

17 October 2025

# Pyrford C of E Primary School Weekly Newsletter

## Football Success

Yesterday our Year 6 football teams took part in the English Schools Football Association Woking Schools National Qualifiers tournament. The boys made it through to the semi-final, only losing out on a place in the final on a penalty shoot-out.

The girls only conceded one goal in all the games they played and went on to triumph in the final! They will now go forward to take part in the Surrey round of this national competition.

I am so impressed with the great team spirit shown by both sets of players. They were great ambassadors for the school and did us proud.  
*Mrs Steen*



### Inside this issue

Headteacher's Letter .....	2
Behaviour Blog .....	3
Smartphone Free Childhood.....	3
Golden Book.....	4
Autumn Term Dates .....	5
Christmas! .....	6
Spring & Summer Term Dates ....	8
Church News .....	9
Term dates .....	10



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086005376237>

pyrfordprimaryschool

# Headteacher's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderfully uplifting week it's been at school!

We were delighted to welcome so many of you to our Parents' Evenings. It was a pleasure to share the children's progress with you and celebrate their achievements - your continued support truly makes all the difference.

A huge well done to our football teams this week! Our Year 6 boys put in a fantastic effort, proudly securing **3rd place**, while our remarkable Year 6 girls triumphed as **winners** of their competition! Their teamwork, determination and sportsmanship made us all immensely proud.

Year 6 also enjoyed a brilliant **screen printing workshop**, unleashing their creativity with some truly fabulous results. The artwork produced was vibrant, imaginative, and a joy to see—well done to all our budding artists!

Meanwhile, **Key Stage 1** had a magical time taking part in a **drama workshop delivered by PERFORM**. The hall was filled with laughter, expression and storytelling as our youngest pupils explored characters and creativity with great enthusiasm.

I have to say that it does feel like a very long half term and we know that many families (& staff) have succumbed to the termly bugs and virus, so well done for keeping going and we are but one week away from half term.

See you next week!

Mr D

Gavin Dutton  
Headteacher





# Behaviour Blog



## Behaviour Tip: FEAR response

Understanding the way we respond to tricky behaviour is useful. We often experience FEAR (False Experiences Appearing Real). The escalation of our own worries can take us from seeing our children showing age-appropriate resistance to worrying they will be terrible humans and spend their lives alone. Try to identify the next time FEAR shapes the way you react to your child's behaviour.

We know as parents of primary school aged children that we are continually navigating the tricky years of screen time and phone pressure. In little over 15 years, smartphones have changed the shape of childhood. And the evidence they're doing more harm than good has become impossible to ignore.

Yet we've been left to figure this out alone. There's no roadmap. No NHS guidance. No government policy. Just families everywhere trying to do their best, up against the most powerful and persuasive companies on the planet.

Please make time to watch this short video (linked below) designed to spark honest, supportive discussions between parents and children about why waiting a few more years to get a smartphone is a good idea. If your child is aged 10-13 it is a good idea to watch it with them. If you agree, please sign the pact to support Pyrford CofE Primary's vision to agree to delay getting your child a smartphone until at least 14.

Thanks for support.

*The Pyrford CofE SFC parent group.*

## Kids and smartphones – what's the big deal?

<b>Opportunity cost</b> More scrolling mean less time for play, movement, reading and real-life connection – the building blocks of a healthy childhood.	<b>Harmful content</b> Extreme, explicit content is just a click away – often served by algorithms, even when kids aren't looking for it.	<b>Mental health</b> Since smartphones became widespread, teen anxiety, depression and self-harm have surged. Early use is linked to poorer mental health.
<b>Addiction</b> Apps are designed to hook kids in. The longer they scroll, the more money tech companies make – at any cost.	<b>Attention</b> Smartphones hijack focus. Constant pings and notifications make it harder for kids to concentrate, learn, and enjoy deep focus.	<b>Family life</b> Phones can quietly dominate home life – fuelling arguments, draining attention, and crowding out real connection between parents and kids.
<b>Cyberbullying</b> Fallouts don't end at school anymore. They follow kids home, with no off switch and nowhere to escape the pressure.	<b>Sleep</b> Blue light and late-night scrolling disrupt rest and recovery – leaving kids wired, overtired, and struggling to function the next day.	<b>Grooming</b> Predators target kids on popular apps like TikTok and Snapchat – especially when they first get unsupervised smartphone access.



Join the growing movement of parents choosing to delay smartphones and social media.

[SMARTPHONEFREECHILDHOOD.ORG](https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org)



[Sign the Parent Pact smartphonefreechildhood.org](https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org)



[A video for families feeling the smartphone pressure](https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resource/a-video-for-families-feeling-the-smartphone-pressure)  
<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resource/a-video-for-families-feeling-the-smartphone-pressure>

# Golden Book Awards



**N SQUIRRELS - Sienna** who is really enjoying building at nursery. She explores a range of construction resources and can tell us about her creations. She also works with other children to build collaboratively. Well done Sienna!

**R BEECH - Max V** for being an inquisitive learner. Max is always keen to explore all the new activities in the classroom. He loves to explore all the learning opportunities and is always busy!

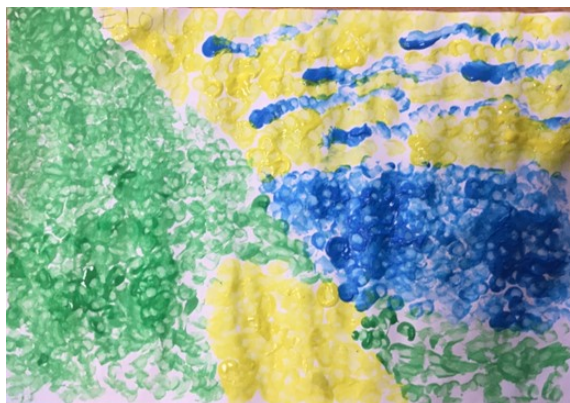
**R HAZEL - Cassian** for his amazing work. We've been learning about repeating patterns and Cassian's 3-colour pattern was impressive!



**1 OAK - Genie** for her wonderful writing. She wrote a brilliant description of a dark and scary wood, inspired by the setting in our story *Emily Brown and the Thing*. Miss Daly is so impressed that she used interesting and exciting adjectives to add detail and bring the images to life. She also used capital letters and full stops accurately throughout her work. Well done Genie - Miss Daly is so proud of you!

**1 PINE - Henry** for his wonderful writing in English. He wrote some brilliant sentences to describe the dark, scary woods, using his familiar sounds and some fantastic adjectives. Well done Henry!

**2 CEDAR - Arabella** We have been learning about different art techniques and about Van Gogh and sketching. Bella made a great landscape sketch using a range of pencils to create light and dark.



**2 HAWTHORN - Elodie** who showed amazing resilience in our Art lesson this week. We looked at the artist Seurat, who used pointillism to paint landscapes. Elodie used the 'dab' technique to create her own landscape in the same style. She took her time and produced a wonderful picture. Well done Elodie!

**3 ELM - Jacory** In RE we have been responding creatively to the big story in the Bible about God wanting to be friends with people. Jacory produced this wonderful stained glass window showing this relationship. Gorgeous work Jacory!

**3 MAPLE - Lawrence** who is new to Maple class and has settled in brilliantly. Lawrence tries hard with all his learning and in English, wrote a fantastic diary entry about an adventure with a gorilla. He included a range of time openers and adjectives to make his writing interesting to read - well done Lawrence!

**4 ALDER - Alice** In Year 4 we have been creating our own mythical beasts and writing non-chronological reports about them. Alice used her brilliant imagination to become an expert on her beast. She included lots of details and facts and used excellent, interesting noun phrases. It was a joy to read. Well done Alice!



**4 LARCH - Skye** In gymnastics we have been perfecting different jumps, balances and rolls and incorporating them into sequences. Skye showed great skill and has worked hard in all our lessons. Well done Skye!

**5 ROWAN - Waaris** for his fantastic work on volcano formations. He gave a clear and detailed explanation and carefully labelled his diagrams to show his understanding. Well done Waaris!

**5 WILLOW - Ginny** Congratulations Ginny for a fantastic fact file about volcanoes. Her work clearly demonstrates her understanding of the stages of a volcano, as well as the different types. She presented her ideas effectively and neatly, showing great effort and knowledge. Well done!

**6 ASPEN - Horia** for his excellent work in Maths. His mathematical ability is truly impressive. Well done to him for setting his work out neatly and methodically and for challenging himself every lesson.

**6 HOLLY - Yana** for her fantastic attitude during our football lesson. She showed outstanding teamwork, working hard in defence and showing great determination when attacking, even taking several excellent shots at goal. Yana was a supportive and encouraging teammate, always cheering others on and setting a wonderful example through her effort, sportsmanship and enthusiasm. Well done Yana!

**6 LAUREL - Adee** for her continued excellent work in Science. This half-term we have been learning about Evolution and Inheritance. Each week, Adee works hard to produce detailed, informative pieces of writing in the lesson. Keep up the great work Adee!

additions &  
changes in bold  
& italics

AUTUMN TERM DATES		
Fri 24 Oct		<b>INSET DAY</b>
Mon 27 - Fri 31 Oct		<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Wed 5 Nov		Individual & Sibling Photos DAY 1
Thu 6 Nov	10:00 14:00 19:00	Prospective Parent Tours
Tue 11 Nov		Flu Vaccinations & YR/Y6 Measurement Programme
Wed 12 Nov		Individual & Sibling Photos DAY 2
Wed 12 Nov		Y2 Fire of London Workshop
Mon 17 Nov		Y5 Wonderdome Visit
Wed 19 Nov		Y5 Birds of Prey Visit
Thu 20 Nov		Y3 to Butser Farm
Mon 24 Nov		Y3 Romans & Celts Day
Mon 24 Nov		Y2 Fire Service Visit
Wed 3 Dec	09:00	Engage Christmas Assembly
Fri 5 Dec	18:30-21:00	PTA Wreath Marking Workshop
Sat 6 Dec		School Christmas Fair
Wed 10 Dec	10:00	Reception Christmas Production @ CoGS
Wed 10 Dec	14:00	KS1 Christmas Production @ CoGS
Thu 11 Dec	14:00	KS2 Christmas Production @ CoGS
Fri 12 Dec		Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
Mon 15 Dec	am	Elf visits Nursery & Reception
Tue 16 Dec	08:45-09:30	KS2 Awards Assembly
Wed 17 Dec	08:45-09:30	EYFS/KS1 Awards Assembly
Thu 18 Dec	09:00	Christmas Service @ CoGS
Fri 19 Dec	12:00	Last Day of Autumn Term
Mon 22 Dec - Fri 2 Jan		<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</b>



### **Ink Cartridge Collection**

You can help us raise funds by recycling your ink cartridges.

Please bring to the school office. We cannot take toner and laser cartridges.





Friends of Pyrford Primary School present our



## WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Friday 5 December



6.30pm - 8.30/9pm, School Hall

Join us again for this lovely festive event and create a beautiful wreath to take home

**£42.50 per person, includes all materials for making the wreath plus a mince pie**

*Please bring your own gardening gloves, secateurs (if you have them) and any refreshments*

**Only 20 spaces - To book your place please email [pyrfordptaevents@gmail.com](mailto:pyrfordptaevents@gmail.com) and arrange a transfer to: Account: FPPS Sort Code: 40-46-48 Account No: 51432591**

**Please use: WREATH/[INSERT NAME] as a reference**

***Deadline for booking: 17 November***

SPRING TERM DATES		
Mon 5 Jan		First Day of Spring Term
Wed 28 Jan		<b>INSET DAY</b>
Tue 3 Feb	15:30 - 17:30	Spring Term Parents Evenings
Thu 5 Feb	15:30 - 19:30	Spring Term Parents Evenings
Fri 6 Feb		Y1 to Milestones Museum
Wed 11 Feb		Y6 Greeks Workshop
Mon 16 - Fri 20 Feb		<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Mon 23 Feb		Young Voices Choir to O2
Mon 9 Mar		Y3 Elm Feet First Training
Tue 10 Mar		Y3 Maple Feet First Training
Wed 11 Mar		Y2 to Brooklands Museum
Wed 18 Mar		YN & YR Little City @ CoGS
Wed 25 Mar		Y5 Vikings Workshop
Fri 27 Mar	12:00	Last Day of Spring Term
Mon 30 Mar - Fri 10 Apr		<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>

SUMMER TERM DATES		
Mon 13 Apr		First Day of Summer Term
Mon 27 - Wed 29 Apr		Y4 Hindleap Warren Residential
Mon 4 May		<b>Bank Holiday</b>
Thu 7 May		YR to Wellington Park
Fri 8 May		Y4 to Hampton Court
Mon 11 - Thu 14 May		Y6 SATS
Thu 21 May		Y5 to Mosque
Mon 25 - Fri 29 May		<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Wed 10 Jun		Y1 Animal Club Workshop
Sat 13 Jun		School Summer Fair
Tue 16 Jun		Y6 Leavers' Service @ Cathedral
Wed 17 Jun		EYFS Minibeast Bugfest
Thu 18 Jun		Y6 Lego Stem Workshop
Fri 19 Jun		Y5 to Wildwood
Wed 24 Jun		Y2 to The Lookout Discovery Centre
Fri 26 Jun		Y3 Outdoor Learning Activity Day
Mon 29 Jun		<b>INSET DAY</b>
Tue 30 Jun & Wed 1 Jul		Forest School - 1 class per day
Mon 6 - Fri 10 Jul		Y6 Osmington Bay Residential
Fri 17 Jul	12:00	Last Day of Summer Term


**WOKING SWIMMING CLUB**


Affiliated to: ASA, ASASER, SURREY COUNTY ASA  
www.wokingsc.co.uk

---

**NEW MEMBERS TRIALS**

For children born between  
**September 2016 and March 2020**  
who are interested in competitive swimming

to be held on

**Tuesday 11th November 2025**  
From 6.30pm  
at  
Woking Pool in the Park

2020 born are expected to be able to swim basic front crawl and backstroke.  
2016 born must be able to swim good front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke.  
To request a time slot please scan the code below on your smartphone to sign up  
Or contact Jane by emailing: [wokingsc.newmembers@gmail.com](mailto:wokingsc.newmembers@gmail.com)







**catalyst**  
SUPPORTING WELLNESS TOGETHER  
**BARNARD'S**

**18+**

**Parent/Carer Well-being Group**  
**Catalyst Support & Woking Family Centre**

Being a parent/carers can bring a range of emotions and challenges that can impact our mental health. Catalyst Support & Barnardo's, are running themed support sessions. Come along for a friendly chat to help build your support network, resilience and re-focus on your own mental health and well-being.

- Scan the QR code, call or email •  
to register

Call: 01276 409 415  
Text: 07919 541 424  
groups.cc@catalystsupport.org.uk  
catalystsupport.org.uk

1st & 3rd Thursday's of each month  
9.15am-10.45am  
(Term time, babies up to 3 months welcome in the group with their parents)




**Woking Family Centre**

**3rd - 24th November**  
**10.00am - 11.45am (online)**

## Keeping Your Child In Mind

### Adults working together.

A FREE programme for parents and carers focusing on relationships within the family and the influence of parental relationships on children.

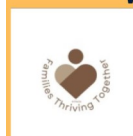
#### The course covers:

- Self-awareness
- Appropriate expectations
- Boundaries and positive discipline
- Understanding empathy


For more information scan the QR code or call 01483 310419



**Woking Family Centre, The Bungalow Sythwood, Woking GU21 3AX**



**BARNARD'S** Changing childhood. Changing lives.



**Woking Family Centre**

**Every Tuesday - 4 weeks**  
**7pm - 8pm**  
**4<sup>th</sup> November - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025**


**Online SEND Support Group for Parents/Carers**

Free support group for parents/carers with children aged 0-16 with pre or diagnosed SEND.

The course will cover topics like:

- Back to school and discussions around EHCP's
- Boundaries and useful parenting tools
- Accessing useful websites and other support networks
- Support on applying for DLA and other funding options.

For more information scan the QR code or call 01483 310419



**Woking Family Centre, The Bungalow Sythwood, Woking GU21 3AX**

**BARNARD'S** Changing childhoods. Changing lives.



## Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum

## Should Pyrford have a Parish Council?

At the request of the Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum, Woking Borough Council (WBC) is consulting Pyrford residents on whether the Pyrford Neighbourhood Area should have a Parish Council.

### Please complete the WBC consultation to share your views

[wokingsays.woking.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/pyrfordcgr](https://wokingsays.woking.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/pyrfordcgr)

The consultation runs from 1 October to 30 November



A Parish Council provides true localised consultation and decision making accountable to the local electorate. It can provide key local assets and services such as community centres, playgrounds, green spaces and allotments. It promotes a sense of place, pride and belonging in the community. This is particularly important at this time because by April 2027 Woking Borough Council will cease to exist and local decisions will be made by a Unitary Authority (West Surrey) representing around 500,000 people. A Parish Council will give us a local voice.

For more information visit the Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum website at [pyrfordforum.org](https://pyrfordforum.org) where you can also leave comments and ask questions.



FREE PLAY & LEARN  
SESSION

**BARNARDOS**

## WOKING FAMILY CENTRE

**DROP-IN & JOIN US FOR MESSY PLAY**

**PLAYDOUGH, ARTS, CRAFTS & HEALTHY EATING**

**FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER 2025**

**12:00pm- 1:30pm**



For more information contact:  
[workingfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:workingfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk)  
01483 310419

Suitable for children 0-11 years (older siblings are welcome)  
Woking Family Centre, Sythwood,  
Woking, GU21 3AX



Dear PARENTS:- We need four parents per night to have the appropriate adult to child ratio in our Church Safeguarding policy. So, if you have not already volunteered this year, **PLEASE** LOOK and SEE if you might be free once this term, that would be WONDERFUL!

If free, you can email [suzanne@wisleywithpyrford.org](mailto:suzanne@wisleywithpyrford.org) or fill in this slip and return it at Youth Club Jnr. Many thanks.  
Name & contact no./email \_\_\_\_\_

I would be available to help on Friday \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

### SEPTEMBER

Friday 19th September 6:30pm-7:45pm  
@ the church of the good shepherd

### OCTOBER

Friday 3rd October 6:30pm-7:45pm

@ the church of the good shepherd  
Friday 17th October 6:30pm-7:45pm  
@ the church of the good shepherd

### NOVEMBER

Friday 14th November 6:30pm-7:45pm

TRIP OUT@Guildford Spectrum  
Friday 28th November 6:30pm-7:45pm  
@ the church of the good shepherd

### DECEMBER

Friday 12th December 6:30pm-7:45pm  
@ the church of the good shepherd

**HOLIDAY FUN CLUB**  
AT WOKING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

**THE CLUBHOUSE**

Everyone's Welcome  
Come on in!

9:15am-12:30pm

For children in school years Reception to year 6

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

£5 per day or £12 for all three days  
Siblings £4 per day or £10 for all three days  
[wokingurc.org.uk](http://wokingurc.org.uk)

A URC Holiday club resource Booking open 23<sup>rd</sup> September - 5<sup>th</sup> October

**YOUTH CLUB JNR**

FOR SCHOOL YEAR'S 4/5 AND 6

TUCK SHOP :-)

50P ENTRANCE FEE

6:30-7:45 PM

@CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

**Hot off the press!**

We are implementing a "no phone zone" at Youth Club Jnr, but if children do need them to contact parents we can wonderfully look after them in the church office for the duration of the club.

Parents if you would like to have a night with us and volunteer do contact [suzanne@wisleywithpyrford.org](mailto:suzanne@wisleywithpyrford.org). We provide top tips for leaders and information on how we run so you are ready for the action.

**Many thanks for your support!**

## Term Dates ... This Year (2025/26)

Friday 24th October	INSET DAY
Monday 27th - Friday 31st October	HALF TERM
Friday 19th December	Term ends at 12:00
Monday 5th January	First day of term
Wednesday 28th January	INSET DAY
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February	HALF TERM
Friday 27th March	Term ends at 12:00
Monday 13th April	First day of term
Monday 4th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 25th - Friday 29th May	HALF TERM
Monday 29th June	INSET DAY
Friday 17th July	Term ends at 12:00

## Term Dates ... Next Year (2026/27)

Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd September	INSET DAYS
Thursday 3rd September	Term starts for children
Friday 16th October	INSET DAY
Monday 19th - Friday 30th October	HALF TERM
Friday 18th December	Term ends
Monday 4th January	First day of term
Monday 15th - Friday 19th February	HALF TERM
Wednesday 24th March	Term ends
Thursday 25th March	INSET DAY
Monday 12th April	First day of term
Monday 3rd May	BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June	HALF TERM
Monday 28th June	INSET DAY
Friday 23rd July	Term ends



We'd like to invite you to enjoy  
Homemade Fish and Chips  
Every 4th Friday in the month  
at 12pm

Fish and Chip Friday at West Hall luxury care home  
Off Parvis Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6EY

We're welcoming local older people to join us for delicious home cooked Fish and Chips and friendly company. The cost of the meal will be £15, which will also include dessert and a glass of wine or another beverage.

This is by reservation only, so please call West Hall care home on **01932 338000** to reserve your place or for more information.

We look forward to seeing you.

# SEEING YOUR CHILD GOD'S WAY

**WEDNESDAYS**  
**10AM**  
**6 WEEKS START**  
**1ST OCTOBER**  
@ Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford



**West Hall**  
WEST BYFLEET | SURREY

# Pan Asia Evening

Wednesday 15 October

5pm – 8pm

Off Parvis Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6EY

We'd like to invite you to our Pan Asia Evening located in the Bistro.

We're looking forward to an evening celebrating **Pan Asian heritage and culture**, with a performance from Hibiki Ichikawa. He will demonstrate authentic Japanese folk music, as well as his own original pieces on a Tsugaru Shamisen.

Please call us on **01932 338000** or email **Esther.Bennett@anchor.org.uk** for more information or to book your place.

We look forward to welcoming you.

**West Hall**  
WEST BYFLEET | SURREY

## West Hall care home

Off Parvis Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6EY

# Quiz Night

Wednesday 12 November, 6pm – 8pm

We'd like to invite you to our Quiz Night in our Bistro.

We're looking forward to a great evening. Tickets will be £5 (we can only facilitate payment by cash), which will include a glass of wine or a soft drink and light snacks.

Please contact us on **01932 338 000** or email **esther.bennett@anchor.org.uk**.

We look forward to welcoming you.

**West Hall**  
WEST BYFLEET | SURREY

## West Hall luxury care home

Off Parvis Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6EY

# Christmas Fair

Wednesday 19 November, 6pm–8pm

We're delighted to invite you to our Christmas Fair.

There will be a number of stalls selling Christmas decorations, candles, sweet, bags, jewellery, books and much more. Entry is free, but if you would like to make a donation, all profits will be donated to our chosen charity Marie Curie.

Please call us on **01932 338 000** to book or for further information.

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

In partnership with:



**West Hall**  
WEST BYFLEET | SURREY

## West Hall luxury care home

Off Parvis Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6EY

# Dementia Connections Café

Tuesday 17 June, 10am – 11.30am

then every 3rd Tuesday of each month

Enjoy a cuppa, light refreshments and great company at our brand new Dementia Connections Café. The café is aimed specifically at individuals living with Dementia, their loved ones and their carers providing the opportunity to meet with others in a welcoming environment. Our aim is to invite regular guests to the café specifically those who are actively engaged in supporting those living with dementia...outlining their services and practical advice to families.

Discuss your transport needs: Contact Hamish Macdonald on **07713 669125** or by email **hamish.macdonald@gw.homeinstead.co.uk**

To confirm your attendance: Please email **hamish.macdonald@gw.homeinstead.co.uk**

We look forward to seeing you.