



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 6

11th October 2024

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

21st: Y3 @ The Living Rainforest
21st: Reception & KS1 Drama Workshop
22nd: AGM @ 7.30pm followed by PTA Meeting
23rd: Year Ahead Meeting @ 7pm
24th: Y6 @ Science Museum
24th: Spooks & Sparkles Disco
25th: Break Up

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: Christmas Tree Collections
2nd: Y6 NCMP
5th: Reindeer Run Assembly

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

OCTOBER

Tuesday 15th:

- * Harvest Festival
- * Reception Parents Evening

Thursday 17th:

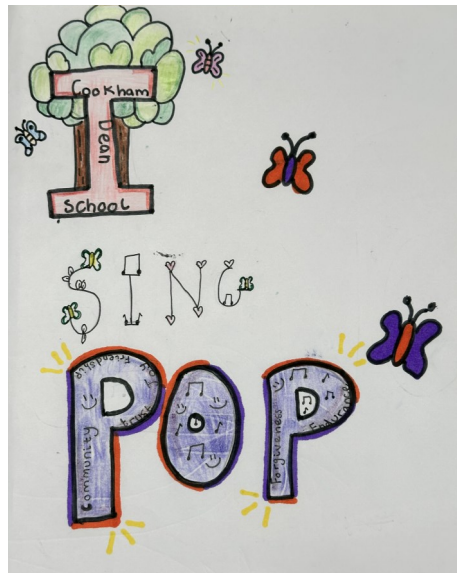
- * Individual & Sibling Photos
- * Y5 @ Maidenhead Mosque
- * Reception Parents Evening

Friday 18th:

- * SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am
- * Talent Show Competition

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE



By Milly, Year 6

How amazing were the children on Wednesday at our lovely church singing and dancing their hearts out? I was so very proud of all of the children - from Year 6 who danced confidently and with style to Reception who behaved impeccably in church for the first time. I have had some wonderful emails from the church wardens who were also so impressed. What a joyful time!

FAMILIES@4

Thank you for our wonderful Pupils4Praise and our recorder group who led our worship at our Families@4 service last Sunday. It was so lovely seeing the church full of families from our school community - and lovely catching up in a more relaxed environment afterwards with a cup of tea and piece of cake! Our next Families@4 is on Sunday 8th December where our theme will be Christingle. All children and their families are invited to take part in this service. If you will be attending and your child would like to do a reading or a prayer then please let the office know.

LUNCH

Please can we remind everyone that school meals for the following day must be ordered on scopay by midnight. Thank you.

PHONICS

Ms Brown and Miss Fernandez will be leading a parent workshop on phonics, how we teach it in school and how parents can help their children on Friday 8th November at 9am. This is open to all parents but particularly parents of Reception and Year 1 children. If you would like to join us, please sign up in the office.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Please do join us for our harvest festival on Tuesday 15th October at 2pm at St John the Baptist. We are asking for children to bring tinned vegetables, breakfast items, drinks (tea/coffee/squash), tinned soup, condiments, baked beans, sachets (custard/jelly/angel delight) and snacks (raisins/crackers/biscuits).

SCHOOL NEWS

PRODUCT SAFETY ALERT

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) has issued a [Product Safety Alert](#) to warn of the risks that water beads pose to children and vulnerable adults. The alert advises that water beads should be kept away from children under five, and only used with older children or vulnerable adults under close supervision. They are marketed for various purposes, including for use as toys and in crafting. Water beads can expand up to 400 times when exposed to liquid. When swallowed, they expand and can block the gastrointestinal passage, potentially requiring surgery. They can also cause choking and have harmed children in the UK, with reports linking them to deaths overseas. If it is suspected that a water bead has been swallowed, medical help should be sought immediately.

BIG NOISE 2024 - YEAR 5 & 6



This year's FREE Big Noise 2024 is on **Friday 25th October**! Why not watch a brief video of [Big Noise 2023](#) to witness the amazing standard achieved last year in only three hours! Once again, Big Noise 2024 will cater for Year 5-9 pupils who have played a string, wind (including recorder), brass, or percussion instrument for more than one year. Pianists of Grade 3 plus standard wishing to learn tuned percussion parts are also welcome to attend. Chiltern Music Academy will provide pastoral care for all independent applicants. If you would like your child to attend, this will be authorised. Please let the school office know by Wednesday 23rd October.

HEADTEACHER FOR THE MORNING



As you will be aware, Zak (Y3) and Ben (Y2) won the Gravity Grand Prix price of being head for the morning. I have met with the boys and they have some great plans! On Friday 29th November children are to come in mufti that day and bring in a book about their favourite animal. They have also planned an extra long playtime (no surprise there but please be assured it won't be that long!), a special pudding for hot school dinners, an extra history lesson about dinosaurs and the Titanic for KS1, extra maths lessons for KS2 and extra art lessons for the whole school! I think they would make great headteachers!

OPEN THE BOOK

This week we welcomed some volunteers from our community to run 'Open the Book' in our assembly, an exciting storytelling project where Bible stories are shared with children in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable. The children joined in re-creating the story of The Creation. They will be coming into school once a term to lead our assemblies (with help from the children).

FIVE TO THRIVE

Tuesday 26th November at 8.45am, Natalie Evans (Team Lead Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner and Play and Creative Arts Therapist) from RBWM will be leading a parent workshop on the Five to Thrive Programme. The Five to thrive model is a way of understanding how connected relationships are fundamental to human wellbeing and help us to build resilient communities. More than 90% of what we know about the brain has been discovered in the last 20 years or so – research in neuroscience is transforming how we think about wellbeing and resilience. One of the key findings is that people need people. This workshop will explore the five to thrive building blocks and describe a sequence of relational activities that build healthy brains in young children and maintain healthy brain function throughout their life. This is open to parents of children of all ages. If you would like to join us, please let the office know.

PTA CO-CHAIR

It's the PTA AGM on Tuesday 22nd October, and it would be great if someone would like to put themselves forward to be Co-Chair for the year with Pippa. Her baby is due in December so we'd really appreciate an extra pair of hands! Pippa is already well ahead on the events planning front, so the role won't be too time consuming, and getting involved in the PTA is a fantastic way to support your child's time at the school. To find out more, please speak to Pippa (or Mich or Tessa, or to your class rep). Thank you!

Tessa Allansan, PTA

TEACHING ASSISTANT POSITION

We are looking to recruit a TA for a child with SEND. Please see the attached advert. If you know someone that would be interested, please ask them to come and see our lovely school.

SCHOOL NEWS

RECORDERS



On Sunday 7th October, the Year 3s, 4s and 6s played the recorder at Church at the Harvest Service. It was the first time the Year 3s played and they did a great job. And it was an amazing experience.
Annabelle, Year 4

At families @ 4 it was my first time playing the recorder in Church. I was a bit worried before, but I also really enjoyed it because playing a recorder is so much fun. Also, if I made any mistakes playing my music in church it was fine because everyone else was singing. It was very fun playing the recorder with my friends.
Margot, Year 3

MAIDENHEAD BOUNDARY WALK

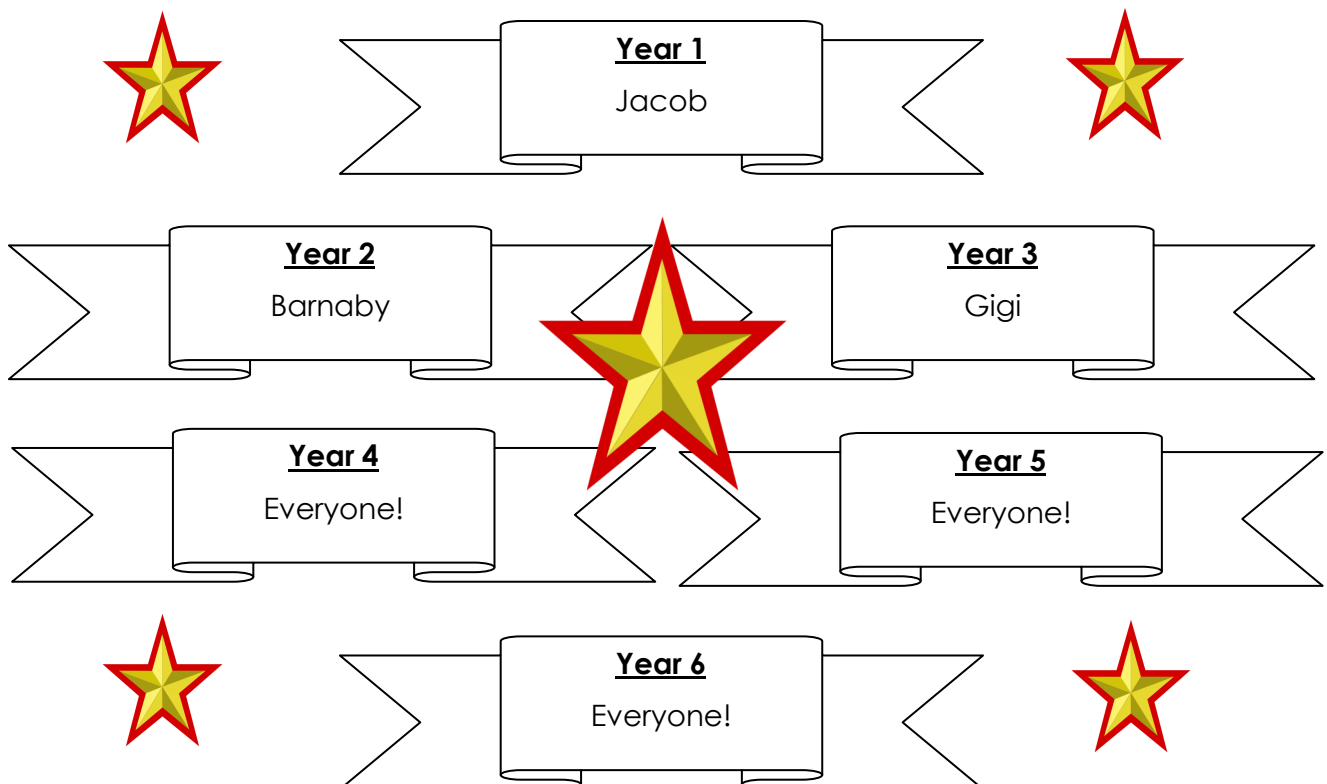


A huge cheer to everyone who did the Boundary Walk on Sunday! Twenty-three children from across the school took part, and more finished the whole walk than ever before (and it was longer this year than usual as the river was flowing too high and fast for the boat crossing at Bray, so we had to walk an extra 1.6 miles to get to the next bridge!). The children (and parents!) showed great resilience and determination and we're super proud of all of them. Special mentions go to Barnaby, Agnes and Otilie from Year 2 who walked the whole 14+ miles and an even more special mention to Jake from Reception, who is only 4 years old, and who also walked the entire distance! Well done Jake, you were amazing!! Thank you very much to everyone who has already donated to the sponsorship page. If you haven't had chance to yet, you can still sponsor all of the walkers [HERE](#). Thank you!
Tessa Allanson, PTA

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

iSINGPOP CONCERT

A lovely review from our church wardens:

"Wow, what a joy! It's always great to have the school come to SJB; the children are always so very well-behaved and enthusiastic about their activities but today they really "let rip" and were clearly thoroughly enjoying every moment but never silly or ill-disciplined.



We are really grateful for all you and your colleagues do engage the children with the church. It really is very important in contributing towards making SJB a focal point in the Cookham Dean community.

Congratulations on today's success and thank you for bringing so much creative "noise" inside the church's walls."

DISCO REMINDER



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

WASING

1759

OCTOBER HALF TERM PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKINS & WOODLAND TRAIL

18TH - 31ST
OCTOBER
2024

WASING'S PUMPKIN EVENT

PUMPKIN PATCH
PUMPKIN CARRIAGE
WOODLAND TRAIL
SEASONAL SNACKS

WASING LANE
ALDERMASTON
RG7 4LY



wasing.co.uk/pumpkins

@Wasing1759



Upcoming Gymnastics and Trampolining Camps!

Throughout the October half term & Christmas holidays we will be running some fun and action-packed gymnastics and trampolining holiday camp days for ages 4 – 11 years, with air tracks and air barrels, trampoline, trampette, floor, vault, beam and bars

Please visit our website www.springbucks.co.uk and click on the Holiday Camp section for more details on how to book in via our website shop.

VENUES: Hazlemere Youth Centre, Rose Avenue, HP15 7UB
Court Garden Leisure Centre, Pound Lane, Marlow, SL7 2AE

DATES: Wed 30th October at Hazlemere Youth Centre
Thurs 31st October & Mon 23rd December at Court Garden

PRICE: £16.00 for a half day (9am – 12 or 1 – 4pm)
£35.00 for a full day (9.00am – 4.00pm)

**PLACES ARE FILLING UP FAST SO BOOK
IN ASAP TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!**



Well known in the area for high standards and
excellent performances

For children from 7 years old upwards

Children's
Choir
(meets Saturday
mornings
in termtime
10.00-11.00)



Boys' Choir
(meets Saturday mornings
in termtime 11.15-12.15)

Making music with us is fun and rewarding

For more information on the choirs visit our website at
www.taplowchoirs.org.uk, or contact us at gillian.dibden@gmail.com
or telephone Gillian Dibden 07799 413746



Worried about your child's health and wellbeing?

**NHS Frimley
Healthier Together
website and app
provides expert
local health advice**



This includes support on the following:

- childhood illnesses
- cough, cold and fever
- mental health
- pregnancy and baby
- feeding and development

**“ It’s like having a mini doctor
at home ”**

**Visit Frimley-HealthierTogether.nhs.uk or search ‘Healthier Together’
to download the app.**



SCAN ME



Ascot | Bracknell | Farnham | Maidenhead | North East Hampshire | Slough | Surrey Heath | Windsor



Sheet Street Surgery
Community Health Initiative