

# Pyrford C of E Primary School Weekly Newsletter



## Humphrey



We are delighted to welcome Humphrey our therapy dog, and his owner Caroline, to our school! Humphrey visits us each week to listen to children read, and it's safe to say that both the children and the staff absolutely adore him.

Caroline and Humphrey volunteer with Pets as Therapy (PAT), and we're so grateful for the wonderful work they do. If you'd like to learn more about this fantastic organisation, please click the link below.

<https://www.petsastherapy.org/>

Beautiful displays  
from around the  
school



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[pyrfordprimaryschool](https://www.instagram.com/pyrfordprimaryschool)

# Headteacher's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a free-flowing smorgasbord of Christmas frivolity since the fair on Saturday! With rehearsals and performances at the church dominating the week - alongside Christmas jumpers and today's Christmas lunch - the festive spirit is very much alive in school.

I want to say a huge thank you to the PTA for organising a wonderful fair last week. It was clear from the bustle and excitement that the children were really enjoying themselves. Thank you also to all the parents for supporting the fair so generously. The PTA were very pleased with the funds raised and will share the final total with you once all counting is complete.

This led us into a brilliant week of beautiful singing, fabulous costumes, and fond memories of our own childhood nativity plays. It was a particularly proud moment to see our new Reception children perform in the church. It's remarkable to reflect on the leap they have made - from their very first steps into school only a few months ago to taking the stage with such confidence.

Our excellent KS1 performance followed, with so many wonderful moments of talent, creativity, and courage. We finished with a lovely carol concert led by Year 5 and involving the whole of KS2. I especially enjoyed the readings, and once again the singing was truly atmospheric. We are so fortunate to be able to use the church; it adds such magic at this time of year. I hope you enjoyed the shows too, and thank you for your generous donations. We raised over £500 for our school arts fund, which will help subsidise the choir's visit to the O2 next term to perform in the **Voice in a Million** concert.

Amidst all the excitement, I also attended training related to the renewed Ofsted framework. Many parents will be aware from the media that several significant changes have been introduced. Although we are not expecting a visit in the immediate future, it is vital that we stay up to date with the process. I will be working closely with my team next term to ensure everyone is fully prepared.

Next week - the final week before the Christmas holidays - will include our Awards Assemblies, where we celebrate children who have demonstrated our school values. I look forward to welcoming the parents who have been invited to attend. We also have our Christmas service at CoGS on Thursday, which is always a wonderful way to bring the term to a close. Please remember that school finishes at **12:00pm** on Friday, the last day of term.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish every family a very happy holiday. Enjoy your celebrations, the excitement of seeing friends and extended family, and the well-earned rest. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year - 2026 still sounds wonderfully futuristic!

Have a lovely weekend.

Gavin Dutton  
Headteacher



## SWIMMING TEACHER REQUIRED

We are looking for a qualified swimming teacher to work for 8 weeks (May to July) teaching Reception and KS1 .

Flexibility over days worked.

Please contact Mrs McAllister for more details:

[info@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk)

# Golden Book Awards



**N SQUIRRELS - Saav** We read the story of *Elmer* and talked about his journey through the forest. We then discussed our own journeys to school and thought about the things we pass along the way. Saav drew a wonderful map of what he sees on his way to school. Well done Saav!



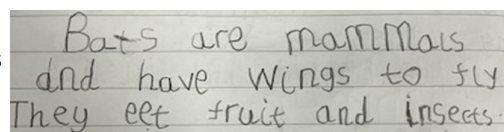
**R BEECH - Aden** for creating an excellent Advent wreath. Aden carefully covered the circle with green tissue to create the evergreen wreath and then counted the correct number of candles of each colour, before adding the flames. Great listening, concentration and perseverance!

**R HAZEL - Georgia** for joining in during our Phonics lessons with joy and enthusiasm every day. She listens carefully, tries her best and is a wonderful example for her classmates. Well done Georgia!

**1 OAK - Ben** for his fantastic non-fiction writing about bats, linked to our learning on animals that hibernate. Ben worked independently, using the text map to support him in writing clear sentences, explaining that bats are mammals, have wings to fly and eat fruit and insects. Miss Daly is so proud

of Ben for doing such a brilliant job and for remembering to use full stops correctly. Well done Ben!

**1 PINE - Leo** for his fantastic information text about bats. He used capital letters, finger spaces, the joining word 'and' and full stops. He used his phonics brilliantly to sound out each word and his handwriting was beautiful too. Well done Leo!



**2 CEDAR - All of Cedar Class** for being fabulous in the Christmas play. Bravo!

**2 HAWTHORN - All of Hawthorn Class** for performing so well in our Christmas production. Mrs Porter is very proud of them all!

**3 ELM - Arlo** This week we have been writing a first person narrative inspired by our text *Oliver and the Seawigs*. Arlo wrote this brilliant story full of exciting action, interesting description and including punctuated speech. Wonderful work Arlo!

**3 MAPLE - Coralie** for her fantastic writing in English. She wrote a first person narrative based on part of the story *Oliver and the Seawigs*. Mrs Goree really loved her choice of adjectives and verbs to create interesting writing. Well done!

**4 ALDER - Jasmine** In English we have been creating sea monsters linked to our book *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. Jasmine thought carefully about powerful adverbs and adjectives to describe a hideous monster. She also included some excellent fronted adverbials. We can imagine Jasmine's sea monster from her brilliant writing. Well done Jasmine!

**4 LARCH - Audrey** for working so incredibly hard in Maths. She always takes an active part in lessons and offers her answers and explanations. When she completes her independent work, she works so hard to complete all the tasks and challenges set. Her calculations are always neatly presented and she takes care and pride in her work. Well done Audrey!

**5 ROWAN - James** for his wonderful clay owl. He showed great creativity, patience and attention to detail while designing and shaping his owl. His artwork is full of character and care and Miss Wilson is so proud of the skill and imagination he demonstrated. Well done James!



**5 WILLOW - Samuel** for creating such a fantastic clay owl, inspired by our class book *Skellig*. He took the time to carefully sketch his ideas first, and that thoughtful planning really shows in his sculpting. His attention to detail, creativity and effort resulted in a brilliant piece of work - keep up the excellent work!



**6 ASPEN - Elliot** for his excellent effort in writing in English. It is a pleasure to see how much he has enjoyed learning about Shackleton and his expedition to Antarctica. Mrs Brockway was so impressed with his piece of writing - well done and keep up the amazing work!

**6 HOLLY - Vera** This term in Geography, we have been studying rivers and Mrs Bull was particularly impressed by Vera's clear and confident explanation of the three key processes that shape a river. She accurately described the three sections of a river and identified where erosion, transportation and deposition occur, demonstrating a strong understanding of how river features are formed. Her waterfall diagram is beautifully presented and her written work is carefully structured and thoughtfully organised. Well done Vera - excellent work!

**6 LAUREL - Uzair** for his fantastic work in English. He was asked to write a motivational speech as Ernest Shackleton who led three expeditions to Antarctica. He worked hard to write such a moving speech using emotive language, repetition and imperative verbs. Keep up the great work Uzair!



Please take care when walking across the car park and use the footpath around the perimeter. A member of staff had a very near miss recently when a child appeared from between parked cars and when children are small they can be even more difficult to spot. Please help us to prevent accidents.



## PLEASE VISIT OUR JUSTGIVING PAGE TO DONATE

<https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/cjd250000488>

£2 buys a packet of seeds for a family in Kenya to grow their own food, after drought has killed their crops

£8 could buy a blanket to keep a child in Ukraine warm through the winter

£15 could pay for 2 weeks of super-powered peanut paste to help a child beat hunger

£20 could buy enough supermarket vouchers for 2 children in the UK

£40 could provide a family in Gaza with a Baby Kit to give them the items they need to provide basic care to their infant

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY**

*additions & changes in bold & italics*

AUTUMN TERM DATES		
Fri 12 Dec	14:40-15:00	Squirrels Sing Christmas
Mon 15 Dec	am	Elf visits Nursery & Reception
Tue 16 Dec	08:45-09:30	KS2 Awards Assembly
Tue 16 Dec	14:40-15:00	Squirrels Sing Christmas
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>	

### Behaviour Tip:

When behaviour is wobbly, rather than reaching straight for the threat of punishment or sharing the effect that the behaviour has on your own emotions, try offering help. You can ask, 'What can I do to help you follow our rule about being respectful?' or 'I know this is difficult, but we do need to get our shoes on; what can I do to help?' Take notice of how differently your child responds.



**PYRFORD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL**



# Christmas Silent Auction

**Follow the link below or scan the QR code to browse and get bidding on some amazing prizes!**

<https://www.32auctions.com/FPP2025>

## AUCTION LOTS



- Barracudas Activity Camps free day pass
- Panto tickets to Peter Pan at Dorking Halls
- Drop Zone Gaming party voucher
- Eden Lane Interiors 2hr consultation
- Dance Shack free term of classes
- Go Health United £400 voucher
- Decorbuddi Design & Transformation Get Started Consultation
- Katy Ward Photography outdoor photography shoot
- Pepe & Tete private Spanish lessons
- Reforma Studios voucher
- Signed John Terry photos and T-shirt
- Silent Pool Distillery tour
- Sport4Kids holiday camp vouchers
- Synergy Dance Christmas workshop
- The Feelgood Project silent disco event
- Venture Studios photographic shoot
- Woking Gymnastics holiday camp

**Happy Bidding!**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE SCHOOL**

**Auction closes at 10pm on FRIDAY 12TH DEC**  
**Winners will be notified by email - prizes will be emailed or otherwise should be collected after school on Mon 15th Dec**



**STICK ME TO YOUR FRIDGE**

## FRIENDLY FESTIVE REMINDERS

**All the key dates for 'things to bring in', 'things to wear' and 'things to attend' at this very busy time of year!**

**FRI 28 NOV** Please **bring in** for our Christmas Fair:-

- a preloved toy or game, including soft toys
- a little gift suitable for grown ups
- fidget toys/new or lightly used stationery items

**FRI 5 DEC** **Mufti Day** for Christmas Fair

Please **bring in**:-

- your completed Jolly Jam Jar (with name on)
- a bottle **and/or** chocolates for the tombolas
- any Christmas jumper no longer worn/needed

**FRI 5 DEC CONT.** PTA Wreath Making Workshop - School Hall  
**6.30 - 8.30pm** (pre-booking required - see poster)

**SAT 6 DEC**

- Christmas Tree Sale **8am - 12 noon**
- Christmas Fair **1- 3pm**

**SUN 7 DEC** Church Christingle Service - CoGS **4pm**

**WED 10 DEC**

- Reception - Christmas Production (CoGS) **10am**
- KS1 - Christmas Production (CoGS) **2pm**
- PTA Panto Outing - '**Beauty & the Beast**' at Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, **7pm** (pre-booked)

**THU 11 DEC** KS2 - Christmas Production (CoGS) **2pm**

**FRI 12 DEC**

- **Christmas Jumper Day** & Christmas Lunch
- Squirrels Sing Xmas (1) - Nursery **2.40pm**

**TUE 16 DEC**

- Squirrels Sing Xmas (2) - Nursery **2.40pm**
- PTA Panto Outing - '**Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs**' at New Victoria Theatre, Woking, **7pm** (pre-booked)

**THU 18 DEC** Whole School Xmas Service at CoGS - **9am**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

## SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

### Pyrford Church of England Primary School

Coldharbour Road, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey, GU22 8SP

# 134

Children signed up



**Sign the PARENT PACT**

Let's work together to push Pyrford Primary School up the local leaderboards!




Thank you to all parents who supported our Smartphone Free Childhood stand at the Christmas Fair last week. We managed a fantastic 46 sign ups to the Parent Pact, which has zoomed our school into 8th place in Surrey at 134 sign ups in total.

We also successfully raffled off a Nokia phone - our lucky winner was Ed!

Please keep supporting this cause - and do visit [www.smartphonefreechildhood.org](http://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org) if you have any questions about smartphone alternatives / need tools to help navigate debates with children who want a phone / want to sign the Parent Pact. The conversation continues!

**AT THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, Pyrford**

We'd love to see you at our special...

At this service we collect in gifts.

## Christmas Parade Gift Service

In particular we are asking for gifts for **MEN & TEENAGERS**.

★ **Sunday 14th December** ★  
**10am to 11:15am**

**AT THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD,  
COLDHARBOUR RD, PYRFORD**

We'd love to see you at our special...

## Christmas Parade Gift Service

★ **Sunday 14th December** ★  
**10am to 11:15am**

At this service we will collect in gifts.



This year to be distributed in particular to **MEN & TEENAGERS** in need this Christmas.

### THE GIFTS

**Where are they going?**

This year we are working with Woking Salvation Army to help provide parcels for families in need.

Our gifts will be put together with other items in parcels. These will be distributed to local hostels, to families via social services, sure start centres, home start, and to the Women's Prison at Send amongst other organisations.

There is a particular need for gifts suitable for **TEENAGE CHILDREN and MEN**, toiletries from Boots, scarfs, sweets, chocolates, Festive Food, hats, accessories, bags, vouchers etc.

We have been asked for new gifts, unwrapped please.

Many thanks if you can help in this way.

SPRING TERM DATES		
Mon 5 Jan		First Day of Spring Term
Wed 28 Jan		<b>INSET DAY</b>
Mon 2 Feb		Y5 Fire Safety Workshop (1 class)
Tue 3 Feb	15:30 - 17:30	Spring Term Parents Evenings
Thu 5 Feb	15:30 - 19:30	Spring Term Parents Evenings
Mon 9 Feb		Y5 Fire Safety Workshop (1 class)
Wed 11 Feb		Y6 Greeks Workshop
<b>Wed 11 Feb</b>	<b>14:15</b>	<b>Y3 / Y4 Performance @ CoGS</b>
Thu 12 Feb		Y1 to Milestones Museum
Thu 12 Feb		Y5 Bath Bombs with Dr M
Mon 16 - Fri 20 Feb		<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Mon 23 Feb		Young Voices Choir to O2
Tue 24 Feb		Y6 Hearts with Dr M
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
Tue 24 Mar		Y3 Soils workshop with Dr M
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>



**GASKIN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHES 2025**

**FREE LUNCH**

**24th December**

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR MEAL  
[WWW.FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM](http://WWW.FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM)  
[INFO@FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM](mailto:INFO@FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM)  
**MARTA 07855846597**

FREE DELIVERY TO YOUR HOME  
 DELIVERY WITHIN 10 MILES OF GUILDFORD  
 DELIVERY BETWEEN 12PM - 3 PM

**WE NEED VOLUNTEER DRIVERS TO DELIVER**

**FREE EVENT - LONELY, STUDENTS, HOMELESS, VULNERABLE, OPEN TO EVERYONE IN NEED**

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

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

### Carols around the firepit

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6:00pm**

@ the Rectory Garden, Aviary Road

**All ages and singing abilities WELCOME!**  
 There will be some refreshments and lots of JOY.



### Christmas Eve Crib Services

**2:30pm 4:00pm**

@ the Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford

Do bring a toy to place around the crib, and feel free to dress up as someone from the Christmas Story.



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
Sat 20 Jun	evening	Y4 Brass Concert @ CoGS
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

## 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





## WOKING FAMILY CENTRE

Online 10 week course  
Starting 22nd January 2026  
9.30am - 11.15am

### The Nurturing Programme (formerly The Parenting Puzzle)

**This tried and tested programme can help you deal with challenges supporting a calmer family life.**

The course covers:

- Recognising feelings behind behaviours
- Different approaches to positive discipline
- Co-operation and self discipline
- The importance of looking after ourselves

For more information scan the QR code or call: 01483 310419



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



**BARNARDOS**

Changing childhoods.  
Changing lives.



## WOKING FAMILY CENTRE

Online course  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March  
9.30am - 12.00pm

### Parenting Puzzle Workshops

A supportive, non-judgemental programme for parents/carers of children under 5 years old. Helping families to understand why their children behave as they do and to recognise the feelings behind their behaviour.

For more information scan the QR code or call: 01483 310419



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Surrey, GU21 3AX



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Changing lives.



## WOKING FAMILY CENTRE

Online 4 week course  
10th Feb - 3rd March 2026  
10.00am - 11.30am

### Talking Teens

**A free course for parents or carers of teenagers and pre-teens (8 years plus), looking for advice.**

Sessions will focus on relationships within the family, communication, negotiation, decision making and strategies to reduce conflict.

The group aims to develop:

- relationships between teenagers and parents/carers
- a calmer home life
- confidence when talking about difficult issues
- an understanding of teenage needs and development

For more information scan the QR code or call 01483 310419



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



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Changing lives.

**citizens  
advice**

**Citizens Advice Woking**  
the charity for your community

## Sythwood Outreach

We have a new free advice outreach open at Sythwood and we advise on:

- Benefits
- Debts
- Housing
- Employment
- Family
- Consumer Issues

Drop-in sessions:  
Every Friday  
10am - 12pm  
During Food Bank  
opening hours



The Salvation Army  
Woking Corps  
Sythwood  
GU21 3BE

Fridays 10am - 12pm



## ND LIVE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS/CARERS DELIVERED BY LEARNING SPACE

Book a place on this two hour live webinar exploring neurodivergent conditions, with a particular emphasis on autism and ADHD; whilst also looking at PDA and anxiety.

This webinar is for **parents and carers** of any child or young person with an ND need, whether diagnosed or not. **Please note we will need you to sign up at least a day in advance of the session.**

### Dates

Day 1: Wednesday 14 January 12:00-2:00pm  
 Day 2: Monday 19 January 6:00-8:00pm  
 Day 3: Wednesday 21 January 12:00-2:00pm  
 Day 4: Wednesday 4 February 12:00-2:00pm  
 Day 5: Monday 23 February 6:00-8:00pm  
 Day 6: Wednesday 4 March 12:00-2:00pm  
 Day 7: Monday 9 March 6:00-8:00pm  
 Day 8: Wednesday 25 March 12:00-2:00pm

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK BELOW

CLICK HERE



# HOCKEY

**BOOK NOW FOR CHRISTMAS CAMPS!**

**MON 22 & TUES 23 DECEMBER**  
**MON 29 & TUES 30 DECEMBER**



**VENUE** Guildford Hockey Club  
 at Broadwater School GU7 3BW

**TIMINGS** 10am-3pm, with early drop-off (from 9am) and late pick-up (until 4pm) available as an add-on

**DISCOUNTS** available for multi-day bookings

**Performance Camps** available for more experienced players



**BOOKING LINK:** [ghchockey.as.me](https://ghchockey.as.me)  
 15% discount with code: **SCHOOL15**

# CAMPS



**Woking Family Centre**

**Online 4 week course**

**12th February - 5th March 2026**

**7.00pm - 8:45pm**

## 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**



**BARNARDO'S**

Changing childhood  
 Changing lives.

**catalyst**  
 SUPPORTING WELLNESS TOGETHER

**BARNARDO'S**

**18+**

**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)

**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](mailto:groups.cc@catalystsupport.org.uk)  
[catalystsupport.org.uk](https://catalystsupport.org.uk)