



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 7

18th October 2024

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

2nd: Cookham Dean Village Bonfire Night
5th: Y2 @ Reading Museum
7th: Parent Bingo Night
8th: PTA Muffin Day
8th: Phonics Workshop @ 9am
11th: Remembrance Service
13th: World Kindness Day
15th: Children In Need
15th: Reports Out
18th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am
19th: Parents Evening
21st: Parents Evening
25th: Twelfth Night Performance
26th: Five to Thrive Parent Workshop @ 8.45am

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

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

OCTOBER

Tuesday 21st:

* Y3 @ The Living Rainforest
* Reception & KS1 Drama Workshop

Tuesday 22nd:

* AGM @ 7pm followed by PTA Meeting

Wednesday 23rd:

* Year Ahead Meeting @ 7pm

Thursday 24th:

* Y6 @ Science Museum
* 24th: Spooks & Sparkles Disco

Friday 25th:

* Break Up

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

An excellent evening this week on a Smartphone Free Childhood, paid for by all 3 PTAs from the Cookham Schools. It was thought provoking and certainly made me think about my own smartphone usage, as well as that of my own children. Please see below information from our own parents about the Parent Pact. It would be great if we could collectively act to protect our children.

If you feel, for your own reasons, that your child needs a phone, then please note that ALL phones must be handed into the office and collected at the end of the day. There are to be no phones in school during the school day. Thank you for helping us keep our children safe.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Thank you to everyone who donated to Foodshare this week - it was wonderful to combine our donations with that of the church to help those in need. An even bigger thank you to our wonderful year 6 that led our Harvest Festival at the Church - lovely to see so many parents join our first service of the year too!

TALENT SHOW

Wow what wonderfully talented children we have at Cookham Dean School! This afternoon was filled with singing, drama and playing musical instruments. A big well done to all that took part - the 3 winners going through to the Lions Talent Show in aid of the Alexander Devine Charity are Samuel (Year 5), Year 6 "Revoltin' Children" and Louis (Year 5).

YEAR AHEAD MEETING

Please let the office know if you will be joining us on Wednesday 23rd October at 7pm.

SCHOOL NEWS

OPEN THE BOOK

On Tuesday 8th October, people from Open the Book came into school to tell us a story about God's creation of the world. Henry F, Alice and Henry P had to hold up pictures of the sun, moon and stars. Everyone else had to join in with actions and noises.

We all enjoyed it!

Year 6



SCHOOL LIBRARY

Tell us what the children want from the library and they might WIN a £10 book token!

We'd like to make the school library even better and would love to hear from as many children as possible with their ideas on how we should do that. Please chat to your child(ren) over the weekend about how they use the library and then fill in this form with their answers by **7PM THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER**: <https://forms.gle/VgCxPc7RwxoxVojH6>.

As a thank you, there's a £10 book voucher from The Little Bookshop Cookham up for grabs - a random number from all the participating responses will be drawn and the winner informed next Friday!

Tessa and Tori, parent library volunteers.

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

Jacob & Sophie



Year 2

Blossom

Year 3

Noah

Year 4

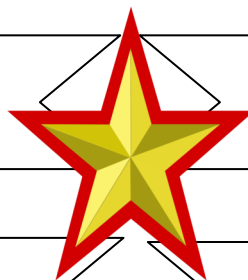
Iris

Year 5

Everyone at the Mosque

Year 6

Everyone at Church



SCHOOL NEWS

PTA MEETING & AGM

We will be meeting in the **Jolly Farmer at 7.30pm on Tuesday 22nd October**. Please do come and join us, have a drink, and hear how much money was raised last year, what it was spent on, and what is planned for the coming year. Everyone is very welcome at PTA meetings; it's great to see new faces there and they are an excellent way to learn more about what is happening at school and to have your say in how money we have all raised is spent.

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD UPDATE

Mrs Reekie together with the two other Cookham headteachers attended an event for Cookham parents earlier this week that looked at the challenges presented by giving children smartphones and access to social media too young.

Bestselling author and digital wellbeing expert Tanya Goodin talked about the mental health issues surrounding children becoming absorbed in social media particularly during puberty, the dangers of fake news and deep fake imagery and the tricks teens can use to get around parental controls, amongst other things. She also offered practical tips and talked about how parents need to model good behaviour when it comes to phone use, and how 'dumb phones' can bridge the gap between no phones and smartphones. We have attached some of her Top Tips to this email.

If you want to join the growing community of parents locally choosing to wait to get their kids a smartphone, consider signing the Parent Pact. It takes 30 seconds, and you can see how many others have signed in your school. The more that sign it, the easier it becomes for all parents to delay. <https://parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>. You can also join the Cookham Dean WhatsApp group, where news and useful articles are shared: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CKolqPs1Peb7otMgs4tNZm>

Tori Dixon

COOKHAM DEAN VILLAGE FIREWORKS

The annual village firework display is being held on 2nd November (the Saturday at the end of half term) from 5.30-7.30 on the old cricket ground opposite the village hall. Entry is £20 per family or £5 per person.

Entry is from 5:30 when the bonfire is lit, the children's lantern parade is at 6:30 and fireworks will kick off at 7:15.

We will be selling lanterns for the parade next Friday (25th) at the school gates from 3-3:30; they are £7 each - or please do re-use lanterns from last year if you can. They can also be bought on the night.

We are also looking for volunteers to help man the entrance gates - please do help if you can <https://volunteersignup.org/P3XQF>

Nina and Nicola (year 3 parents)

MORE NEWS

YEAR 5 TRIP TO THE MOSQUE

On 17th October, Year 5 visited Maidenhead Mosque. We were greeted by Zia who gave us a detailed tour. We were fascinated by the amazing architecture and all the items from abroad in the main hall. Here we were taught about some of the key features of the mosque. We heard about the Miharab, the Minaret and the Mimbar.

We saw a washing area for the ritual of Wudu. We continued our journey to a place where kids and family would hang out and pray.

After that, we completed a worksheet and quiz. The reward for having a go was a pen, but one of the students was given a special pen as they visited the mosque on their birthday.

Year 5 really enjoyed their trip to the Maidenhead Mosque!

Written by Sami and Samuel from Year 5



SMART ENERGY 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 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 relating to the event, please contact Sue Teasdale on 07799 064 241 (Smart Energy Suppliers) or Jo Gurney on 07947 040 589 (Christmas Crafts). We look forward to welcoming you.

Link to book tickets:

[SMART ENERGY SHOW - Cookham \(FREE to attend\) - Christmas Crafts Available Tickets, Sat, Nov 23, 2024 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

Berkshire Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

THE CROWN ESTATE

Wildlife Halloween Mystery

After a bump in the night, there's a crime scene at Windsor Great Park. Help us solve the wildlife mystery - whodunnit?!

Become a wildlife detective by completing the trail and learn how to find and identify tracks and signs of animals. Once you've earned your detective badge you'll have a few minutes to investigate the crime scene, before making your final judgement, claiming your prize and completing your crafts!

Windsor Great Park Environmental Centre
Windsor Great Park, SL4 2BY
Tues 29th, Weds 30th and Thurs 31st Oct
10am-2pm (last entry 1pm)
Booking necessary!

Scan here to book or visit
bbowt.org.uk/events




Fun netball-packed day with some spooky themed games and activities. So if you're a Ghoul Attack or a Bat-Wing Defence and want to play a bit more netball over the October Half term BOO-k on now!

Ages: 9-11

Cost: £35 for England Netball members and £40 for non-members



Thu 31st October 2024
10:00am - 3:00pm
Bracknell Leisure Centre
RG12 9SE
Contact for booking:
debbie.spindlow@englandnetball.co.uk



FACE November 2024
FAMILY ADVICE - COMMUNICATION - EDUCATION

Newsletter

FREE SESSION
Decreasing Depression
A range of steps that can help to reduce the crippling impact of depression.

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.

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

Understanding Anger: Yours and Theirs!
What is anger? Why do we have it? How do we manage it in ourselves and in our children?

Supporting Healthy Screen Use
Clarifying the difference between healthy screen use and unhealthy screen use. Addressing concerns about blue light and sedentary behaviour.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk. info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

IT'S BACK!

ALEXANDER DEVINE'S CHILDREN'S BOOK AND HALLOWEEN STALL

Find us in the Nicholsons Centre
Thursday 24th October / Saturday 26th October

New and pre-loved books at amazing prices
All books £1 unless priced

100% of proceeds will go towards supporting local children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and their families

Alexander Devine
Children's Hospice Service

Reg. Charity 118947

FR FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



**GET INFORMED & INSPIRED
ABOUT GREENER HOMES**

Visit us at the Smart Energy Show
23rd November 2024, 1pm – 4.30pm
Moor Hall, Cookham, SL6 9HQ

**SCAN HERE TO BOOK
YOUR FREE TICKETS**



For further information please visit:
cookhamsfootprint.co.uk • smartenergyshow.co.uk

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**6 Week
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Mon - Fri

Daily sessions

1st session 9:30 - 11:30am

2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

www.studysmartuk.online

The scary truth about pumpkins



Each year millions of Halloween
pumpkins are bought for decorating



39.9 million to be exact!



Yet many pumpkins will be carved,
and not cooked

Only
1 in 9
always cook
their pumpkin



22 million
pumpkins
will go to
waste this
year

That's around
£32 million
worth of
edible food!

But there's gourd news...

3 in 5 know you can eat your carving pumpkin.

Pumpkins are **cheap, nutritious** and **delicious**
and can be cooked in a variety of ways.



#EatYourPumpkin

For tips and recipes:
hobnob.org.uk/eat-your-pumpkin

Produced by: 

By following the same pattern as
this leaflet, you can help to reduce
waste and save money. This leaflet is
available in other languages. For more
information visit hobnob.org.uk