



Newsletter



2024-2025 Issue 5

4th October 2024

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

15th: Harvest Festival
15th: Reception Parents Evening
17th: Individual & Sibling Photos
17th: Y5 @ Maidenhead Mosque
17th: Reception Parents Evening
18th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am
18th: Talent Show Competition
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
7th: Parent Bingo Night
8th: PTA Muffi Day
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

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

OCTOBER

Sunday 6th:

* Maidenhead Boundary Walk

Wednesday 9th:

* Cauliflower Christmas Deadline

* iSingPOP Concerts @ 3pm & 6pm

Thursday 10th:

* World Mental Health Day

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

I hope that you have had a chance to listen to the wonderful iSingPOP songs - either using the link or even better being sung by the children. I can't tell you how many staff have said they have woken up with songs going around their heads. The children have worked so hard to learn the songs and dance moves and had a fabulous couple of days with Sandy from iSingPOP and we are very much looking forward to performing in St John the Baptist next Wednesday - first concert at 3pm (school uniform) and then at 6pm (school skirt/trousers/shorts and then a bright t-shirt or iSingPOP t-shirt). Parents are very welcome to one or both concerts.

SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

We are very pleased to welcome Barbara Croft to the Cookham Dean staff team as our new School Business Manager. She will be working very closely with the PTA to ensure that money you have raised will be spent - alongside a whole host of other financial activities! Welcome Barbara!



HARVEST FESTIVAL



Our annual harvest festival will be celebrated on Tuesday 15th October at 2pm at St John the Baptist Church. Please make sure the children are in full school uniform. We will walk the children to church at 1.45 to start our service. Please can you bring any donations to school that morning. You are very welcome to join us at church.

YEAR AHEAD MEETING

Please do let the office know if you are planning on attending our Year Ahead Meeting on Wednesday 23rd October at 7pm. This is a great opportunity to hear about the plans for our school and ask any questions that you have.

FAMILIES@4

We are so looking forward to our family service at St John the Baptist church this Sunday at 4pm. All are invited!



TALENT SHOW



As per issue 1 of the newsletter, 11th October is the closing date for any entries for our school talent show. The finalists will be going through to the Maidenhead Lions talent show on Saturday 16th November. Please hand in your entries by next Friday.

CAULIFLOWER CHRISTMAS CARDS

Today your child will bring home the forms to order Christmas cards, tags, gifts etc. The children have made their festive designs which you will see within the form. Please complete and return the form **WITH** the design to your class teacher by Wednesday 9th October. Thank you.



SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2024/25

The new school council their first meeting last Thursday. We discussed how important the role of school councillor is and we discussed and agreed the School Council Charter. The school councillors will meet regularly with their classes to share ideas, discuss ideas on fundraising and improvements to the school and feedback their discussions from school council meetings. The head and deputy head girl and boy will then meet with Mrs Reekie regularly to update her on school council ideas and issues.

School Council meetings will start at 8.35am, every other Thursday, dates below:

10/10/24	21/11/24
24/10/24	05/12/24
07/11/24	19/12/24

Miss Windle, Deputy Headteacher

MUSICAL THEATRE CLUB



I am delighted to announce that from next Tuesday 8th October, I will be running a Musical Theatre Club at the Cookham Dean Village hall from 5:30-6:30 each week. This will be for Years 4-6 to begin. This club will include all aspects of theatre: Dance, Singing and Acting! We will be learning new routines and songs each week alongside drama games and exercises. This will be such a fabulous opportunity for confidence building, friendship and most importantly... FUN! It will be £9 a week which will work out around £54 for a 6 week term per child. I will send invoices out termly to be paid directly to myself via bank transfer. If your child/children are interested, please fill out this [FORM](#). Any questions please [contact](#) me.

Lucy Fuller, Singing Teacher

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



Josh Reynolds our new MP for Maidenhead has asked that we find a budding artist to create his Christmas card for him this year that really captures the essence of Christmas in Maidenhead. The competition is open to children aged 11 and under who live in his constituency. The winning entry is personally chosen by the MP and will be printed and sent out with Christmas wishes to people across Maidenhead as well politicians, royalty, and leaders across the world.

Entries should be marked '**Josh Reynold's Christmas Card Competition**' and sent to [Maidenhead Advertiser, 48 Bell Street, Maidenhead, SL6 1HX.](#)

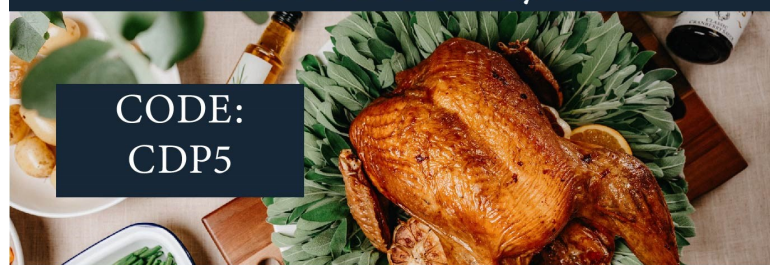
The suggested size is A5. Designs need to be bold and bright and preferably done in paint, felt tips or crayons as coloured pencils do not reproduce well when printed. Two-dimensional designs are preferred as materials like glitter and cotton wool do not work when printed. Entries should also include the full name, age and school or organisation (such as a cub or brownie pack) of the entrant as well as a parent's name, address and phone number.

The prize is a family ticket to Legoland and the closing date for entries is **Monday 4th November**. Judging will take place soon afterwards, and Mr Reynold's winner will be announced in a future edition of the Advertiser.

Sally Gray, Maidenhead Advertiser

Turkey Cashback: 5% of order donated to PTA.
Cookham Dean Primary School

CODE:
CDP5



COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK T: 01628 499 980

50:50 CLUB

Congratulations to the October
50:50 Club winners:

1st prize - Pippa Jeans

2nd prize - Tori Dixon

WINNERS

SCHOOL NEWS

SEN CONFERENCE



ATTENDANCE

Following on from previous information about attendance, please find attached updated information from the government document 'Working together to improve school attendance ' August 2024.

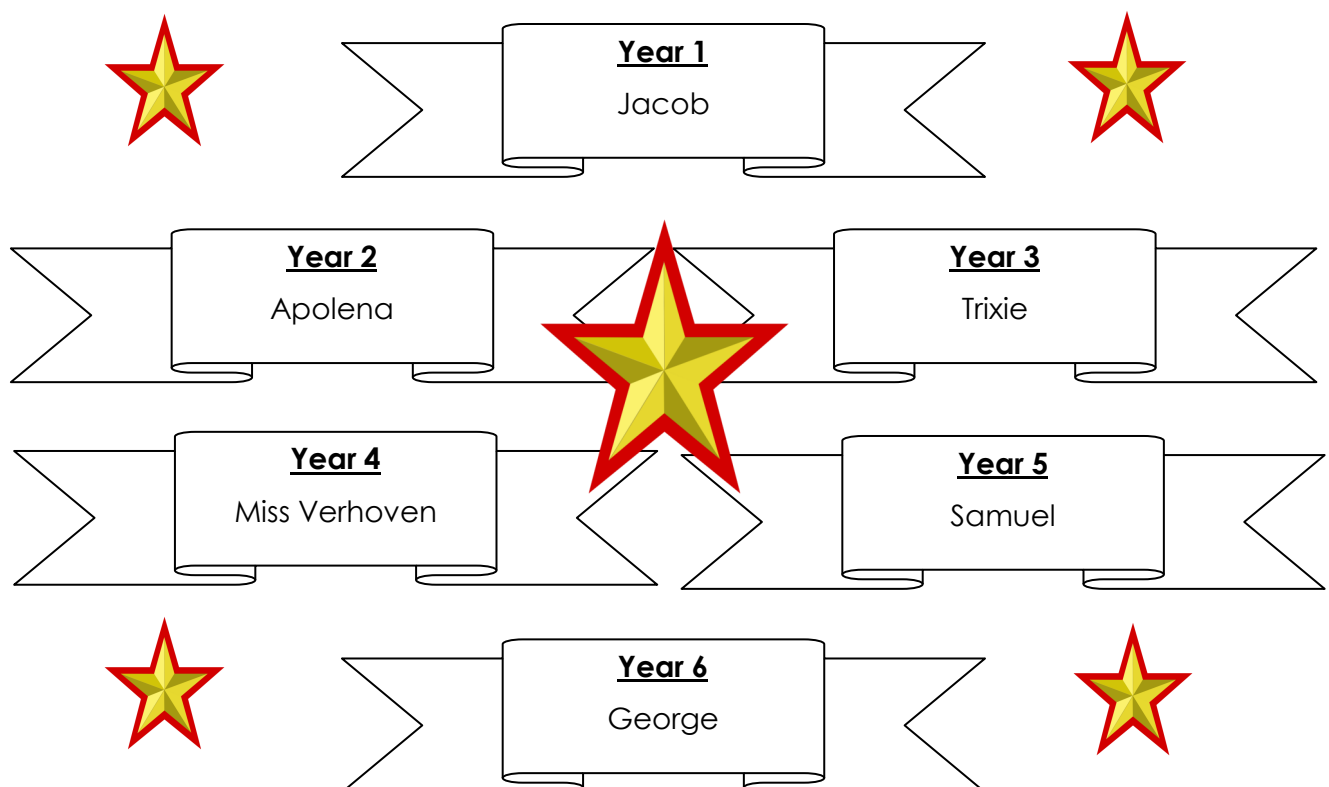
OPAL

If you have the following please bring them in for OPAL: crates / planks of wood / pallets / tarpaulin / old saucepans & frying pans / wooden spoons / table tennis bats & balls. Thank you.

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

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Thursday 10th October is World Mental Health Day. The theme for this year is 'It is time to make prioritise mental health in the workplace'. We will be talking to the children about what is mental health and the emotional wellbeing ambassadors will be leading an assembly to introduce themselves. You could do the following around mindfulness to support our work in school

Mindfulness is all about being present in the moment and paying attention to your thoughts and feelings without judgement. It's a great way to improve your mental wellbeing, and it's something that everyone can benefit from. Mindfulness is popular in schools a great way to improve mental wellbeing, and it's something that we can all benefit from regardless of our age or experience level.

There are lots of simple mindfulness and wellbeing activities that you can do with your pupils to help them relax and focus on the present moment. Here are just a few ideas:

Breathing exercises: Focusing on your breath is a great way to bring your attention to the present moment. You can try out different breathing exercises with your students, such as 4-7-8 breathing (breathe in for 4 counts, hold for 7 counts, breathe out for 8 counts) or belly breathing (place one hand on your stomach and breathe so that your hand rises and falls with your breath).

Sense scavenger hunt: This is a great activity for young children. Get them to pay attention to all of their senses by going on a scavenger hunt around the classroom or school grounds. They can tick things off their list as they find them, such as something that smells nice, something that feels soft, etc.

5 things you can see/hear/touch: This is another mindfulness exercise that is suitable for all ages. Get your students to close their eyes and think of 5 things that they can see, 5 things that they can hear, and 5 things that they can touch. This exercise will help them to focus on the present moment and notice the world around them.

Gratitude journal: Encourage your students to start a gratitude journal where they write down 3 things that they're grateful for each day. This could be anything from having a delicious dinner to being able to play with their pet dog. Focusing on the positive things in our lives is a great way to boost our mental wellbeing.

Strengths spotting: This activity is all about [focusing on our strengths](#) and the positive things about ourselves. Get your students to think of 3 things that they're good at, 3 things that they're proud of, and 3 things that make them happy. This exercise will help boost their self-esteem and confidence essential for mental health and wellbeing.



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

There is a high profile movement underway, which we as a school are fully supportive of: [Smartphone Free Childhood](#). Our current policy in school is that if you consider it an absolute necessity for your child to have a phone for the journey to and from school, this can be agreed with Mrs Reekie directly and the phone needs to be kept in the school office for the duration of the school day. We have very few children who are in these circumstances.

If you are considering a phone for your child, we would urge you to look at the [alternatives](#) to a smartphone. There are well-researched issues connected with the use of smartphones by children and young people and we would strongly suggest you do further reading [around](#) the topic before making your final decision. The Smartphone Free Childhood website has many [resources](#) and links available.

We look forward to a continued dialogue with parents and children about children's use of smartphones and the internet more broadly, including the risks they can pose.

There is a Cookham Dean Primary School WhatsApp group where parents are sharing articles and useful information with each other, if you do wish to join you can do so [HERE](#).

SCHOOL NEWS

MAIDENHEAD BOUNDARY WALK



A large group of children from across the school will be taking on the challenge of the Maidenhead Boundary Walk this weekend, all to raise money for the school (and hopefully to have some fun and not get too wet!!). Please encourage them to keep going by sponsoring them [HERE](#). Thank you very much! We'll let you know next week how we all got on.

Tessa Allanson, PTA Secretary

PTA

Come and have fun at our Spooks and Sparkles Disco on Thursday 24th October! Booking opens Monday 7th October for 1 week only.



Jennifer Woodhead, Year 2 Parent

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



Are you looking for some new strategies for
children aged between 5 and 12?

Facing Defiance



Six week course: 6 online Teach sessions (one hour on Sundays)
plus applying the strategies at home during the week
£72 (1 or 2 parents can attend)

for more info and to book

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

OCTOBER TOUCH RUGBY CAMP



28-29 OCT // // // //
AGES 5-17 // // // //



Hosted by Regional and National
Qualified Touch Rugby Coaches.

Cost:
£35 for 1 day (9.30am - 3:00pm) or £60 for 2
days. 10% sibling discount.

Venue:
Maidenhead RFC, Braywick Park,
Braywick Road, Maidenhead SL6 1BN

REGISTER

To register your junior or for
more information, please
email sammie@in2touch.com



Camps in association with the Wildcats Region
[@wildcatstouch](https://twitter.com/wildcatstouch)
wildcatsjunortouch@gmail.com



IN
MARLOW

**PLAYBALL
HALLOWEEN
CAMP**

9AM - 3PM
FULL OR HALF DAYS
3 - 9 YRS OLDS

scan to book

ACTIVITIES

- Playball Games
- Obstacle Courses
- Trick or Treat
- Halloween theme games
- Arts n Crafts / Lego
- Dance & Yoga

**Mon 28th -
Thurs 31st
October**

Venue: Marlow CoFE School SL7 3AZ
Email: playballsouthbucks@outlook.com

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



We support children through the
Buckinghamshire 11+ Secondary Transfer Test and
tutor Year 3 English and maths in small group
classes on Saturday mornings in Bourne End.

Magical Minds Tuition is child-orientated and focusses on building confidence in
a friendly, supportive and positive environment.

Your child will benefit from:

- 1:6 qualified teacher to pupil ratio in groups of 12 students maximum.
- A Magical Minds Starter Bag with all the books your child will need plus extra magical surprises!
- Exclusive access to the Magical Minds monthly book club (additional charges apply).
- Bespoke homework to consolidate learning in the session
- Sessions conclude with Magical Mindfulness where we practise breathing techniques, calm the mind and explore the senses.
- The encouragement and support of two experienced teachers who truly appreciate and are endlessly inspired by the wondrous, creative, magical minds of our pupils!

Please contact us if you are interested in booking a place.

Places available for October 2024

www.magicalmindstuition.com
enquiries@magicalmindstuition.com
07743173736



Abbotsbrook Hall, Marlow Road,
Well End, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5PQ
Saturdays

Year 4 11+ preparation: 8.30-9.30am
Year 3 English and maths: 9.45-10.45am
Year 5 11+ preparation: 11am-12.30pm

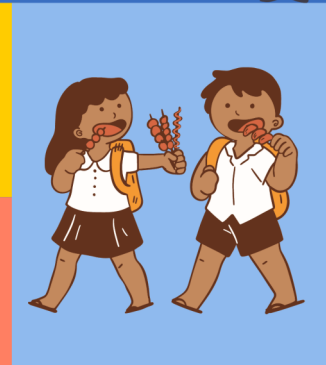


Jess and Charlotte

**Are you a parent/guardian with a
child between the ages of 5-11?**



We want to learn more about the
challenges and difficulties when
feeding your children healthy foods
during the Cost-of-Living Crisis



If you are interested in taking part in an interview,
please email:

Hannah.froome@brunel.ac.uk

£15 voucher for taking part!

This study is being conducted by a doctoral researcher and has been approved by the College of Health, Medicine, and Life Sciences Research Ethics Committee (Brunel Research Ethics Approval: 44814-MHR-Jun/2024-51239-3)



WINTER CLOTHES PRELOVED FREECYCLE

SATURDAY 19th Oct
10.00am to 12.00am

**At Cookham Library
Community Room**

Please bring clothes donations to the School Office on the
morning of Friday 18th Oct, or to Cookham Library on the
morning of 19th Oct from 9.30am

See us on Facebook - contact us at:
cookhamsfootprint@gmail.com



BRAYWICK
nature centre

Wildness & Wonder →

Forest Fun Halloween 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.

This time whilst as usual, we will be outdoors all day
with lots of free play, there will be lots of different
activities on offer such as tree climbing, den
building, campfire cooking etc. alongside some with
a slight Halloween twist such as potions, wands, clay
monsters, pumpkin carving, spiderwebs, dream
catchers and lots of games and fun!

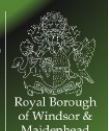
**Two Days Only – Monday 28th October
and Tuesday 29th October**
9am-3pm: £50 per day (inc. lunch)

To book:
bookwhen.com/wildnessandwonder
Enquiries:
wildnessandwonder@gmail.com

Braywick Nature Centre,
Hibbert Rd,
SL6 1UU



www.rbwm.gov.uk



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS

Pumpkin Trail

A family event during half-term at:
The Look Out, Bracknell
26th Oct – 3rd Nov

Fun events for all the family
www.firstdays.net/event-list

Registered Charity: 1157855



GLOW WALK

A family event at:
Dinton Pastures, Wokingham
Saturday 16th November

FUN | INCLUSIVE | EDUCATIONAL

OCTOBER FUN DAYS

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

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November

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.

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](#)

Multi-activity let them play! Football

OCTOBER HOLIDAY CAMPS

BOOK NOW

Holiday Camps run from 9am-3pm*, 28th October - 1st November. Ages 5-12 years old.

MULTI-ACTIVITY	FOOTBALL
Reading: Calcot Junior School	Reading: Calcot Junior School
Maidenhead: Alwyn Infant School	Newbury: Winchcombe School
Newbury: Winchcombe School	

DISCOUNT CODE TREAT 10% off

Discount offer ends Monday 30th September
Extended day & 30min 1pm* Newbury Camp only
For Holiday Camp Enquiries email holidaycamps@mcocaching.com

HAF

WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

President: Rt Hon Lady Theresa May

Conductor **Leon Gee** Leader **Susie Henwood**

Saturday 9 November 2024 7:30pm
Baylis Theatre, Braywick Leisure Centre, Maidenhead SL6 1BN

Charity Gala Night
'A Night at the Movies'

Presenter **David Emanuel**
fashion designer for the Royal Family

in aid of **Macmillan Cancer Support**

Solo Saxophone **Maddie Stewart**
WMSO Young Musician Concerto Competition winner 2023

Tickets £15; student/child £5 from www.wmsso.org.uk

registered charity no. 296537 www.wmsso.org.uk