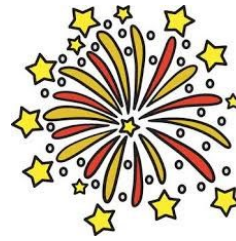


Pyrford CofE Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

24 April 2026

Squirrels is EXPANDING



We are delighted to share some exciting news with our school community. Following the continued success of our nursery, and in response to the high demand for places, we are expanding our provision so that we can welcome even more families.

As part of this development, we are pleased to announce the opening of our brand-new 2–3 Year old Room. This dedicated space will be specially designed for children in their first year of nursery (N1), providing a nurturing, stimulating, and age-appropriate environment in which they can learn, play and grow.

Our current nursery room will now become a dedicated Pre-School Room (N2), allowing us to further enhance the experiences and opportunities available for children in their final year before starting school.



This exciting expansion means we can offer more nursery places for our local community while continuing to provide the high-quality care and education that families value so highly.

We look forward to welcoming both new and existing children into these wonderful learning spaces and sharing this next chapter of our nursery journey with you.

This growth is a true testament to the amazing work of Mrs Hope and her dedicated team, whose care, expertise and commitment have helped to build such a fabulous reputation within our community. As a school, we place great value on strong early education and recognise the lasting benefits it brings to children’s confidence, development and



readiness for future learning. Expanding our nursery provision is therefore not only exciting for our families, but also an important investment in the continued success of our whole school community.



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

Headteacher's Letter

Dear parents,

What a glorious week we've had here in Pyrford! Those crisp mornings certainly make for a bracing drive to school, but the beautiful sunshine has made it all worthwhile.

On Monday, we shared with the whole school Julia Donaldson's *The Smartest Giant in Town* and explored what rules really mean. We talked about how some of life's most important rules live in our hearts - and how tuning into them helps us build a kinder school, community and world. We also looked at how many of the world's great traditions, from the Commandments to Islamic teachings, emphasise living with integrity and kindness. There's something powerful about recognising that these timeless values show up across different beliefs and cultures.

Our brilliant girls football team travelled all the way to Walton this week to compete in the National League South Finals—with teams arriving from across the south, including one brave group from Truro! Our girls were absolutely magnificent. Not only did they avenge their previous defeat, but they fought their way through to the semi-finals before eventually losing out on penalties. It was a masterclass in determination, and while the result stung, they showed real strength throughout. We're incredibly proud of everything they've achieved this year.

We held our first OPAL meeting this week to launch an exciting new direction: making play central to how we learn. We're looking at how play can shape not just our break times, but our classrooms too - helping children develop crucial skills like collaboration, sharing, problem-solving and creative thinking. More details below!

It's been a wonderfully full week - the Fire Service visited (much to the children's delight as they got to spray the hoses!), we've had our SCARF PSHE sessions, and half of Year 5 have been exploring Tudor history over at RGS Guildford. You will see from the front page that we have also been finalising our plans for the expansion of Squirrels Nursery - a new and exciting development for our community.

Next week, Year 4 head off to Hindleap Warren for their residential visit and I'm looking forward to joining them and getting stuck into some of the activities!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Gavin Dutton
Headteacher



We are delighted to share that our school will soon be embarking on an exciting new journey to further develop and enhance playtimes for all of our children through the introduction of OPAL Play.

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) is a nationally recognised programme that helps schools transform play opportunities, ensuring that every child has access to rich, engaging and creative experiences during break and lunchtime. Through this approach, playtimes become even more inclusive, active, imaginative and enjoyable for all children.

Over the coming months, we will be working closely with the OPAL programme to review our current provision and gradually introduce new resources, ideas, and opportunities that will enrich children's play experiences across the school day.

At our school, we recognise that play is a vital part of childhood and an important contributor to children's wellbeing, social development, confidence, resilience and readiness to learn. By investing in OPAL Play, we are investing in happier, healthier children and an even stronger school community.

We look forward to sharing updates with you as this exciting project develops.

Football News



On Tuesday, our Year 6 girls' football team took part in the National League Trust South finals. They were playing against teams from across the whole of the south of England.

The standard of competition was incredibly high and we really held our own. We were so proud of how well all our girls played. They made it all the way through to the semi-finals, cruelly missing out on the final on penalties.



At the end, we came away in 3rd place - a huge achievement for them.

Thank you so much to Freddie Coventry for coaching our girls throughout this tournament.

If any children would like a stall at the Summer Fair, please get in touch with Mrs Vymetal



Golden Book Awards

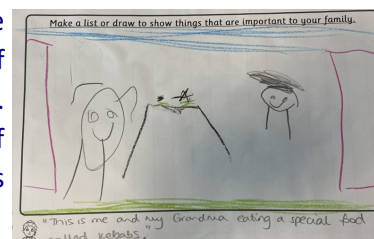


N SQUIRRELS - Amayah & Isla who really enjoyed playing with the linking shapes. They created necklaces and very long chains, showing good concentration. This is a great activity to strengthen their finger muscles and fine motor skills, helping to get their hands ready for writing. Well done girls!

R BEECH - Max W who impressed Mrs Murray this week with his confidence. He has been chatting more happily to the adults and asking for help when he needs it. He also did an excellent piece of writing about our story. Well done Max!

R HAZEL - Jack for doing a massive amount of writing this week. He challenged himself to fill the page and he did just that. Well done to Jack for showing perseverance and for doing his absolute best!

1 OAK - Raef In RE this week, Oak Class have been talking about things that are important to their families and the special things that they like to do together. Raef joined in brilliantly, telling us that helping other people is important to his family. He told us that doing charity work is important to his grandma. He drew a picture of himself eating some special food with his grandma. Thank you Raef for telling us about your family.



1 PINE - Tayla for her wonderful work in English. To get excited for our new text *One Day on Our Blue Planet - The Savannah*, we created lions from clay, identifying key features and using creative adjectives to describe them. Tayla carefully mixed colours to paint her lion, showing great creativity and attention to detail. Well done Tayla - great work!

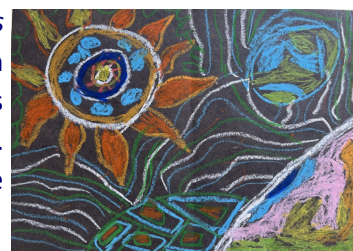
2 CEDAR - Evie When experimenting with Rocket Mice, Evie used her prior knowledge of materials and forces to predict what would happen to her mouse if she added heavy decorations to it. She used excellent scientific vocabulary to support her prediction.

2 HAWTHORN - James In English we have been reading *Pattan's Pumpkin*. James impressed Mrs Porter with his wonderful story setting and how he drew the river flowing across his picture. We've also been looking at using adjectives and expanded noun phrases. James demonstrated his knowledge by adding some of these to his picture. Well done James!



3 ELM - Bella In English we started a new book about how the stars came to be. Bella responded to the opening of the story and used pastels to create a beautiful picture of stars and planets orbiting in space. Wonderful work Bella!

3 MAPLE - Maisie In English we are reading *How the Stars Came to Be*. The children were asked to create their own beautiful image to represent the book and story. Maisie used a selection of colours and patterns - using pastels - to show the vivid imagery portrayed within the book. Her image is truly beautiful. Well done Maisie. Her picture could have been part of the book!



4 ALDER - Annabel for her fantastic team spirit. During PE lessons, she always cheers on her classmates, is so caring when someone is in need and works so brilliantly when in a group. She shows excellent leadership skills and supports other sensitively. That is something that she should be really proud of!

4 LARCH - Jake for working incredibly hard on his writing. In English we have been writing character descriptions about Varjak Paw and Jake really impressed Mrs Steen with his work. He worked hard to include all the features of our toolkit, including some wonderful expanded noun phrases and choice of adjectives. Well done Jake!

5 ROWAN - Amy for her fantastic work on Muslim birth ceremonies. She produced an informative and thoughtfully detailed piece, demonstrating a clear understanding of the topic. Her work was also beautifully presented, showing great care and pride in her learning. Well done Amy!

5 WILLOW - Mustafa A for his fantastic participation during our recent class debate. In Year 5 we have been

focussing on a new text, *Treason*, and exploring different arguments surrounding one of the characters. Mustafa demonstrated excellent debating skills, showing a deep understanding of the text as well as a thoughtful awareness of the different viewpoints. Well done Mustafa!

6 ASPEN - Harry D for his fantastic progress in writing. He has worked so hard to improve his handwriting and punctuation. It is clear that he really enjoyed writing his letter to become a spy - Mrs Brockway thinks they would definitely say yes to him with an application letter so brilliantly written!

6 HOLLY - Tom for his outstanding formal letter inspired by our book *Stormbreaker* which is about a teenage spy. He used formal language well and included a range of punctuation as well as great sentence structures. He laid out his work in the correct format for a formal letter with both addresses at the top. A very impressive piece of writing - well done Tom!

6 LAUREL - Isobel for her fantastic work in English. Using her research, Isobel wrote a detailed non-chronological report on the Helms Stag Beetle, using sub-headings effectively and including many interesting facts about the beetle. Isobel also presented her work clearly with some beautiful illustrations. Well done Issy, keep up the great work!

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

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

SUMMER TERM DATES		
Mon 27 - Wed 29 Apr		Y4 Hindleap Warren Residential
Fri 1 May		Rowan Class to RGS Tudor Day
Mon 4 May		Bank Holiday
Tue 5 May		Swimming Lessons Start (YR, Y1 & Y2)
Thu 7 May		Revd Nick leading assembly
Thu 7 May		YR to Wellington Park
Fri 8 May		Y4 to Hampton Court
Mon 11 - Thu 14 May		Y6 SATS
Mon 18 May	am	EYFS & KS1 Sports Day
Tue 19 May	13:30-16:30	North Surrey Schools Chess Event
Wed 20 May		Class Photos
Wed 20 May	10:30-15:00	Y5 Boys Cricket Competition
Thu 21 May		Outdoor Learning Day
Thu 21 May		Y5 to Mosque
Fri 22 May	am	KS2 Sports Day
Mon 25 - Fri 29 May		HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Wed 10 Jun		Y1 Animal Club Workshop
Wed 10 Jun	10:30-15:00	Y5&Y6 Girls Cricket Competition
Thu 11 Jun		International Day of Play
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
Wed 24 Jun		Nursery Class Photo
Thu 25 Jun		Y6 Healthy Use of Technology Workshops
Fri 26 Jun		Y3 Outdoor Learning Activity Day
Mon 29 Jun		INSET DAY
Tue 30 Jun & Wed 1 Jul		Forest School - 1 class per day
Mon 6 - Fri 10 Jul		Y6 Osmington Bay Residential
Thu 9 Jul		Revd Nick leading assembly
Thu 16 Jul	09:00	Leavers Service @ CoGS
Fri 17 Jul	12:00	Last Day of Summer Term

Dear all our loyal customers, parents, friends, and little adults,

At **Valentino Schoolwear**, we are ensuring our **Annual Discount Promotion** for 2026 is available **online** and **in-store** for our customers, no appointment required.



15% OFF IN-STORE school uniform purchases: **18th – 23rd May 2026**
Use discount code **SUMMER15** at checkout.

15% OFF ONLINE school uniform purchases: **17th – 24th May 2026**
Use discount code **SUMMER15** when you click 'View Cart'.

10% OFF ONLINE ONLY school uniform purchases: **Bank Holiday Monday 25th May 2026**
Use discount code **SUMMER10** when you click 'View Cart'.

Anything purchased during our promotion can be exchanged right up until 1st September!
Please note that we are unable to accept returns and exchanges during our promotional dates above 18th May – 23rd May 2026.
Returns & exchanges are all subject to our normal return policy. These offers are available online and in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offers. Exclusions apply.

www.valentinoschoolwear.com

The Dads' Fire Circle
Come and join us around the fire

Home Events Blog Links About Contact




The Dads' Fire Circle
Come join us around the fire

www.thedadsfirecircle.com

Image by Mikung Singh on Unsplash

A place for Dads of children with additional needs to gather and journey together



Woking Family Centre
Wednesdays - 4 weeks
7pm - 8pm
3rd June - 24th June 2026

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

BARNARDO'S Changing childhoods. Changing lives.



Open House

Come and encounter God's presence with us.
3rd Sunday, 7.30-9pm
(refreshments from 7.15)
Informal worship, bible teaching, time...
Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford.

PARISH OF WESLEY WEST PYRFORD



Tiny Terrapins Swim School

MAY HALF TERM INTENSIVE COURSE

HORSELL C of E SCHOOL

4 DAY COURSE! **£65.00**
(4 x 30 minute lessons)

Suitable for all abilities
Ages 3 Yrs +
★★★★★

info@tinyterrapinsswimschool.com

Tuesday 26th May - Fri 29th May



BEDSER SCHOLARSHIP 2026

Give your cricket a boost and take the next step in your game!
Are you a girl currently in School Years 4-9?
Do you live in Woking, attend a Woking school, or play for a Woking cricket club?

We're inviting girls across Woking to join us for this year's Woking Bedser Scholarship trials.

Softball Trials

Monday 11th May
Old Woking CC

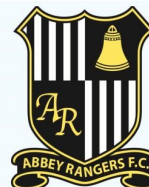
Hardball Trials

Monday 18th May
Woking & Horsell CC

For more information and to sign up, contact:
Ed Belger | Head Coach | ebelger@surreyccricket.com



BOYS FOOTBALL 2 Day May Camp 2026



TA SPORTS
In partnership with

WHAT?

Technical development/1st touch/receiving the ball.

Team games / combinations / 3v3, Defensive techniques and understanding.

Finishing & 4 aside transitions – attacking and defending.

WHERE?

3G Pitch
ABBEY RANGERS FC
Addlestone
KT15 2QH

WHEN?

Wednesday 27th May
Thursday 28th May
(8.30am – 4.00pm)

AGE?

Under 5 (Reception)
Under 6 (Year 1)
Under 7 (Year 2)
Under 8 (Year 3)
Under 9 (Year 4)
Under 10 (Year 5)

DAILY COST?

£35.00

M: 07825 089500

E: tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk



TA SPORTS



GIRLS FOOTBALL COURSE MAY HALF TERM 2026

Tuesday 26th May

Venue:- Abbey Rangers Football Club (KT15 2QH)

Times:- 8.30am – 4.00pm

£35.00 Daily

Designed for girls of *all abilities* aged between 5yrs to 13yrs!

- Playing in a fun, challenging & safe environment.
- Meeting new friends that have an interest in football.
- Develop technique, speed, tactics & improve skills & confidence.
- Professional FA qualified coaching.
- 3G Pitch and use of clubhouse.



If you would like further information or would like to book a place for your daughter to attend please kindly contact Tom on 07825 089500 or email tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk



WOKING TOWN FC OPEN DAYS!

18th April
& 2nd May



U5-U9 (YEARS R-4) 10am - 11am

U10-U18 (YEARS 5 - 13) 11am - 12pm

EASTWOOD LEISURE CENTRE
(ALBERT DRIVE, SHEERWATER, GU21 5RF)

BOYS & GIRLS WELCOME

Come along and see why Woking Town FC is a great local club for children to play football.



Book here

- FA accredited
- Professional coaching
- 500 members & 40 teams



To book your free place visit
www.wokingtownfc.org/club-open-days-2026



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 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)

APRIL

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

MAY

Friday 1st May 6:30pm-7:45pm
@ the church of the good shepherd

Friday 15th May 6:30pm-7:45pm
@ the church of the good shepherd

JUNE

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

Friday 26th June 6:30pm-7:45pm
@ the church of the good shepherd



Henna Workshop

Adult Learning Workshop

Beginners workshop 4x sessions for aspiring henna artists.

Learn how to:

- ✦ Hold and control a henna cone
- ✦ Create simple - intermediate henna designs
- ✦ Apply the correct after care
- ✦ Build your own portfolio and start your own journey as a henna artist!

FRIDAY 8TH MAY - 22ND MAY 2026
1PM - 2PM

REGISTER NOW
wookingfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk
01483 310419

BARNARDOS Changing childhoods. Changing lives.