



Newsletter



2025-2026 Issue 31

22nd May 2026

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June

5th: PTA Non-Uniform Day
5th: Everybody Writes Day
8th: Healthy Schools Week
8th: Sports Day
9th: R & KS1 Drama Workshop
9th-12th: Y6 Bikeability
15th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am
18th: PTA Summer Disco
19th: Inset Day - Legoland PTA Tickets available
22nd: Y3 @ Ufton Court
27th: Summer Fete

July

1st: Musical Soiree @ 6pm
9th: Spanish Assembly
13th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am
14th: Leavers Vs Remainders Cricket Match
15th: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm
17th: Y6 @ Legoland
21st: Leavers Church Service
22nd: Leavers Assembly
22nd: Leavers Farewell
22nd: Break Up @ 2.15pm

EVENTS FIRST WEEK IN

JUNE

Thursday 4th:

* Y4 Mighty Maths Competition

Friday 5th:

* Everybody Writes Day

* PTA MUFTI Day

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

It has been a quiet week without year 6 this week but they have had an amazing week in Rhosy with Mr Salter, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Satterley. They have hiked, climbed, abseiled, completed the via ferrata (very challenging!), sung their hearts out at the karaoke, canoed, gorge-walked, learnt how to paddle-board - all in one week. A big thank you to the staff who have given up their time to be with the children.

Next week is half term and for the first time in a very long time, it is going to be lovely weather! I hope you all have a wonderful bank holiday and half term rest - see you on 1st June.

PTA SILENT AUCTION

We're busy organising the summer fete silent auction and would love your help to make it a success.

Do you run your own business or work for a generous company that might be willing to donate a prize? Or do you know someone who might be able to help? Could you offer a skill or experience?...babysitting, decorating, baked goods, tutoring, dog walking, gardening help, sewing, or anything else you could offer - big or small ★ it all helps! Or if you are visiting attractions or restaurants yourself and want to ask on our behalf that would be very appreciated. In return we can promote the business in the school newsletter and on our socials. If you're able to help, please contact Marie (Y1/5 mum) via pta@cookhamdean.org

MUSICAL SOIREE

On 1st July at 6pm, we will be holding our musical soiree for those children who have music lessons in school. After half term, you will receive a letter asking you to confirm your child's attendance. This is always such a lovely celebration of the amazing talent that we have at Cookham Dean!

Multiplication Tables Check

We wish year 4 all the best as they continue to practise their times tables over half term. They have worked so hard this year to improve their scores for their MTC check starting 1st June until 12th

QUAD KIDS

Well done to all the year 5 who took part in the Quad Kids competition this week. You were all amazing—showing great resilience. Well done!

Rhos Y: THE BEST TIME OF OUR LIVES

On Sunday year six travelled to Wales to experience a week jam-packed with ground-breaking activities and lots of food! delicious food.

The activities have included gorge walking with including a backwards leap of faith into freezing water; climbing both Via Ferrara and limestone cliffs; sailing on Lake Bala, stand-up paddle boarding and many others.

One of the activities was caving in a slate mine, where rumour has it: a boy just older than us who got his finger trapped in between two slate pieces and his friend had to bite his finger off. Warning: this might be a myth like the pergyls (dragons) in the mine.

We would like to say thank you to all the parents and the teachers who made this memorable week happen.

SCHOOL NEWS

LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST

Amaya in Year 1 and Storm in Reception are both going to cut their hair for the Little Princess Trust.
www.littleprincesses.org.uk

They will donate their hair to the trust - please support them via this link and help them raise money for Thames Valley Hospice.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/cookham-dean-primary-school-2>

MIX UP MATHS

What a lovely feeling around the school this morning for our mix-up-maths. All the children were completing activities on our theme of time. Some were seeing how many times they could blink in 10 seconds; some were seeing how many times they could write their names in a minute. Other children were solving problems using timetables, and finding the difference between 2 times. One child was heard say, "Wow, there are so many activities and fun stuff about time, I don't know where to start." A lovely way to end our half term.

Niki Thompson, maths lead.

BETTY - OUR THERAPY DOG

Today, a very exciting new aspect of our Monday afternoons is being announced!

After half term, PAT (Pets As Therapy) will join the school's SEN programme. Betty, our very own registered therapy dog, is a wire haired dachshund who is going to be giving a helping paw to those who need her most. She will read with students and relax them during sessions. Betty is very excited at the prospect of meeting you all at an assembly early next term where you can find out more about these visits.

Minnie Dawes, Head Girl and owner of Betty

POETRY COMPETITION

13th July we will be holding our annual poetry competition. We ask every child to perform a poem in class (dates will be confirmed by the class teacher) and the winners of the class heats will be put forward to represent their class at the whole school poetry competition. Half term is a lovely time to start choosing your poem (from a well known poet or one that the children have written).

A message from Tori Dixon about Missing Library books—see the attached.

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.



Reception

Elise



Year 1

Lucas

Year 2

Tom

Year 3

Everyone

Year 4

Harriet

Year 5

Everyone

Year 6

Everyone at Rhos Y





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 brilliant last week of term. Reception really enjoyed making smelly herb pots, listening out for wildlife, making flower collages, going on a woodland walk, pond dipping and on a minibeast safari for their school trip! They learned lots and had lots of fun! They then also wrote some super reviews of their school trip and the things that they enjoyed and had learned on the trip. They also finished off their Jack and the Beanstalk writing by writing some great descriptions of the giant. In Maths the children have been working on grouping and sharing and have done lots of practical activities to explore this. They also enjoyed their Mix up Maths session learning about time by sequencing different parts of the day, thinking about the order of the days of the week and thinking about day time and night time. In RE we finished our 'Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?' module by thinking about how Christians believe we should look after the world that God created and the children did a school litter pick to help look after the earth. Well done for another fantastic half-term Reception! Hope everyone has a lovely half-term break!
Year 1	Year 1 have had a fantastic week learning about instructions in English and have written their own set of instructions using features such as titles, adverbials of time and imperative verbs. In Maths, we have been exploring position and direction, including clockwise and anti-clockwise turns and understanding how much a turn is. We have also practised moving left and right, forwards and backwards using positional language. In PSHE, the children had lots of fun discussing and thinking about the jobs they would like to have when they are older. Have a wonderful half term and enjoy the lovely weather!
Year 2	This week in English, we have been exploring examples of diaries and identifying their key features. We have been planning and writing diary entries from the viewpoint of the Lighthouse Keeper. It has been wonderful to see the children develop their writing over the two days and use their imagination to create interesting and thoughtful diary entries. In Maths, we have continued our learning about fractions and have been solving a variety of problems involving fractions. We are looking forward to beginning our new topic on 'Time' after the half-term holidays. In Art, we created our final clay tiles using a variety of techniques to represent a house and it was probably the highlight of this week!





WEEKLY SUMMARY

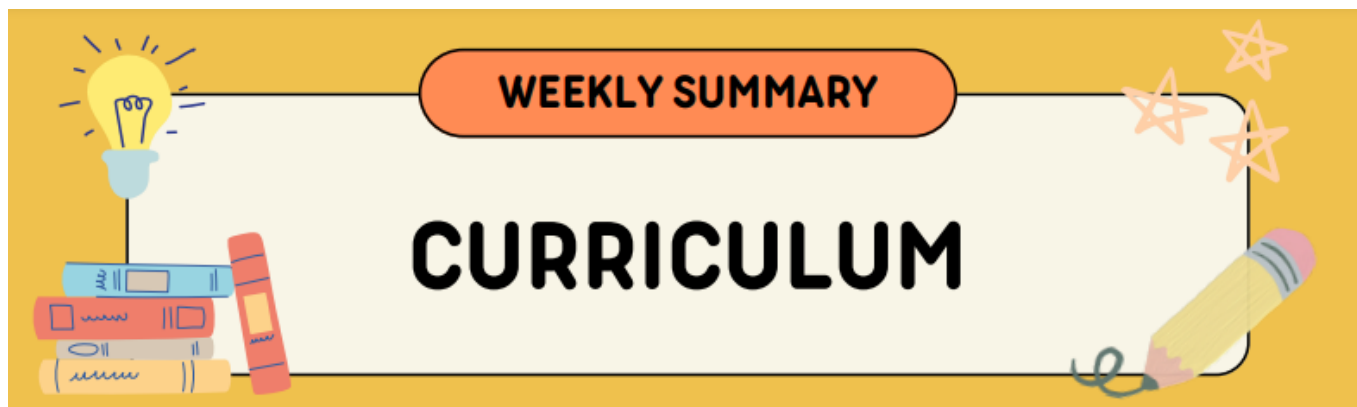


CURRICULUM

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.

Year 3	Year 3 have been very busy again this week. We finished our Money topic and had a super introduction to our next topic after half term on Time, on Friday morning with a wide range of activities. In English we have finished our work on Lights on Cotton Rock: we have really enjoyed this story. This week we have been focussing on non-chronological report writing, compiling a fact file about the alien. Mrs Thompson was extremely impressed by the imaginative writing from all the children. Great job Year 3! We have now started our next DT project on seasonal eating. This will lead into healthy schools week after half term. In Geography we have continued our learning about rainforests. Year 3 have worked so hard this half term, we are very proud of them. Have a fantastic break and remember to check out the curriculum review on the class page to see what we will be learning in Summer 2.
Year 4	This week in year 4 we have been busy looking at the features of a playscript, looking for mistakes in a playscript and have worked in small groups outside to act out a scene from our book. The Wild Robot. In maths we finished our unit on shapes by looking at symmetry and making a pattern symmetrical. In RE we have answered questions about what promises people make at a Christian wedding and have looked at the ways in which we use rivers in geography. We have also been challenging ourselves with times tables in readiness for our times table check. Detail of this will come home with the children tomorrow.
Year 5	It sounds like Year 5 has had a fun week in my absence. In maths, they have been measuring and calculating the perimeter and area of shapes. In English, they have started exploring our new text Beetle Boy, focusing on information texts. In athletics, the children developed accuracy and power in the javelin throw. On top of this, some of the children represented the school brilliantly at the Quadkids athletics competition. I hope everyone has a great half term.





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.

Year 6

What an unforgettable few days we have had at Rhos-y-Gwaliau in the stunning Snowdonia National Park! Our children have risen to every challenge, stepping bravely out of their comfort zones and embracing a range of exciting activities including climbing, caving, zip wiring and hiking. On the lake we sailed, paddle boarded and gorge walked. Throughout the trip, the pupils demonstrated exceptional resilience, determination and teamwork. It has been wonderful to see them support and encourage one another, showing genuine care as they helped friends overcome obstacles and achieve things they may not have thought possible.

We were incredibly proud to hear the instructors praise our children so highly, commenting on their maturity, confidence and excellent manners. They were fantastic ambassadors for our school, and this positive feedback reflects the values we strive to instil every day.

As always, the centre provided an outstanding experience. The instructors were exceptional—skilled, supportive and inspiring—while the food kept everyone very well fuelled for each busy day! I would like to say a personal thank you to Mr Salter and Mrs Taylor, they were both incredibly enthusiastic and supportive.

We return on Saturday, happy to be coming home but taking with us a host of fantastic memories and a real sense of achievement. Very well done to all involved—you have made us extremely proud!





SAVE THE DATE

SUMMER DISCO

With

Dave the Disco

Thursday 18 June 2026

SCHOOL SIBLING MOVIE
ROOM

TICKETS £6 EACH
SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

RECEPTION AND KS1 - 4.30-5.15PM
KS2 - 5.30-6.30PM



The Croft Clinic

Coffee Morning — Event —

Making Sense of Neurodiversity

 Friday 5 June 2026 |  11:30am – 1:00pm

 Wellness Suite, The Odney Club
Odney Lane, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 9SR

Guest Speaker: Masie Cass

Founder of Diversity Does
ADHD Speaker & Neurodiversity Consultant

Join us for a relaxed and welcoming morning of **coffee**,
connection, and **conversation**.

This insightful session will explore ADHD and autism through a compassionate, real-life lens—helping you better understand experiences beyond labels and build greater clarity & confidence.

Open to individuals, families, and those in local schools, whether already part of our clinic community or joining us for the first time.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to admin@thecroftclinic.com, along with any dietary requirements.



LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS


TUE 26 & WED 27 MAY 2026


09:30 - 15:00
MAIDENHEAD RFC, BRAYWICK PARK, SL6 1BN

IN 2 TOUCH THAMES VALLEY
TOUCH RUGBY DEVELOPMENT CAMP

£35 for 1 day
£60 for 2 days
10% sibling discount


SAMMIE PHILLIPS
 England Athlete
 Ex National Squad Coach
 5 x Touch World Cups


PAUL FARRINGTON
 Ex England Athlete
 European & World Cups
 Regional Coach
 Junior Touch Cup
www.juniortouchcup.com

Younger Groups: Y1-Y6
Older Groups: Y7-Y12

COACHING TEAM
Contact: sammie@in2touch.com



DID YOU LOVE BOWLS TODAY?
COME BACK FOR MORE FUN!



WHEN?
 Saturday 6th of June – 10.00am to Midday

WHO CAN JOIN?
 All kids welcome – beginners & future champions!

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Learn cool new skills
- Make new friends
- Fun games & challenges
- Lots of laughs!

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED – JUST COME ALONG! ★

Bring your friends and try something new!
 Parents or Guardians must be in attendance

★ DON'T FORGET! ★
SATURDAY = BOWLS DAY!
We can't wait to see you again! ♥

TOM DEAN SWIM SCHOOL

CRASH COURSES
MAY HALF TERM

Make a splash this May

Boost confidence, build skills and have fun with intensive swimming lessons for all ages and abilities.

 **EXPERT TUITION**
 **FAST PROGRESS**
 **FUN & FRIENDLY**

MAY HALF TERM
 Book now to secure your place!
BOOK NOW
TOMDEANSWIMSCHOOL.COM

SCAN HERE TO BOOK!



HALF TERM EVENTS AT NORDEN FARM

YOU CHOOSE
Tues 26 May 11.30am and 2pm
 An interactive musical show full of games for all the family! **Age guidance 2 - 7 years**

COMEDY CLUB 4 KIDS
Thur 28 May 2pm
 Top comedians doing what they do best... but without the rude bits! **Age guidance 6+ years**

THE MAGIC FARAWAY TREE 
 Wed 27 May 11.30am and 2pm, Thur 28 May 11.30am and 2pm, Sat 30 May 5pm

THE SUPER MARIO GALAXY MOVIE 
 Fri 29 May 11.30am, Sat 30 May 11.30am

MRS H AND THE SINGALONG BAND
Fri 29 May 11.30am
 Music and songs for all ages to enjoy. Bring your voices, silly dances and a sprinkling of mischief!
Age guidance 2+ years

ARTS AND CRAFT SESSIONS | FREE PARKING | CAFE BAR
Norden Farm nordenfarm.org 01628 788997
 Altwood Road, Maidenhead, SL6 4PF

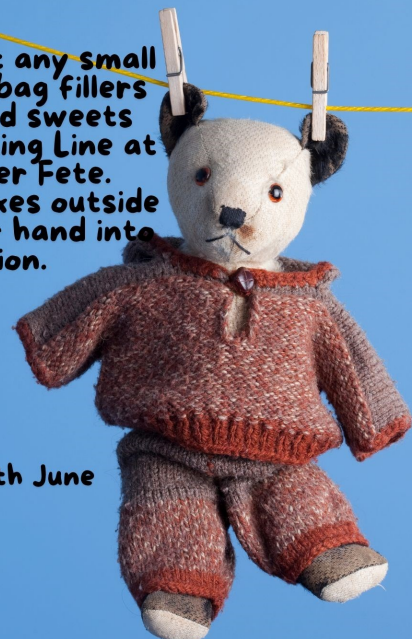
LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



Washing line

Please collect any small toys/ party bag fillers and wrapped sweets for the Washing Line at the Summer Fete. Collection boxes outside KS2 gate - or hand into reception.

Deadline : 18th June



SCHOOL NEWS

RECEPTION'S BRAYWICK NATURE RESERVE TRIP

This week Reception went on their school trip to Braywick Nature Reserve and enjoyed a full day of activities and nature experiences which linked to the learning the children had been doing on plants, growing, lifecycles and minibests. The activities included making smelly herb pots, listening out for different wildlife such as birds, squirrels and bugs, noticing the different plants and flowers and making their own flower collages. They also got to go pond dipping and had to try to identify the different wildlife found in the pond which included animals from bugs, tadpoles to fish! As well as this they got to go on a minibest safari which involved searching through the woodlands and meadows to see what minibests they could find. It was a brilliant day enjoyed by the whole class and the staff! Below are some of the things the children said about the trip:

"I had so much fun on the trip!"

"I can't believe how many different bugs we saw"

"wow, I have never seen this plant before!"

"This spider has eggs!"

'EVERYBODY WRITES'

We would love to invite you into school on Friday 5th June to take part in our 'Everybody Writes' session, celebrating World Environment Day.

From 9:05am to 10:00am, you are warmly welcomed to join your child in their classroom to support them in writing a poem inspired by the environment or an endangered species. This is a wonderful opportunity to work together creatively, share ideas, and celebrate writing across the school.

We hope you can join us for this special event and look forward to seeing you there.

