



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 10

15th November 2024

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

25th: Twelfth Night Performance

25th: Y5 & Y6 @ Dawkes Music

26th: Five to Thrive Parent Workshop @ 8.45am

28th: Mad Science Assembly

29th: Headteacher For The Morning

December

1st: Families@4

1st: Christmas Tree Collections

2nd: Y6 NCMP

5th: Reindeer Run Assembly

5th: Christingle @ 6pm

12th: Christmas Jumper Day

12th: Christmas Lunch

12th: KS1 Nativity @ 6pm

13th: Reindeer Run

13th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 1.45pm

13th: Parent Forum @ 2.30pm

16th: Rotakids @ Elizabeth House

17th: Carol Service @ 2pm

18th: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm

19th: Y6 @ Windsor Castle

19th: Reception Nativity @ 2pm

20th: Christmas Raffle & Singalong @ 1pm

20th: Break Up @ 2.15pm

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

NOVEMBER

Monday 18th:

* SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

* PINS Meeting @ 9.15am

* Final Day of Book Fair

Tuesday 19th:

* Parents Evening

Thursday 21st:

* Parents Evening



SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

This week the children have been thinking about being kind to one another in line with the anti-bullying theme of 'Choose Respect'. Our emotional wellbeing ambassadors kickstarted our thought-provoking week last Friday with an assembly; odd socks day demonstrated how we are all different and how we can live with one another respectfully; the children joined '52 Lives' in an assembly, a charity very close to our heart, whose work helps young people by showing them kindness and then of course our week has finished with Children in Need and with the help of our school councillors, we have raised money that will also go to help those in need. We will let you know how much we have raised next week! Let's continue this work on kindness together.



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FUND

As you may know, schools around the country are struggling to balance their budgets with increase in bills and staffing costs. Schools are allocated money based on how many children they have in school. We currently run our classes with 28 in a class which means that we are lucky enough to have smaller classes than other primary schools but this means we lose out on funding. To enable us to keep running this model, we are asking for parents to donate to the Voluntary Contribution Fund. There is more information on the attached document but anything that you are able to give our school is very much appreciated. Thank you.

FAMILIES@4

Please put 1st December in your diary for our 'Christingle' Families@4. The children will make a Christingle in church, will listen to stories, sing and this will be followed by a wonderful afternoon tea in the vestry. It is a lovely afternoon of our community coming together to celebrate Advent. So that we can ensure we have enough oranges for the children to make their Christingle, can you please let the office know by 23rd November - thank you.



REPORT CARDS & PARENTS EVENING

Your child's report card will be coming home today in their book bags and we are looking forward to seeing everyone next Tuesday or Thursday in the hall for your parents evening. Books for Year 1, 2 and 5 will be in the music room and books for Year 3, 4 and 6 will be in your child's classroom. If you would like to book an appointment to see either myself or Miss Windle, these appointments will be bookable from Friday 15th November to Tuesday 19th November using the online booking system. **Please do only book these appointments if you have something specific that you would like to discuss.**

SCHOOL NEWS

ROTAKIDS

In Rotakids our goal is to raise as much money for a charity as we can. On Friday 22nd November, we are doing a card stall. There will be some Christmas cards and some ordinary cards. We made them by getting old cards, cutting them up, sticking them on new pieces of card and then we put them in an envelope. The stall will be at the front gates after school. Please remember to bring cash. Thank you.

Samuel & Flo, Rotakids President & Secretary

CYCLING PATHS



As we all know, providing safe routes for children to travel, especially by bike, is of great importance to their health and safety. Currently, cycling around Cookham can be dangerous due to the lack of designated paths. I've started a [petition](#) which aims to implement a safe off-road cycling path network in Cookham and Maidenhead. This initiative has received over 1,300 signatures and a positive response from the borough council, with further discussions planned for the council meeting on December 6th.

This petition, which is also featured on the Cookham Parish Council website, seeks to create safer off-road routes, ensuring our children can cycle to school and around the area without worry. I would be extremely grateful if parents of Cookham Dean Primary School could sign the petition [HERE](#). Your support in spreading the word will play a crucial role in helping us bring about these much-needed changes for the safety of our children. Thank you for your time.

Eline Van Der Velden, CEO - Founder, Particle6

SCHOOL TRIPS

School trips are a very important part of our curriculum and something that children love and look forward to! Please find below the list of trips planned per year group. These may change and of course details of each trip and the cost will be sent out by the teacher nearer the time. We are very grateful to the PTA for giving £500 to each class to cover the coach costs of some/all of these trips.

YEAR GROUP	TRIP	COST (APPROX)
Reception	Braywick Nature Centre	TBC
Year 1	Milestones Museum	£12 + coach
	Beale Park	£15 + coach
Year 2	Reading Museum	£22.50
	White Waltham Airfield	£10 + coach
	Windsor Castle	£15
Year 3	The Living Rainforest	£29
	Chiltern Open Air Museum	£12 + coach
	Ufton Court	£18 + coach
Year 4	Coggs farm	£31.50
	Chiltern Open Air Museum	£12 + coach
	Thames Explorer	£36
	Hindu Temple	TBC
Year 5	Maidenhead Mosque	Free
	Ufton Court	£234
	Sikh Gurdwara	Free
	Ashmolean Museum	£26
Year 6	Science Museum	£17.50
	Houses of Parliament	£15 + coach
	Natural History Museum	£15 + coach
	Holdenby House	£30 + coach
	RYG	£520
	Legoland	Free (PTA pay)
	Church visits x 3	Free

SCHOOL NEWS

FREE SMART ENEGERY SHOW



We are so lucky to have a FREE Smart Energy Show taking place in Cookham. To allow you the time and head space to focus on the content, we are providing Christmas craft activities for children aged 5-12yrs, booking is essential. See eventbrite link [HERE](#) for details.

Who should attend?

- My house/ business is cold and draughty and costs a huge amount to heat
- I want a new extension on my house to be eco-efficient
- I have a roof that could potentially take solar panels
- I'm interested in getting an electric car and will need a charger
- I want to find out more about electric heat pumps
- I want a smart heating system that I can control via my phone
- I want to make my house (nearly) carbon neutral
- My windows are low-spec and need replacing
- I care about climate change and want to do my bit

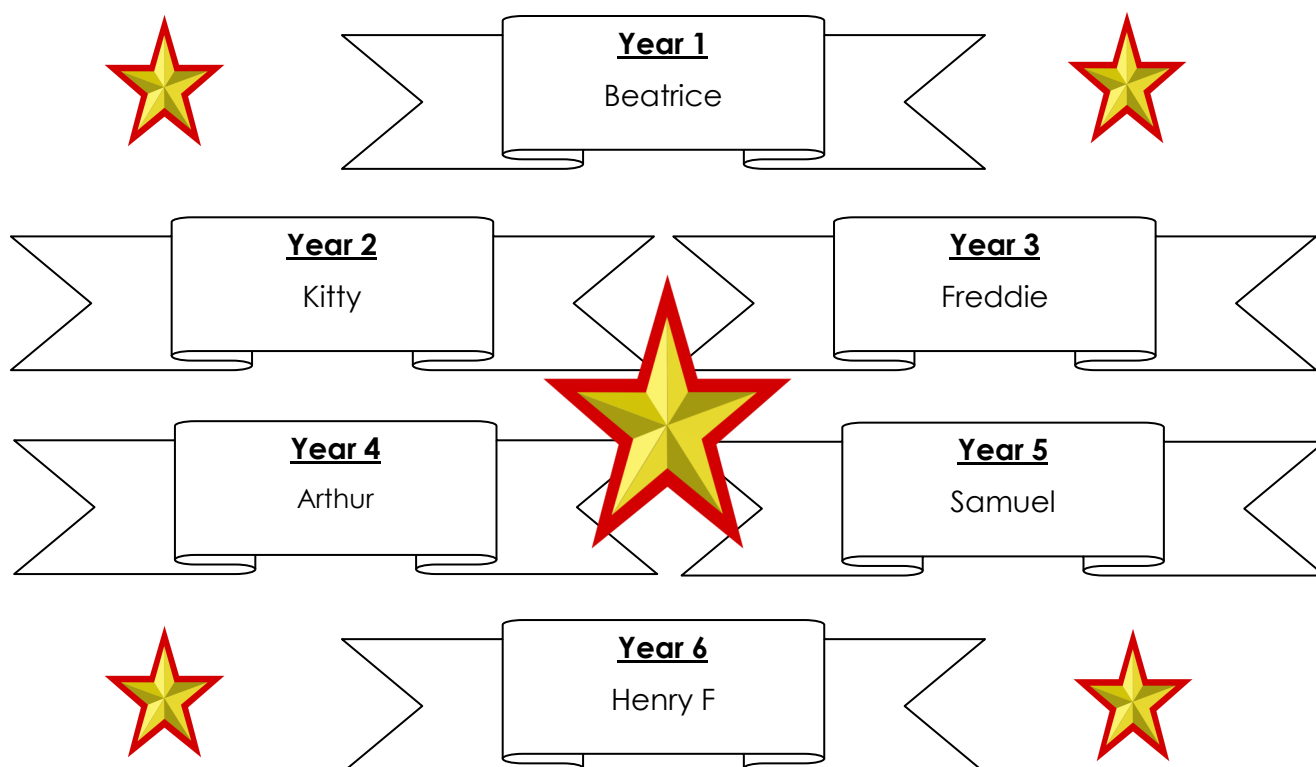
If you have any question, please contact Sue Teasdale on 07799 064241 (Smart Energy Suppliers) or Jo Gurney on 07947 040589 (Christmas Crafts). We look forward to welcoming you!

Jo Gurney, Year 6 Parent

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.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

caterlink
feeding the imagination

Christmas Lunch Menu

Thursday 12th December 2024

Roast Turkey & Pork Chipolata
Sausage with Sage and
Onion Stuffing

Sweet Potato/Parsnip loaf &
Vegan Christmas Chipolata with
Sage and Onion Stuffing

Served with:

Roast Potatoes, Peas, Carrots
and Brussell Sprouts

Dessert:

Christmas Pudding Rice Krispie
Cake



SCHOOL NEWS

CHRISTMAS TREES



CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP PARTY

DECEMBER
1st

12-3pm



Instagram
updates
here



Pre order
here

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

Collect your Tree, Craft Bag, Wreath Making Kit,
and Apple Chutney from our very own apple tree.

Crafts for the children and mulled wine and
turkey rolls available on the day
from our festive cafe

SCHOOL NEWS

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: This week in our phonics lessons, Reception have looked at the sounds v, w, x and y. In maths we have counted, compared and ordered numbers to 10. During our knowledge and understanding of the world lesson, we thought about why we have Remembrance Day, watched a short video about what it was like in the war and painted our own poppies.

Year 1: In maths we have been recapping number bonds (addition facts) to 5, 6, 7 and 10 and demonstrating our understanding of these number bonds in addition number sentences. In English we have been focusing on our handwriting and letter formation ensuring that we are forming our letters at the correct size and in the correct direction. In phonics we have started introducing and learning some of the alternative sounds for example 'i' and 'igh' as well as 'a' and 'ai'. In science we have been learning more about our Animals Including Humans topic which involved going on a minibeast hunt in the forest school and looking at classifying different animal groups.

Year 2: This week in English we have been using Julia Donaldson's 'A squash and a squeeze' to consider how the main characters emotions change throughout the story. Our main writing piece this week was a diary of the characters day focussing on using the past tense and chronological order. In maths, we have been recognising a range of coins with a focus on finding 10p more and 10p less. The children have also been finding different ways to create a certain total using coins. Having finished our Ferris Wheels in DT last term, we are now focussing on a drawing theme in Art. Last week we used charcoal to experiment with different lines and this week the children completed an observational drawing of a cuddly toy. They used the method of deconstructing the toy into a range of simple shapes and then joined the shapes to finish the drawing.

Year 3: This week Year 3 has been working on money in maths, continuing our work based on the short film 'The Present' in English, and exploring the theme of 'Choose Respect' this Anti-Bullying Week. We have also been learning how to show not tell in our writing. Toby did a great job and you can see his writing attached to the newsletter - well done Toby!

Year 4: This week we have been working really hard to master equivalent fractions in maths using bar modelling, fractions lines, fraction walls, multiplying and dividing. We found it a bit tricky to start with but have got it now! We have enjoyed building our Harpy character description, using adjectives, similes and metaphors, from our class book of Medusas Curse. In science we have began our topic of Sound, and in our very first lesson, we had to do the whole lesson in silence to help us hear sounds in the classroom. We thought this was really fun, but wouldn't like to do every lesson in silence!

Year 5: This week in maths we have been focusing on multiplication: multiplying by 10,100 and 1000; using the grid method; using the ladder method and as a challenge, short multiplication. This has really made us think! This term our topic is based on the Tudor times so in English we have been writing a persuasive letter from Anne Boleyn to Henry VIII to try to convince him that she should not be executed. There are some very convincing arguments. In Art we have been finishing our self portraits with a twist. These will be displayed outside the office so please come and see them.

Year 6: This week we have looked at writing from different perspectives. We have been enjoying getting to know Aya and her friends from our class novel No Ballet shoes in Syria. We have been acting out scenarios and hot seating characters. This fits in very well with Antibullying week. In maths we have been getting to grips with multiplying fractions by whole numbers. In Religion we are beginning to look at Christmas and the importance of incarnation of Christ. We have devised our life changing inventions from Dragon's Den - our DT project Roar 2024. In science wed have been building and debugging circuits.

SCHOOL NEWS

PTA

Thanks again to Chanel for organising a fabulous night at Bingo. The event raised **£1072**, we're very grateful to all volunteers, contributors, and participants on the night!

Thank you also to Reception parents for our non-school uniform day last week, we can't wait to see all the wonderful hampers everyone donated to on the 20th December! The PTA will be serving mulled wine from the back of the hall.

Finally, please do put in your diary the pick up party on the 1st December (12-3 pm) it's a lovely afternoon full of crafts & games and mulled wine & Copas turkey rolls.

Pippa Jeans, PTA Chair

PUDSEY STORY BY HENRY F (Y6)



Hi, I'm Pudsey, a 10-year-old boy who goes to school like you. Hey, like you. I walk like you. I run like you. But I'm not like you. I have this thing called ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder). It means I drift off into a wonderful world when I'm not meant and it's not such a wonderful world when the teacher sees me too and never run out of energy. They used the term disorder... I don't call it that... I like to call it a superpower, but people don't really like me calling myself that because it's like they're not having one. And they find it unfair. Every day I walk home myself but today was different: I saw a homeless man on the streets, he was hungry and thirsty, and he didn't he look very well. The stranger had a sign that said "I'm hungry thirsty, I need money." The words were on an old piece of cardboard that was ripped up and dirty. The man only slept with the thinnest blanket I've ever seen. so, from then on, I decided I'm going to help homeless people... starting with him. I went to the shop next door to try and get him a pillow and something to eat or drink and I found a nice warm pillow. I thought it would do him some good. I also got him some bread sticks, a sandwich and a big bottle of water. he was very grateful When I got home that day, I asked my mum if I could go to London with her and try and to speak with someone very important that could do something. Maybe they could help homeless people and give them homes. Mum said it would be hard, but we could try. In the end my mum couldn't get through to anyone, so I decided to write a strong worded letter to the king. I asked: Dear Mr. King, I'm writing you this letter because I want to help homeless people, and I think with your help we can get homes for them, wash them, give them food and water, it could be brilliant. So please would you help please yours sincerely Pudsey. Yes, yes, yes! He sent a letter back. He agreed, he wrote "I will come and help you, but first we need to get the homeless shelters to agree and get more homeless people to have shelters I will also give the homeless shelters more money so they can give loads of food and water and all this good stuff to homeless people." I showed mom and she said it was brilliant. He also said he would want me to come and have tea with him, so I need to get my nice clothes on. I wore nice velvet jeans, a shirt, black socks, and a velvet waistcoat. Mum said I looked brilliant so off we went on with our adventure. Here I was waiting to have tea with the king. I was so excited I could not stop jumping I was so excited OK, I've gone in. first off, we started by having a nice decaf tea and some biscuits. Then we got into the important stuff. First, we talked about how to get to the homeless shelter to find all the homeless people in the world, it might be nearly impossible. But with some help we can achieve it he also asked me why I wanted to do this, so I told him the story about me walking home meeting the homeless person and helping him. After that I had another biscuit and I asked all the things the kids would like if they met the king like how's it like to be on the throne, how's it holding the sceptre and all of that. it was awesome before we left, he said we should meet up with the president of the homeless shelters and get to work. The next day, he called my mum, and we had a big chat, and he showed me the entire search. They were doing it for homeless people. They were using a radar. It was very cool. He also asked if I could go with my mum to look around London. "Oh yeah," I said " that's where I live." we explored and found lots of homeless people to help. We went back to we went back to him with 20 him with two zero people that we found homeless on the streets Soon after I was on the news, the actual news! I couldn't believe it they asked questions like, "How do you feel about doing this?" " It's awesome that you tried to help. and well done for giving up your money to help that homeless person. The news team said that story is going to be big ... the reporter said. Big! Then the coolest thing happened: they made a teddy about me and the people with Autism, ADHD and neurodiverse. They told the people that they're going to get one and homeless people they're all going to get a lovely teddy named after me Pudsey.

STAY TRUE TO YOU

**Free online training sessions
for parents, carers and wider family
or community members**

Tuesday 12 November, 6.30pm–8.30pm (online) → [register in advance](#)

Thursday 21 November, 6.30pm–8.30pm (online) → [register in advance](#)

Course content:

Everyone is worried about the levels of violence in our community, particularly knife crime involving young people.

The Stay True to You campaign aims to prevent violence by taking a positive approach to supporting young people to help them build confidence and make the right decisions.

Open to all parents, carers and wider family members, these sessions are an opportunity to better understand the facts, including:

- Risk factors to crime and violence
- Exploitation and county drug lines
- Online harm
- How fear drives weapon carrying
- Legal consequences
- How to have those difficult conversations and create trusted relationships
- Sources of help and support

Tuesday 12 November

6.30pm–8.30pm (online)

Register in advance at bit.ly/stty-12nov2024

Thursday 21 November

6.30pm–8.30pm (online)

Register in advance at bit.ly/stty-21nov2024

Or visit the training page on the website:

staytrueto you.co.uk/upcoming-training-dates-parents/

Contact

info@staytrueto you.co.uk

THAMES VALLEY
VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
PARTNERSHIP