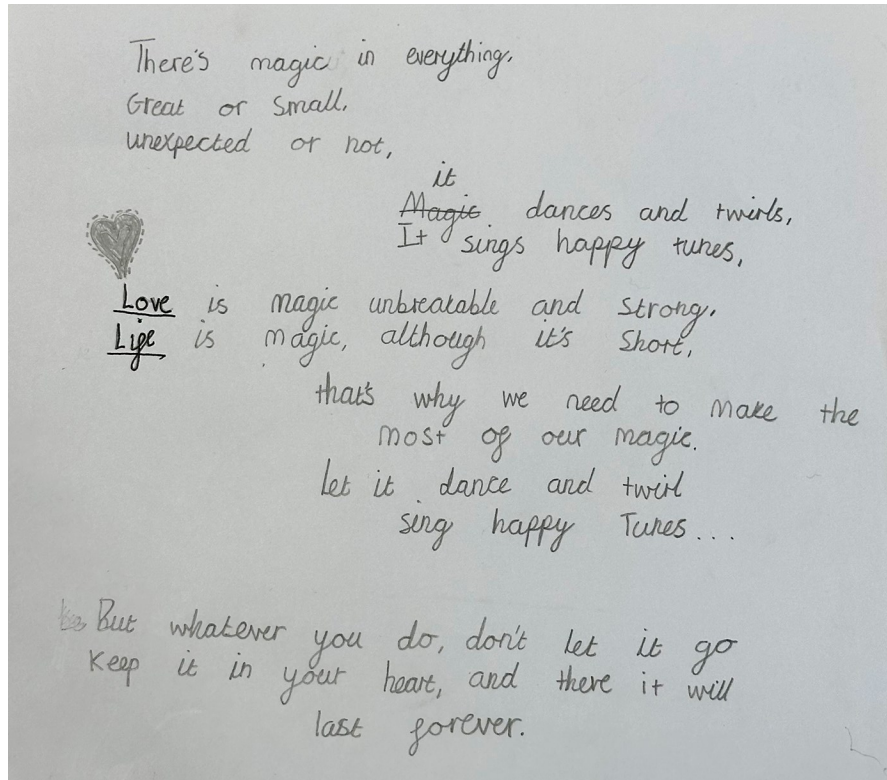
NEURODIVERSITY CELEBRATION WEEK

Don't forget we are celebrating w/c 17th March - see last weeks newsletter for the details.

SCHOOL NEWS

POEM INSPIRED BY WORLD BOOK DAY POETRY WORKSHOP

By Isla, 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.



Year 1

Tina



Year 2

Joey

Year 3

Tilly



Year 4

Willow

Year 5

Mrs Charlwood & Mel
(School Cook)



Year 6

Alice



PTA

SAVE THE DATE **Yr2 & KS2**

MOVIE

Night



14TH MARCH 2025
3:15-5:15

SNACKS INCLUDED

Featuring
"WALLACE
AND
GROMMIT"

A busy book week for the kids - thank you so much to Year 2 parents, Jen, Peter, Mich & co for putting on a wonderful story telling evening! We're looking forward to Year 2 & KS2 movie night next week. Book tickets [HERE](#).

Pippa Jeans, PTA Chair

SCHOOL NEWS

WORLD BOOK DAY 2025

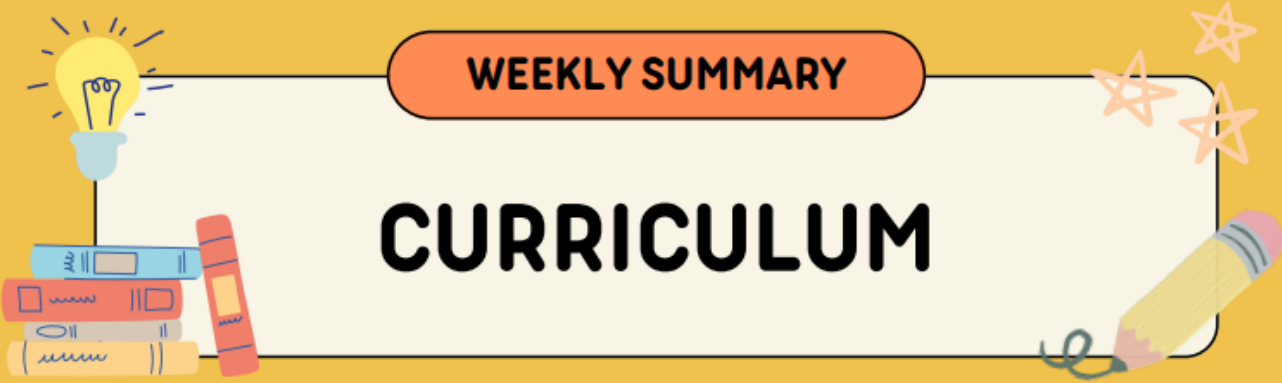
What an amazing feel around the school this week. We started our countdown to World Book Day last Friday when our Books Worms led an assembly. Breakfast with Books on Tuesday started our week of celebrating "Reading Your Way." It was really lovely seeing all the parents sharing books with pancakes and croissants. During the morning, KS2 had an online visit from Liz Flannagan. On Thursday, Reception and KS1 had a workshop with Fiona Barker and KS2 had workshops with the poet Desree. Children spent time guessing "A Hint of a Book," with their classmates, spent time finding books at break and lunchtime, which were hidden around the playground and field, swapped books with each other at lunchtime. Some classes took part in a footie book quiz and every class completed many activities. We then finished off the day with bedtime stories and hot chocolate. We still have more activities coming up, with Lindsey Galvin and Coral Rumble coming into visit to work with the children and an online visit from Peter Bunzi. I would like to thank Ms Allanson (Tolomey's mum) for organising some of the author visits via Maidenhead's Big Read and the PTA for organising the hot chocolate. The children and staff had a fantastic day!

Miss Thompson, Maths & Reading Lead



MORE TRIM TRAIL FUN



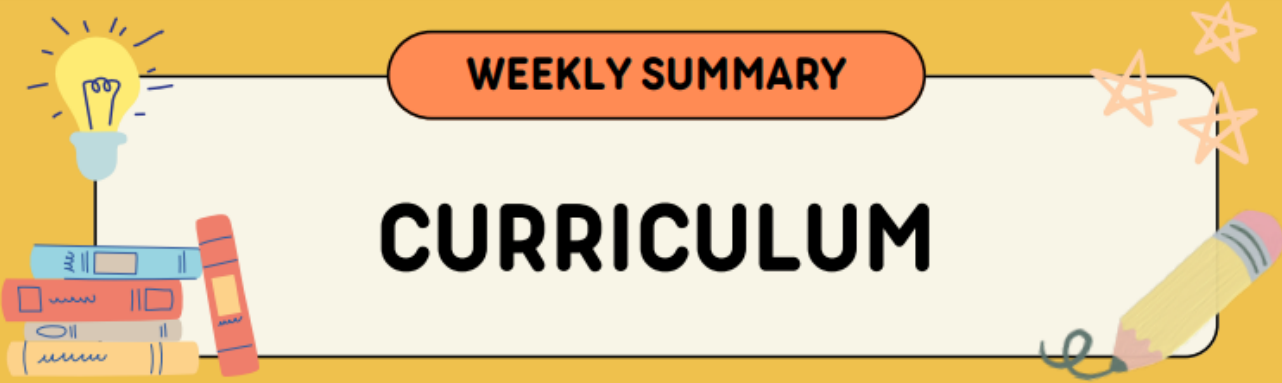


WEEKLY SUMMARY

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	It has been a busy week in Reception but our highlight has to be world book day - it was lovely to hear the children explain what their favourite book was, some of which I got to read last night! In phonics we have been revising all our sounds but particularly focusing on 'ear', 'igh' and 'air'. We enjoyed the story of 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' and the children used puppets to retell the story (mostly in the correct order). In maths we have been looking at coins and trying to add two or three coins (sometimes with different values) together. The children all loved our outdoor art lesson this week where we collected natural paintbrushes and mixed mud and water to make our own paint - please see the photos on class dojo. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.
Year 1	Phonics - we have been learning even more new sounds this week including alternatives for 'ch' such as 'tch' as well as new graphemes such as 'ture'. We have also been revising all the sounds we have learned so far and practised our spellings. English - this week we have been learning about fiction and non-fiction texts and their similarities and differences. We have also been learning about how to identify the features of information texts. Furthermore, we enjoyed using lots of adjectives to write about a character from our favourite story on World Book Day! Maths - this week we have revisited finding our number bonds to 8 and 9 and 20, as well as practising doubles. We have also revisited adding and subtracting to complete number problems. Geography - We are learning about the UK and this week we focused on the seasons. We learned about how nature changes across the seasons and we went on a nature walk to look for signs of Spring. We then collected items that represent nature during Spring time and stuck them to Spring journey sticks.
Year 2	In English this week, we have started our new book 'Cottonwool Colin'. We have created a story map and thought about how we could keep the story structure but change the setting and characters to create our own story. We also had lots of fun on World Book Day! The author, Fiona Barker, worked with us in the hall and we did lots of fun reading tasks both in the classroom and in the playground. In maths this week, we have been focussing on multiplication. We have spent time recognising the link between multiplying and repeated addition and we have also created drawings to represent number sentences. In history, we have been learning about the life of the Wright Brothers and their accomplishments.



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Year 3	A great week in Year 3. In maths, we have been carrying on with expanded column addition, which the children are becoming very confident in. In English, we have been continuing our newspaper reports. Also, this week has been filled with many great activities and visits for World Book Week. Massive thanks to Miss Thompson for organising. Lastly, well done to: Jonas, Gigi and Margot! They are this week's Swimming Champions. This is something we will be awarding every week to those children showing excellent attitude and behaviour during our visit every Friday.
Year 4	What a lovely week we've had. The sun has been shining, and we have been working really hard in all our lessons. In maths we have been finding parallel and perpendicular lines and lines of symmetry in 2d shapes. We have met the angle family and have been learning about the degrees in acute, obtuse and right angles. In English, we have started to read Beowulf and have started to write a CV. In PE we have been combining 4 different types of rolls with balances using equipment. Then we had World Book Week and met 2 authors and carried out quizzes, guessing the book from clues, making our own bookmarks, writing poems and reading. A great week was had by all.
Year 5	Reading, especially reading for pleasure, has been a key focus this week. We have thoroughly enjoyed a couple of author sessions, a poet workshop and guessing each others' outfits on World Book Day. The day finished with a cosy bedtime story in the classroom, which the children said reminded them of Ufton Court! We are looking forward to more author activities next week. Maths has been continuing our focus on multiplication and division. This work has really highlighted the importance of learning your times tables. In science the children have been focussing on the life cycles of plants and parts of the flower. Rehearsals have started properly this week for the Y5 play 'A Hint of Snow White'. Already I'm so impressed with the singing and word learning: great job Year 5! We are excited about sharing the show with you all in May.
Year 6	What a wonderful week. A huge thank you to Miss Thompson for organising a fantastic Book Week. We have had some brilliant authors both virtual and in person. Thursday's poetry workshop with Desiree was beautifully mindful. We explored the concept of magic hidden in the everyday like nature. The children wrote a stunning collaborative poem. Today we have met Lindsay Galvin, one of my personal favourite children's authors. (I don't know who is more excited!) She also happens to be the author of our current class novel: Darwin's Dragons. Speaking of Darwin, in English we wrote biographies of the great biologist and in science we began studying his theory of adaption and evolution. We were caught up in award fever with the Baftas etc so we combined art this week to design and created a Book Award. We nominated our favourite book characters for awards like bravest, most ingenious inventor etc. In maths we have been exploring ratios, so that we can multiply our ingredients in recipes etc. All in all, we agreed it was one of the best weeks of the year so far!

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



Let's Play
FUN | INCLUSIVE | EDUCATIONAL

EASTER FUN DAYS

SWIMMING, MULTI-SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS, BOUNCY CASTLE, PERFORMING ARTS, GAMING, LASER TAG, NERF WARS, LEGO BUILDING & MUCH MORE!

Week 1: Monday 7th April - Friday 11th April
Week 2: Monday 14th April - Thursday 17th April



Braywick Leisure Centre
Braywick Road, Maidenhead SL6 1BN
9.00am - 4.00pm
Early drop off from 8am, late pick-up until 5pm

OPEN TO CHILDREN AGED 5 (SCHOOL YEAR 1) - 12
FROM £27.50 PER DAY!

Discounts for siblings & full week booking - please see booking page for details.
We accept Childcare Vouchers, Tax-Free Childcare & we are OFSTED registered!
Please bring: Lunch, Snacks, Waterproof Clothing & A Refillable Drinks Bottle.

ACCEPTING FUEL BOOKINGS FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN



Scan the QR code for more information,
call 01344 508008 or email info@lets-play.org.uk
Book online: www.lets-play.org.uk

[f @LPlayUK](#) [@LetsPlay_UK](#)



Where: All Saints Junior School
When: Tues 15th & Weds 16th April
Time: 10am - 3:30pm
Cost: £25.00 a day (£12.00 half day)
Contact: leila@running4everyone.co.uk
Book: running4everyone.co.uk/courses

School years 3 - 6



Fun Athletics Camp

Run
Jump
Throw

England Athletics qualified coaches
DBS checked & safeguarding trained
Sports 1st Aid level 3



Small Classes of up to 12 Children

20% proceeds go to local Charity

Easter Craft Workshops!

Tuesday 15th April: 10:00-12:30. BLOCK PRINTING TOTE BAG!
Tuesday 15th April: 13:00-15:30. SEWING KEYRINGS!

Wednesday 16th April: 10:00-12:30. PAINTING A CANVAS!
Wednesday 16th April: 13:00-15:30. MARBLED / SPACE EGGS!



£27.50 a workshop. £55 a Day. Ages 7-11.
Free supervised lunchtime play.
All Saints Junior School, Westborough Road, Maidenhead, SL6 4AR.
To book and more info: artspirationevents@gmail.com

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

28TH JULY - 2ND AUGUST 2025
BRAYWICK NATURE CENTRE, SL6 1UU



**SPEAKERS - PANEL DISCUSSIONS - FAMILY
ACTIVITIES - NATURE CRAFTS - LIVE MUSIC -
FOOD - BAR**

KEEP UPDATED HERE



MORE SESSIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

PARALLEL WINDSOR
6TH JULY 2025

WINDSOR GREAT PARK
11AM TO 5PM

FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY
THE NATION'S FAVOURITE
FULLY ACCESSIBLE FAMILY DAY OUT
BURSTING WITH INCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES
& ENTERTAINMENT

ANIMAL KINGDOM • ARTS & CRAFTS • COOKERY • DANCE
INCLUSIVE SPORT • MUSIC • PICNIC • SENSORY ZONE
STREET FOOD • STORYTELLING • QUIET SPACE
YOGA & WELLBEING

CHALLENGE EVENTS
WALK, RUN OR ROLL WITH NO CUT OFF TIMES
MOBILITY AIDS & ASSISTANCE ANIMALS WELCOME
10K • 5K • 1K • 100M • SUPERSENSORY
MEDAL • T-SHIRT • GOODY BAG
START TOGETHER, FINISH WHENEVER.

THE GREATEST DANCER CHALLENGE
MASS PARTICIPATION DANCE FOR EVERYONE TO SHOW OFF THEIR BEST MOVES

15% OFF TICKETS
WITH PROMO CODE **SCHOOL15**
VALID UNTIL 31 MAY

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WILDNESS AND WONDER

BRAYWICK nature centre

Forest Fun Easter Holiday Club

Led by the Wildness and Wonder team in the woods at Braywick Nature Centre for children aged 6 plus, this will be an outdoor holiday club based on Forest School practice, with an emphasis on child-led activities, natural play and woodland arts and crafts.

We will be outdoors all day with all the usual eggciting fun you've come to expect from us, lots of free play, tree climbing, den building, fire lighting, team games, campfire cooking etc. alongside some Easter or egg themed crafts and challenges.

Tuesday 8th April – Thursday 10th April
9am-3pm: £50 per child per day

Enquiries at:
wildnessandwonder@gmail.com
Please book at:
bookwhen.com/wildnessandwonder

Braywick Nature Centre,
Hibbert Rd,
SL6 1UU

www.dwm.gov.uk

Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead





FREE Junior golf membership at Winter Hill GC for all under 18yrs
FREE access to the 6-hole Academy golf course at Winter Hill GC.
Sat and Sun Jnr group coaching lessons throughout the Year.
Join the Junior pathway and start your child's golfing journey.
Support and guidance from our PGA professionals

Junior Golf Camps over the Easter break at Winter Hill Golf Club

- Perfect for beginners and improvers
 - Equipment supplied
 - Follow on golf opportunities
 - 10-2pm, £50 pp per day

Queries/bookings contact Gavin Clark, PGA member on;
Email - gavinclarkgolf@gmail.com
Mobile – 07789 766 872

GetGolfing

WINTER HILL GOLF CLUB

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



PRO PLAYER CENTRE X EVERSLEY & CALIFORNIA FC

EASTER FOOTBALL CAMPS!

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE X EUROS WOMEN 2025

MONDAY 7TH - FRIDAY 11TH APRIL
9:00AM - 3:00PM
AGE: 4 - 11 YEARS OLD
LUCKLEY ROAD, WOKINGHAM, RG40 3EU

£30
a day OR
£120
FOR THE WEEK!



JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF
CHALLENGES, ACTIVITIES,
TOURNAMENTS AND PLAYERS
OF THE DAY MEDALS!

**3G ASTRO AND SPORTS HALL FACILITIES
AVAILABLE!**

Scan the QR code to book or email us
at info@proplayercentres.co.uk

 PROPLAYERCENTRES.COM [@PROPLAYERCENTRE](https://www.instagram.com/PROPLAYERCENTRE) PRO PLAYER CENTRE 01344 609934

Spring Clean Cookham Dean

**Saturday 22nd March
from 9:45 until mid-day**

**Meet at the Village Hall
with your gloves
ready to pick litter**



Organised by Cookham Dean Village Club supported by The National Trust
Information 07802 216241 or chairman@cookhamdeanvillagehall.com