

## KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

### Sports Fortnight and Sports Day:

Following the success of our residential trip to Devon last week and the activities the children enjoyed here, we have continued to focus on health and wellbeing with a number of sporting activities which the children seem to have really enjoyed. On Monday we took experienced yoga with a visiting yoga specialist, initially in our tepee in the wildlife area then in the hall as the temperature rose. Outside in the shade the children put on special bouncy exercise shoes which gave them a real spring in their step as they exercised with another workshop provider.

On Tuesday the Samurai team put the children through their paces and they had a taste of lacrosse, then on Wednesday dragonball and Mini Warrior sessions took place. Along with the events which happened last week as reported in our previous newsletter, it's been a fortnight of wonderful experiences for the children during which they've definitely achieved their 60 minutes of exercise per day.

We hope you enjoyed Sports Day today. There really were some stand out performances but best of all was seeing how the children participated with great sportsmanship and support for each other. Thank you for being part of our special day.

### Year 2's Trip to the Windsor Castle's Private Gardens:

To support the science curriculum, on Wednesday Year 2 headed off to Windsor Castle for a visit of the castle governor's private garden. They were shown round by the head gardener who spoke about everything growing there including a tree with a rather interesting smell! They saw the changing of the guard and returned to school with memories of places few get to see.

### Transition:

This week Year 6 have enjoyed visiting the secondary schools they will be transitioning to in September. They spoke excitedly of the experiences they had having returned to Holy Trinity with a spring in their step. Our transition programme with our secondary colleagues is excellent. Many have already been in to school to talk to the pupils and staff and additional lessons have been delivered to help them manage the change. We are confident that all is now in place to ensure a positive start to the new term wherever they are going.

### Attachment Aware Schools' Award Ceremony:

On Thursday Miss Buckley attended an award ceremony in Teddington. The day was all about celebrating the work we have done this year as an attachment aware school. You will have seen the information she has published in each of our last eleven newsletters about our approach and how you can help. During the day she was presented with a Gold Award in recognition of the support we give our pupils which we were delighted to receive. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Miss Buckley for the way she has led our school on this journey which has had such a positive impact on the children.

### Extra-Curricular Activities:

As we approach the end of term, extra-curricular clubs will be winding down. Please refer to information circulated by individual club providers about when last sessions are taking place.

Some flyers about clubs that will be on offer next year have already been circulated. Keep looking out for these and be sure to book early to secure a place for your child.

### School Photographs:

If you wish to order a class photograph, please use the QR code which has previously been sent out to you. To take advantage of the 'free delivery to school' offer, orders must be made by Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July.

### Smartphone Free Policy:

I do hope you are aware of our support for the Smartphone Free campaign that has been running nationwide but which has really been embraced by RBWM. Earlier you were emailed a letter signed by Head Teachers from 52 borough schools informing school communities that children will not be allowed access to smartphones on site by the end of 2025. This means that around 20,000 pupils across the borough will be given the opportunity to learn without the distraction of smartphones during the school day.

We are proud of the way our school has played a part in achieving this by encouraging you to sign the Smartphone Free Childhood Pact and indicate your support to delay giving your child a smartphone until at least the end of Year 9. Delaying their access to social media until they are 16 will mean that you are protecting them from the harmful and shocking content that can otherwise be accessed.

Research that has been carried out tells us that:

- 29 hours is the average time a British 12 year old spends on a smartphone each week.
- Teens with problematic smartphone-use are twice as likely to have anxiety and three times as likely to have depression.
- 51% of UK 11-13 year-olds have seen hardcore pornography online.
- 75% of UK 15 year-olds have been sent beheading videos.
- 90% of girls and 50% of boys say that they are sent unwanted explicit content.

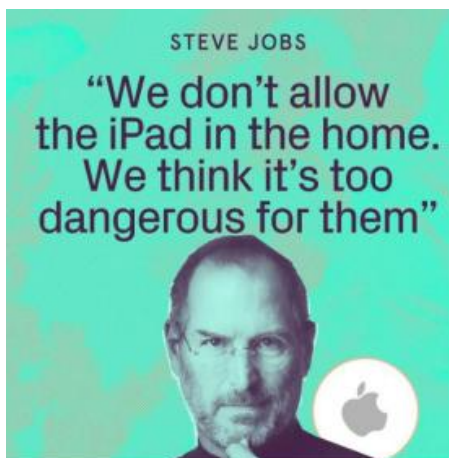
In addition there is evidence that smartphones are holding back learning:

- Children at smartphone free schools get GCSE results 1-2 grades higher.
- The 'mere presence' of a phone reduces students' cognitive capacity.
- The average teen gets 237 notifications a day. It takes 23 minutes to refocus.

It has been shown that smartphones are fundamentally changing childhood:

- The average child spends less time outside than a prison inmate.
- Since 1975, the daily average time children spend playing outdoors has fallen by 30%.
- The daily average time that teenagers spend with friends has plummeted by 65% since 2010.

Given these statistics, is it any wonder that many of the people who created this technology give their own kids smartphone free childhoods.



The evidence shows that people want change:

- 94% of parents think smartphones are harmful
- 77% of parents want smartphones banned in school for under 16s
- 33% of parents of children with smartphones have cried over their child's phone obsession
- 67% of 16-18 year-olds think smartphones are harmful
- 50% of teens say they are 'addicted' to social media

Given this, you will not be surprised that from the end of 2025 we will not be allowing Year 6 (or any other child on roll) to bring smartphones to school. If you feel your child needs a device for safety reasons, such as when travelling to school, they may bring a phone without internet connectivity (a 'brick' phone) but, as is the policy now, they will need to be handed in at the start of the day and locked away until 3:15pm. This new policy comes into effect from the start of January 2026 but it is preferable if, with your support, smartphones are not brought into school when the new term starts in September.

To show your support, I again encourage you to put your name to the Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact. It can be found at: [Sign the Parent Pact](#)

For many weeks we have been at the top of the Berkshire Leadership board. Just recently we have slipped to second place so it would be great to retake the lead especially knowing that by doing so we are indicating how important we feel this move is for our children. Thank you for your support in this important issue.

Thank you again for giving up your time to attend sports day today and I hope to see you at tomorrow's HT Fest. It starts at 1pm and promises to be a fantastic event!

Anna Smith

## CALENDAR DATES

5 <sup>th</sup> July	HT Fest
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Workshop for Y6 led by Samurai, funded by our PTA
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Hockey Festival (letter to follow)
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Rock Steady Concert am
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Steel Pan concert for Year 5 and Year 6 parents at 2:45pm
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Spanish Assembly 9:30am
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Climate Action Day at Braywick (letter for selected children to follow)
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 Trip to The Ferry to see the Swan Upping event 1:15pm (details above)
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 cricket squad to participate in the Berkshire Youth Games (letter for selected children to follow)
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Cookham Dig
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term & Leavers' Service 10am
3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Start of the Autumn Term (please see 2025-2026 Term Dates sent today as an attachment)

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September: Start of the New Academic Year**

### THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

#### TERM DATES 2025/2026

School term and holiday dates for community and voluntary controlled schools. Academy, free and voluntary aided schools can set their own term dates, so please check with your school.

#### Autumn 2025

**Term 1** (38 days)

**Term starts on:** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025\* **Term ends on:** Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

October holiday: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

**Term 2** (35 days)

**Term starts on:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 **Term ends on:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Christmas holiday: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

#### Spring 2026

**Term 3** (30 days)

**Term starts on:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 **Term ends on:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

February holiday: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Term 4** (25 days)

**Term starts on:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 **Term ends on:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Spring holiday: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
(Good Friday – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026; Easter Monday – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026)

#### Summer 2026

**Term 5** (29 days)

**Term starts on:** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 **Term ends on:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

May holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Term 6** (38 days)

**Term starts on:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 **Term ends on:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026