



KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

The National Testing Programme Gets Underway:

I begin by congratulating our Year 6 students for working so hard this week on their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). As you will hopefully be aware, these form part of the DfE's national testing programme which affects Year 6s across the country. Having completed six papers which focus on reading, spelling, punctuation, grammar and mathematics, their scripts have been sent off to me marked externally. Results will be back with us in July and you will receive them as part of your child's end of year report.

We have been all incredibly impressed with the work ethic and resilience our Year 6s have shown. It hasn't been an easy week for them but now these tests are done, the focus can turn to ensuring their last few weeks at primary school are filled with happy memories.

Key Stage One SATs:

As my letter (sent at the beginning of September and again more recently) outlining the testing programme for children in primary school explained, the testing regime for Year 2 pupils has changed. Key Stage 1 SATs are no longer statutory. However, we have opted to use them as an additional piece of evidence to support teacher assessment. (Please refer to the letter sent to you again today for more details.) The children will be completing these tests in their classroom next week. Results from these tests will not be shared; they will be used as a bank of evidence to determine what level your child is working at. This 'teacher assessment' be shared with you in your child's end of year report. Despite the fact that the tests aren't statutory this year, they are important so please ensure your child is in school promptly next week so we can get underway quickly each morning.

Phonics Screening (Year 1) and Multiplication Check (Year 4):

As my letter explains, these two activities will be taking place in school after half term. Results from these tests will be shared with you at the end of term.

Finding Compassion with Father Steve:

We were delighted to welcome Father Steve to school to lead us in collective worship on Tuesday. Although he has visited several times before, it was the first time he led an assembly and he did it brilliantly! Ask your child about the story of the Good Samaritan and it's significance for us all.

Busy Year 4 Bees at Busy Buttons:

Yesterday, Year 4 enjoyed a trip to Windsor to work with the Busy Buttons CORE Charity who involved them in creating an entry for the 'Winged Wonders' school competition to be showcased at The Royal Windsor Flower Show, at The York Club. Year 6 had taken part in a similar project last year and thoroughly enjoyed.

It seems that Teals had an equally lovely time creating a collaborative piece representing this year's theme which will celebrate our world's colourful pollinators. Their butterfly creation was magnificent! The piece will be entered into the Royal Windsor Flower Show's craft competition on 8th June when trophies and prizes will be awarded. Hopefully we're in with a chance.

Reception Class are busy planting up a wheelbarrow which will also be entered so if you happen to be at the Flower Show in June do come along and see our entries. [ROYAL WINDSOR FLOWER SHOW - The Royal Windsor Rose & Horticultural Society \(rwrhs.com\)](http://www.royalwindsorflowershow.co.uk)

Walk to School Week:

Next week is National Walk to School Week when we hope as many as possible will get involved. The children first heard about it from their House Captains last week and this week we have spoken again about it. On Monday your child will be given

a Walk to School Week Passport with activities in it to fill out each day. A class chart will capture how journeys are made and certificates will be awarded.

On Friday your child is invited to come to school in mufti gear to mark the end of the challenge. In doing so, if they could bring with them an item for the PTA tombola stall at this year's HT Fest, the team would be most grateful. They are looking for items that are new or in excellent condition: books, wine, toiletries, games, and toys.

Booking forms for PTA events coming up, the children's disco and adult quiz night, can now be found on the PTA WhatsApp group or Facebook page.

Musical Evening:

On Wednesday you are all invited to our music concert when our choirs and ukulele group will be performing alongside individual musicians. This is not a ticketed event, just turn up on the door ahead of the concert starting at 6:30pm. It promises to be a wonderful evening when the talents of our children will be showcased.

Book Fair in School:

Next week the travelling book fair will be back. In the library from Tuesday (21st) to Friday (24th) between 3:15pm and 4pm stalls will be set up where your child can buy a range of titles. We do hope you will come along.

Apologies – Tucasi Support:

We were made aware of a few issues ordering lunches. This has now been rectified. Thank you for your patience.

We Need You – Maidenhead's Big Read:

During our Book Week the children met a number of authors and took part in a variety of workshops. Some of these authors came to us via the Maidenhead Big Read team. However, the team are in trouble because of a dwindling group and a shortage of funds. The chair of the Maidenhead Community Book Festival CIC, Helal (Stephan) Stephan, is seeking volunteers to help keep the organisation going so we can continue to benefit from their work in the future. Are you able to help?

Dear Established & Interested Readers

I am reaching out to seek help in volunteering and/or finding interested persons in volunteering to bolster our depleting MBR Organising group.

For the past six years, we have proudly organised the annual "Maidenhead's Big Read" festival engaging authors, illustrators and story tellers and related activities in celebration of the World Book Day. Our aim has been to support local schools and families in encouraging broader reading habits among Reception to Year 7 students, fostering a passion for reading, especially among those who may be hesitant or reluctant to read, as well as create fun in our local Community. 😊

This year's MBR festival was a tremendous success, reaching over 5,500 students across 27 local schools over a two-week period. Additionally, we attracted nearly 4,000 attendees to the Maidenhead Library (and Once Upon A Bus and Maidenhead Heritage Centre) over a weekend, resulting in 1,444 library book borrowings and 27 new library registrations. A great achievement! 😊

However, the development and delivery of the MBR programme for this year presented significant challenges due to dwindled MBR organising group size and funding constraints. Besides, we have not managed to achieve a succession plan to secure the future of MBR! We urgently need at least six additional committee members to ensure the ongoing success, continuity and possibly the growth of MBR. Without this support, we may regrettably have to discontinue this valuable community initiative.

I implore you to consider joining and/or promoting the MBR organising group among your family and friends, if you can afford regular spare energy and time. The group's role would involve identifying, securing, planning, organising, and promoting the Maidenhead's Big Read programme, as well as securing necessary funding. We generally convene via Zoom in the evenings, with meetings taking place on average of once every six weeks and some preparatory work in between.

I would appreciate responses only if you are interested; and I would be happy to provide further information or talk it over if requested.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephan

Please see the flyer for details of how to get in touch with Stephan if you are able to help.

Finally, this weekend a number of pupils past and present will be taking part in the Cookham Festival. They will be performing at Formosa Fest and the Ovey Farm Family concert. We wish them the very best of luck. Have a lovely weekend.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

Please note, new dates added to the calendar this week have been highlighted in blue to help you see any changes.

20 th May	National Walk to School Week
20 th May	Year 4 Tri-Golf Festival, Winter Hill Golf Club, 10am-12:30pm (selected children informed by letter)
21 st May	Year 5/6 Quadkids Festival (Outdoor Athletics), Newlands Girls School, 3:45-5:45pm (selected children informed by letter).
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 (please refer to letter)
23 rd May	Girls Football match v Oldfield (home) - selected children informed by letter
24 th May	Non-Uniform Day (in exchange, please donate an item to our PTA ahead of our HT Fest – more details to follow) 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)
21 st June	PTA Quiz Night 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
10 th July	Rock Steady Concert 9:30am
19 th July	Leavers Service (tbc)
19 th July	End of Term – Summer Holiday begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)