



KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Welcome back to the start of a new term. We all hope you had a lovely Easter and that your child has enjoyed the first week back.

Thank you to our PTA:

Lots of work was carried out in and around the site during the Easter holiday to enhance the learning environment for everyone. Perhaps you have noticed some of these changes. Most noticeable for the children are the smart new blinds in our Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms which have arrived just in time to shade the rooms from the glare of the sun we're sure to see now the summer term has arrived! The money you have raised by supporting our PTA allowed us to accomplish this project and our new sound system in the hall, installed just before Easter, which also came about with support from the PTA continues to enhance a whole range of activities. As we begin in earnest to prepare for Arts and Culture Week, and in particular our performance to which you are invited on Friday 14th June, it will become invaluable.

Welcome to the World, Little Ducklings:

Things have been busy in school with the arrival of duckling eggs which have now hatched; Cygnet Class are doing a wonderful job looking after the four ducklings who seem very happy in their new environment. They remain with us for another week before returning to the farm to receive the ongoing care and attention they need. Our thanks go to our PTA who have also funded this project for us.

London's Burning:

Swans enjoyed a visit from the fire service on Tuesday when the team were here and on hand to douse the flames as their Tudor homes were set alight. Just as people did in the Great Fire of London, the children created a bucket chain to help the fire fighters manage the blaze. It was a spectacular sight.

The Wind in the Willows: A Cookham Adventure:

With the Cookham Festival nearly upon us, for some time our choirs have been working on a cantata which tells the story of Toad and his friends through a modern adaptation of 'Wind in the Willow' that has a distinctly local flavour. They will be joined by children from the other three Cookham schools to perform the piece at the Sir Bernard Miller Centre in Odney Club on Friday 10th May.

Earlier today, we were delighted to welcome Cookham musician, composer of the cantata and parent, Rob Castell, to school, to work with our choirs. He joined them and Mrs. Brown for their early morning rehearsal to take them through the piece, offering top tips. It was a great session; the excitement to perform on stage is building rapidly!

Musical Evening Auditions next Thursday Ahead of our Music Concert:

Next Thursday, the 25th April, children who take instrumental lessons and who would like to audition for our musical evening on the 22nd of May are invited to bring in their instrument, their music and their piano accompaniment (if they have one). During the morning Mrs Brown will be finding them in their classrooms and taking them to the SHEL to hear them perform. They should be performance ready to avoid disappointment!

Class Newsletters – Find out What's Happening this Term:

For everyone this week, new topics have been introduced. For details of what these are, please refer to the class newsletters which have been sent to you today as attachments and which will also appear on our school website.

Earth Day 2024 – Join the Movement:

Earth Day, a global event which aims to highlight the importance of protecting the environment, takes place every year on 22nd April. The theme for this year is 'Planet vs. Plastics', with the organisers aiming to raise awareness of the harms of plastic pollution for human and planetary health. We will be marking the event in school but if you wish to find out more, go to:

[Earth Day 2024 | Activities & Resources for April 22 - Earth Day](#)

WWF Fund Raising Walk:

You may remember a fund-raising event some enterprising boys in Year 6 came up with just after Christmas. They had planned to walk from Cookham to Henley to raise money for the WWF but local flooding postponed their venture. However, tomorrow Ben Brittain, Monty Garrett, Rafferty King, Rory MacMillan, Fred Mellors and Drake Powell will be donning their fancy-dress costumes and walking the 13 miles route picking up litter in support of the charity. Through sponsorship they have exceeded their target of £500. The boys are incredibly grateful for the support they have had from friends and family and for the support you have given them by dropping loose change into their bucket at the end of the school day. If you would still like to help 'Team Panda' on their way, you can sponsor them by going to: [Litter Pick Walk | givestar](#)

Alternatively, you may like to support them on route. They will be leaving Cookham from the National Trust Moor car park at 9am tomorrow. Look out for them dressed as endangered animals as they wind their way along the river ending up hopefully in Henley around 3pm. Good luck, boys!

National Testing Programme:

The summer term is as busy as any other term but there is additional pressure on staff over the coming weeks to ensure the children are well prepared for the DfE's national testing programme. Back in September I sent out a letter outlining the programme so you were clear on what we were working towards. The same letter has been sent to you today as an attachment.

In summary, over the coming weeks our Reception children will be assessed against Early Learning Goals and Year 1 will take a phonics screening test. Year 2 will take optional Key Stage 1 SATs which will be used as part of a bank of evidence to assess their level as they move into Key Stage 2 and Year 4 will complete a Multiplication Tables Check. On Monday 13th May, Year 6 will embark on a week of Key Stage 2 Statutory Attainment Tests which are sent away to be marked.

These all mark important milestones in a child's educational journey and your support in helping each individual reach the goals we have set is hugely appreciated. At the end of the academic year, regardless of whether your child has been involved in any statutory testing, you will receive a report outlining how well he/she has done over the last twelve months. It is our aim to ensure there is lots to celebrate. In the meantime, information leaflets about KS1 and KS2 SATs plus a leaflet about the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check have been sent out today as attachments.

Cookham Footprint Pre-Loved Clothing Sale:

Cookham Footprint will be holding a pre-loved clothes sale on 27th April at Cookham Library. If you have any items you would like to donate to the team they will be collecting from the front of school on Thursday 25th April.

Sporting News – League Winners:

Following the success of the mums at the recent Inter PTA Netball Competition, we heard this week that our school netball team have won the 'A' Team league this year having won all the matches they played. This is a phenomenal achievement which we celebrated in assembly on Tuesday. The squad was thrilled as was the rest of the school.

Our thanks go to Mr. Lucas, head coach, and Mrs. Parker for their commitment to the team and to those of you with children in the squad who have ensured they have arrived at 8am every Wednesday for practice.

Netball Club continues this term on a Wednesday morning and is open to Year 4 and Year 5. All, in those years, are welcome to come along.

Football Club:

As a result of so many fixtures being postponed last term because of the weather, Mr. Whittle has been busy re-scheduling games. In order to ensure all are played before the season of summer sports begins, he will not be running his after-school club for the time being; instead he hopes to use Tuesday afternoons, as well as Monday and Thursday afternoons, for matches. Do keep a check on our timetable of clubs (listed below) and our calendar of events for news of what is happening and when. We will do our best to give you as much notice as possible. You will see that already a number of sporting events are happening next week.

Dancing to the Beat with Mrs. Douglas:

On Monday we welcomed the borough's dance specialist, Mrs. Douglas, to school. She will be with us up until half term working with Year 1 and Year 2 helping them choreograph a class routine for Arts and Culture Week. Sessions got off to a great start this week.

As you may know, we are lucky enough to have our very own dance specialist in school, Mrs. Lucas. Mrs. Lucas will be working with classes across all key stages helping the children prepare for our musical and dance extravaganza to end Arts and Culture Week which you are all invited to on Friday 14th June. Do save the date in your diary!

Extra-Curricular activities:

For information about the clubs we are offering this term please see below.

Extra-Curricular activities running this term. Please see providers for further information:

Club	Year Group	Day/Time	Contact Details	Arrangements for drop-off/pick-up
Early Bird Club	All	Start time 8am each day of the week	No requirement to book, simply drop off anytime between 8am and 8:45pm. Payment should be made through your ScoPay account	Arrive through the back door of the hall
After School Provision	All	From 3:15pm	Book directly: holytrinity@wraparoundcare4u.com	See WrapAroundCare4U for details
Spanish Club	Year 5 & 6	Monday before school at 8:20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Maths Club	KS1	Monday before school at 8:20am	Invited pupils only	Arrive through the back door of the hall
iPro Football	KS2 boys	Monday lunchtime	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk	Pupils taking part may come to school in their school PE kit to avoid the need to change
Playball	EYFS & Year 1	Monday, finish time: 4pm	Book online: http://www.playballkids.com/f/southbucks	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Art Club	Years 3 & 4	Monday, finish time 5pm	Contact Mrs Hyslop directly nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk or 07764884747	Collect from the front entrance of school
Junior Choir	Years 3 & 4	Tuesday before school, start time: 8am	All welcome, simply come along larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 2	Tuesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Little Samurai	EYFS, Y1 & Y2	Tuesday, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 or www.SamuraiKickboxing.com See: info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Art Club	Year 5 & 6	Tuesday, finish time 5pm	Contact Mrs Hyslop directly nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk or 07764884747	Collect from the front entrance of school
Rock Steady	EYFS – Y6	Wednesday morning	Book directly: 0330 113 0330 see: Rocksteadymusicschool.com	N/A lessons take place during the school day
Netball	Years 4 & 5	Wednesday before school, start time: 8am	All invited	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 1	Wednesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
iPro Football	KS2 girls	Wednesday lunchtime	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk	Pupils taking part may come to school in their school PE kit to avoid the need to change
Spanish Club	Year 3	Wednesday after school, finish time 3:50pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
Yoga & Mindfulness	All	Wednesday, finish time 4:30pm	Book directly by contacting Sallie Windsor: 07846 992824 or sallie.windsor@nurturekidsyoga.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Senior Choir	Years 5 & 6	Thursday before school, start time: 8am	All welcome, simply come along larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Ukulele Club	Years 5 & 6	Thursday lunchtime	Mrs Lucas will be running the club for those invited	Look out for more details of an Easter Ukulele experience soon to be advertised
Young Samurai	Years 3 - 6	Thursday after school, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 or www.SamuraiKickboxing.com See: info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Spanish Club	Year 4	Friday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Sewing Club	Year 1 – 6	Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm	Book directly: 07782 253565 anita@dhaaga-sewing.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
iPro Football	Years 1 - 6	Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk Children attending this club are permitted to come to school wearing their school P.E. kit with a football shirt to change into at the end of the day if they wish.	Collect from the back gate
Maestro Music Lessons	EYFS – Y6	Various days during the week	Book directly: lornarennie@berkshiremaestros.org.uk	Times of lessons determined by Maestros

CALENDAR DATES

22 nd April	Year 4 Boys Football Tournament, Braywick Leisure Centre (am) - selected children informed by letter
24 th April	A team netball match v Furze Platt Junior (away) - selected children informed by letter.
25 th April	Musical Evening Auditions
26 th April	Year 4 girls' football tournament at St Pirans (pm) - selected children informed by letter
30 th April	Year 3 Mixed Dynamos Cricket Skills Festival at Pinkney Green Cricket Club – letter to follow
30 th April	Year 5/6 Girls Football Match v Holyport (home) - selected children informed by letter
2 nd May	A and B team football matches v Holyport (away) - selected children informed by letter
7 th May	KS2 Open House
8 th May	EYFS & KS1 Open House
9 th May	Year 4 Boys and Girls Football matches vs Oldfield (home) - selected children informed by letter
10 th May	Cookham Festival: Joint Concert with Cookham Schools
13 th May	EYFS Health Screening
13 th – 16 th May	KS2 SATs
16 th May	Y4 Busy Buttons Trip (details to be confirmed in letter to be sent shortly)
20 th May	National Walk to School Week
21 st May	Year 3 at Junior Music Festival Rehearsal (tbc)
21 st May – 24 th May	Book Fair in school
22 nd May	Musical Evening at school 6:30pm
23 rd May	Year 3 at Junior Music Festival Rehearsal (tbc)
24 th May	Term ends for half term break (normal finish time: 3:15pm)
27 th – 31 st May	Half Term break
3 rd June	Term starts
3 rd June – 14 th June	Window for completion of Year 4 Multiplication Check
5 th June	Year 4 Trip to the West End (details yet to be confirmed in letter)
7 th June	PTA Disco (details tbc)
8 th June	Royal Windsor Flower Show
10 th – 14 th June	Arts and Culture Week
11 th June	Year 3 at Junior Music Festival Rehearsal (tbc)
13 th June	Year 3 at Junior Music Festival Rehearsal (tbc)
14 th June	Arts and Culture Week performance pm (tbc)
10 th – 14 th June	Window for completion of Year 1 Phonics Screening
19 th June	Year 6 Arthur Burgin Science Exhibition (tbc)
22 nd – 23 rd June	The Big Cookham Wildlife Weekend
24 th – 28 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
26 th June	Junior Music Festival Year 3
24 th – 4 th July	Sports Weeks
5 th July	Sports Day
6 th July	HT Fest
9 th July	Spanish Assembly – 9:30am
19 th July	Leavers Service (tbc)
19 th July	End of Term – Summer Holiday begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)