



Newsletter



2026-2027 Issue 4

25th September 2026

www.cookhamdean.org

office@cookhamdean.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October:

4th: Maidenhead Boundary Walk

6th: Harvest Festival

6th: Y1 & Y2 Active 60 Festival

7th: Individual & Sibling Photos

10th: World Mental Health Day

12th: Y6 NCMP

12th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

13th: Y2 @ Reading Museum

13th & 15th: Reception Parents Evening

22nd: Spooks & Sparkles Disco

23rd: Break Up

November:

2nd: Return to School

11th: Remembrance Service @ 10.45am

13th: Children In Need

14th: Pond Volunteering

16th: Anti-Bullying Week

16th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

17th & 19th: Y1-Y6 Parents Evening

20th: Inset Day

23rd: Young Shakespeare Company Performance

December:

2nd: Rocksteady Concert @ 1.30pm

10th: Christmas Jumper Day

11th: Parent Forum @ 2.30pm

15th: Carol Service @ 9.30am

18th: SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

Monday 28th:

* SEN Parent Support Group @ 8.45am

Thursday 1st:

* Census Day

* Reception & Y1 Phonics Workshop @ 9am

* Y4 @ Cogges Farm

SCHOOL NEWS

MRS REEKIE'S MESSAGE

What an amazing day yesterday - full of joy. The children had been working so hard to learn the words and dance moves for iSingPop and it paid off. The atmosphere in church was electric! A big thank you to all the parents and carers who came...and joined in with the dancing!

POND

Over the summer we had some wonderful volunteers who came to clear the pond (in the bottom right hand corner of the field!). It was completely overgrown and has a hole in the lining - not very conducive to pond life. We are very keen to get this wonderful resource up and running again and the PTA have agreed to fund the renovation. We need to put in the new lining and are asking for volunteers to help.

Date & Time: 14th November, 10am - 12.30PM

Resources: 4 volunteers to clear the pond and 2 to finish the painting the fence

Tools: Bring a garden fork - small ones work very well. Plus gardening gloves.

Objective: To clear the pond and prepare the old liner in preparation for laying down the new liner.

Clothing: waterproof walking boots or wellington boots.

Please let the office know by Friday 6th November if you are able to help. Thank you.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival will be Tuesday 6th October at 9.15am at St John the Baptist Church. All parents and carers are welcome. Please bring in donations for those less fortunate than ourselves (tinned goods, rice, pasta sauces and toiletries). These items will be taken to church and collected by Foodshare Maidenhead. Thank you.



BABY GRAND PIANO

We have been asked if there is a family who would like a very generous donation of a baby grand piano (we don't have room for it in school!). It holds great sentimental value to the owner, who would be especially pleased to see it continue to bring joy and inspire a passion for music. Please contact the office if you would like it.



ATTENDANCE



Attendance is extremely important to us at Cookham Dean Primary School. Our whole school attendance target is 97%. Of course when children have a temperature or have diarrhoea or vomiting, they should not be in school. The [NHS website](https://www.nhs.uk) has some good advice as to when you should or should not send your child to school which may help you to decide what to do. As a school we will not authorise holidays - please see the attached information regarding fines. Children with 95-100% attendance in primary school have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standards in reading, writing, and maths compared to those with 90-95% attendance.

SCHOOL NEWS

PTA DISCO



UNIVERSAL INFANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS



CATERLINK

Please note that the meat Caterlink serve as part of our school meals is not halal. If your child only eats halal meat, please select the vegetarian option or jacket potato when ordering their school meal. Thank you for helping us to ensure that your child receives a suitable meal.

AFTER SCHOOL

Please can you clear the grounds promptly after school so that we can close the school and ensure everyone is safe. Children are unable to play on the trim trail or on the field and MUGA. Thank you for your cooperation.

ECO WARRIORS

Would anyone be interested in working with Miss Smith and our Eco Warriors? They meet on Friday lunchtimes, and it would be lovely to have someone join them and get involved. Please let the office know if you would like to take part.

INCLUSION AMBASSADORS

On Friday, we announced another team of school leaders in a special assembly: the Inclusion Ambassadors. Inclusion Ambassadors are pupils who help make sure everyone in school feels welcome, understood, and included. Their role is to:

- Promote kindness, respect, and equality for all
- Help every pupil feel safe, valued, and able to be themselves
- Develop understanding of neurodiversity (e.g., autism, ADHD, dyslexia) and other differences such as medical or cultural
- Celebrate that everyone is different



Congratulations to our team: **Y3 – Jude & Hugo**
Y5 – Tilly & Sophia

Y4 – Amira & Barnaby
Y6 – Arthur & Otis

I am excited to be working with you to build an even greater sense of belonging for everyone in our school!

Mrs Taylor, Deputy Headteacher & SENCO

SCHOOL NEWS

50:50 CLUB



50:50 club

Would you like the chance to WIN UP TO £50 and help the school while you're doing it? Then join our 50:50 club!

Anyone can join! ask your friends and neighbours.

For just £2.50 a month you could help provide equipment, resources and opportunities for pupils, and have a chance at winning some cash yourself in the monthly draw £££.

Sign up today and you could be our next WINNER!!

For more information contact Helen Jackson, helenrymer80@gmail.com

WALKING BUS

Join the Walking Bus!

HEALTHY KIDS • HAPPIER MORNINGS • STRONGER COMMUNITY

WE LEAVE EARLY, so you get an extra 30 minutes in your day **FOR FREE!**

- BOOSTS PHYSICAL HEALTH**
Fresh air, movement and stronger immune systems
- IMPROVES FOCUS**
Exercise before school helps children concentrate in class
- BRIGHTER MOOD**
A great way to start the day feeling calm and positive
- BUILDS FRIENDSHIPS**
Children walk together, chat together and feel part of a supportive community
- KINDER TO OUR PLANET**
Fewer cars, cleaner air and a greener future

Our Walking Bus Crew!

Walking together for a brighter day!

COOKHAM DEAN WALKING BUS

Better Mornings Brighter Days

WALK TALK FRIENDS LEARN THRIVE

SIGN UP TODAY!
<https://eu-submit.jotform.com/261801543874359>

Let's get more children walking, more families time, and brighter school days for everyone!

SMALL STEPS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

WALKING TOGETHER • FOR A HEALTHIER, HAPPIER SCHOOL DAY

SCREEN TIME

An interesting blog from the Education Hub about screen time: <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2026/03/new-advice-for-parents-on-screen-time-for-young-children/>

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 Luna	★
Year 2 Amaya	★	Year 3 Sophie
Year 4 Harry	★	Year 5 Leo
★	Year 6 Miss Challis	★

SCHOOL NEWS

HARVEST FESTIVAL



GARDEN CLUB

Thank you to all the lovely parents and children who helped to water the school garden over the summer holidays. It was brilliant to come back to the garden looking so alive after the long break.

The children have been eating beans, carrots, kale etc that you have been looking after, so thanks again! If there are any parents that would

like to help out at garden club on Friday lunchtimes please let me know. It's a free club that so many children come and enjoy. You don't need to know much about gardening as we're all learning at the same time. We help the children to discover wildlife, plant and grow from seed, have fun and do lots of digging. You don't have to make it every Friday, but the more welcoming faces, the better for the children. You do need to have the school DBS check.

Esme Howarth (Y2/4)

THE BIG FUTURE SURVEY

Only 17 children from our school have taken part in The Big Future survey. It takes just a few minutes and gives children the chance to share their views, experiences and hopes for the future.

Please encourage your child to take part [HERE](#). Thank you for helping to make sure our children's voices are heard.

YEAR 1 BUSY LEARNING

We are trying to build resources for Year 1 busy learning. If you have any of the following, please give them to Mrs Gardiner: wooden construction blocks, nut and bolt play sets, toy wheelbarrows. Thank you for your support.

BBC 500 WORDS COMPETITION



500 Words is the UK's largest story-writing competition for children aged 5–11. Children are invited to write an original story of 500 words or fewer, with creativity and imagination taking priority over spelling, punctuation and grammar. There are two age categories: 5–7 and 8–11, with entries open from 29 September to 6 November. Winners will receive a framed illustration of their story, which will be published in a special 500 Words winners' book, as well as a National Book Token (£75 for Gold, £50 for Silver and £25 for Bronze). Their stories will also be read by celebrities on The One Show. Gold winners' schools will receive 500 books for their library, while the top 50 entrants will have their stories recorded and published on the 500 Words website. Find out more about the competition [HERE](#).

MAIDENHEAD BOUNDARY WALK 2026

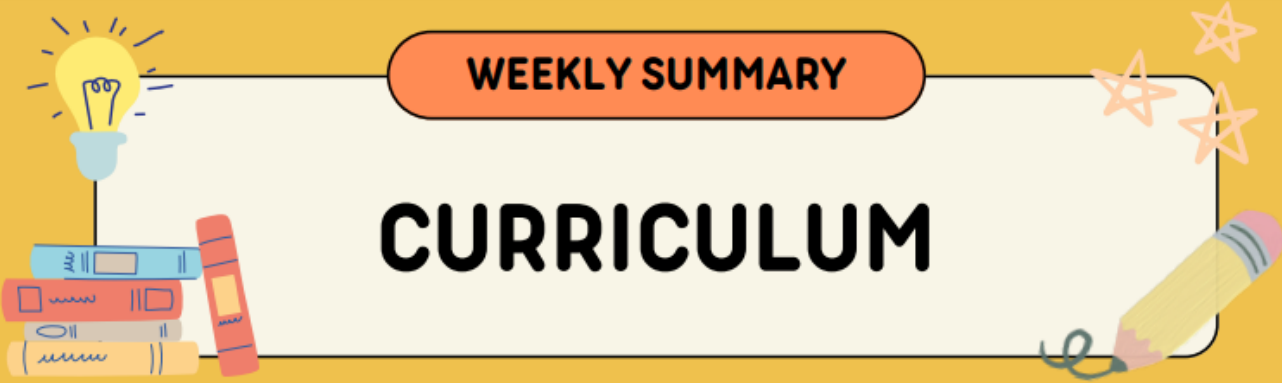
With a little over a week to go, we wanted to say thank you to all the families who signed up to take part in this year's Boundary Walk - we have 56 people signed up, including children from every class! Completing the whole walk is a huge achievement as it's just over 13 miles around the boundary of Maidenhead, but even a couple of miles is a long way for little legs. If you would like to sponsor the walkers, you can do so via our [fundraising page](#). All money raised goes to the PTA to help the school. And if you want to take part, I'm afraid it's too late to join the school group but you can register separately via the Maidenhead Bridge Rotary Club.

Tori Dixon (Y6) & Vanisha Kneafsey (R/Y2)

OPAL

We are planning on OPAL (outdoor play and learning) being up and running next week and would really appreciate some donations. If you have any of the following, please bring them into the office.

Trunkies	Old suitcases	Old prams
Tarpaulins	Guttering	Old washing baskets
Spades	Buckets	Kitchen items (saucepans, frying pans, spatulas, baking trays)

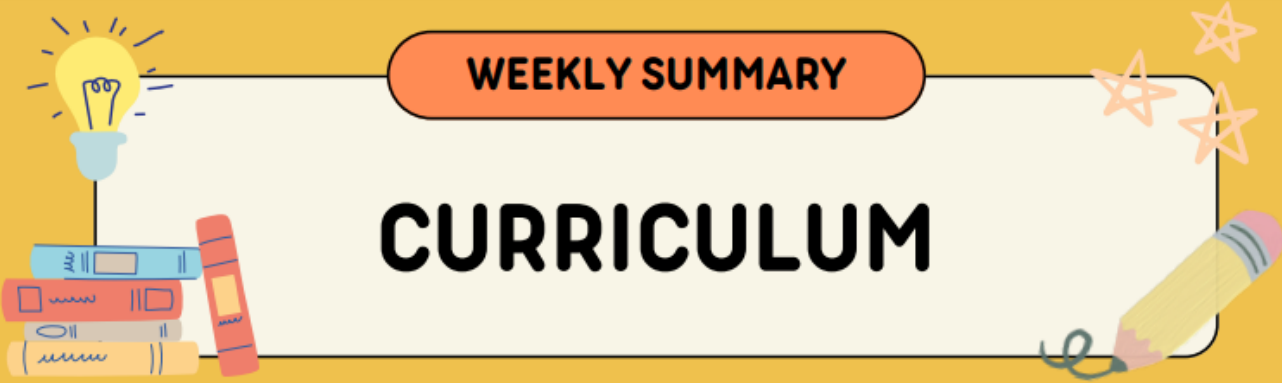


WEEKLY SUMMARY

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	This week Reception have learned four more sounds in their Phonics lessons and have enjoyed playing the Phonics blending games. In Art and Expressive Design the children have been busy painting their self-portraits which links to our 'Marvellous Me' topic where the children are learning about what makes them unique and all about their own features. In Maths the children have been learning about matching, identifying sets and sorting objects. Lastly, Reception have absolutely loved practising the iSingPop songs and did a fantastic job at the concerts in Church - well done!
Year 1	Year 1 have had another fantastic week of learning and have enjoyed exploring the different <i>What the Ladybird Heard</i> books, noticing how they have the same characters but different storylines. In Maths, we have continued learning about place value, counting forwards and backwards to 10 and practising writing numbers as words. In History, we have been learning about timelines and had lots of fun creating our own timelines by ordering important events from our lives. We have loved finishing the week with our fantastic iSingPop concert yesterday and were so proud of how confidently the children performed. What a wonderful way to end the week - well done, Year 1!
Year 2	Year 2 have had a fantastic week! They have worked hard and impressed us with their knowledge of greater than and less than in maths, as well as their creative story writing. We are also pleased with the care they are taking with their presentation and handwriting. Their maturity during spelling lessons and tests has been wonderful to see, and their hard work and practice at home is really paying off. Well done, Year 2!



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 had a fabulous week. In English, we wrote our own stories based on Roald Dahls, Esio Trot. I was really impressed with their use of adventurous vocabulary. In Maths, we have been looking at place value to 1000 and ordering numbers. In Art, we have been exploring drawing with charcoal and discovering different ways to use them. However, the highlight of our week has been the iSingPop concert. We all had great fun learning the songs and dance moves.
Year 4	What a busy week we have had. We have been comparing numbers up to 10,000 and converting our number system to Roman Numerals in maths. In science we reported our findings from the experiment we set up last week, on which solution is best for our teeth. In English, we have started to write a short story about our chosen character travelling through Paris and had our amazing iSingPop concert at church. Next week we are looking forward to our class trip to Cogges Farm!
Year 5	It has been a great week in Year 5. In maths, the children have been using the column method to add and subtract, as well as using rounding to check their answers. In English, we have been continuing our work on The Nowhere Emporium, which the children are loving! We are now focusing on Lucien Silver and will build up to writing a biography of his life. In history, we explored some common misconceptions of the Vikings and the children made inferences based on a range of primary and secondary sources. A massive well done to all of the children for the iSingPop concerts yesterday - especially those who returned for the evening concert! I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.
Year 6	What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 6! The children have thrown themselves into their learning and are loving our book The Final Year. iSingPop was fantastic - a big well done to everyone especially those who made both concerts. In our Science lessons we turned our classroom into a darkroom and investigated how light travels and shadows are created. A great week all round.

LOCAL INFO / EVENTS / CLUBS



PILATES HOUSE

EMPOWER ♦ NURTURE ♦ INSPIRE



REFORMER & MAT/TOWER PILATES CLASSES

MY PILATES HOUSE is a multi-award-winning boutique reformer Pilates studio. We offer welcoming, small-group classes for all ages, abilities and experience levels.

Build strength • Improve mobility • Support posture • Feel amazing

Whether you're completely new to reformer Pilates or looking to take your practice further, our specialist qualified and experienced instructors will help you find the class that's right for you.

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Come and discover what reformer Pilates can do for you.

SCAN TO VIEW CLASSES & BOOK



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Choke Lane - Cookham

AGE Concern
WINDSOR

ROYAL BOROUGH OF
WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD
WWW.RBWM.GOV.UK

Education & Skills
Funding Agency

ANTZ KIDZ

FAMILY JUNCTION

NEW SATURDAY WORKSHOPS
for families to get creative!

2.30PM - 5.30PM **ADULTS TO REGISTER** **CHILDREN TO ACCOMPANY**

SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN **8 YEARS AND ABOVE**

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- ♥ Button Heart Canvases
- ♥ Book Page Roses
- ♥ Lavender Sachets
- ♥ Painted Pebble Messages
- ♥ Wool Wrapped Hearts or Letters
- ♥ Napkin Decoupage Coasters
- ♥ Paper Bunting
- ♥ Fabric Scrap Pumpkins or Hearts
- ♥ Simple Clay Impressions
- ♥ Ribbon & Bead Bookmarks

WORKSHOP DATES 2026-2027

- ✓ 19/09/2026
- ✓ 03/10/2026
- ✓ 21/11/2026
- ✓ 05/12/2026
- ✓ 16/01/2027
- ✓ 27/02/2027
- ✓ 06/03/2027
- ✓ 24/04/2027
- ✓ 29/05/2027
- ✓ 26/06/2027

VENUE: SPENCER DENNEY CENTRE WINDSOR

UNPLUG. GET MESSY. MAKE MAGIC TOGETHER!
LIMITED SPACES - SIGN UP TODAY AND JOIN THE FUN!

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
07598 062569 | www.antzkidz.co.uk



07896103442

OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP!

FOOTBALL + MULTI-SPORTS CAMP

A fun, active and exciting holiday camp for boys and girls of all abilities!

- ✓ Football & Multi-Sports every day
- ✓ Different sports, skills & games each day
- ✓ Friday = Halloween Fancy Dress Disco!
- ✓ Fun, learning & making friends
- ✓ Prizes & awards to be won!

BOOK NOW!

LIMITED SPACES
BOOK NOW!

COMPETITION DAY EVERY FRIDAY!

PRIZES & AWARDS TO BE WON!

HALLOWEEN DISCO AFTERNOON ON FRIDAY!

DATES

26 OCTOBER - 30 OCTOBER
(HALF TERM WEEK)

TIME

10:00AM - 3:00PM

EARLY DROP OFF 9:00AM START
extra £5 per day

LOCATION

Datchet St Mary's Primary School
SL3 9EJ



PRICES

EARLY BIRD £18.50 PER DAY
UNTIL 7 SEPTEMBER

NORMAL PRICE £25 PER DAY

BOOK ONLINE
<https://jw-coaching.classforkids.io>

Jw_Coaching@outlook.com

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