

Pyrford CofE Primary School Weekly Newsletter

8 May 2026

Reception's First School Trip



A marvellous time was had by all at Wellington Country Park



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

Headteacher's Letter

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you have had a wonderful week following the Bank Holiday Monday. It has been a particularly enriching one here at school, with Rector Nick joining us on Thursday to lead our assembly on the theme of patience - a natural progression from our recent focus on kindness, rules and acceptance. These values continue to weave through everything we do.

I have also had the privilege of welcoming to our school candidates for Mrs Gilbey's teaching position and we have been delighted by the calibre of applicants. From our shortlist of seven, I am pleased to announce that Mr Carpenter will be joining our team in September. He brings nine years of teaching experience from a local primary school and I am certain you will all make him feel very welcome when he arrives next term.

Yesterday, I had the great pleasure of joining our Reception children on their first school trip to Wellington Country Park - a visit that reminded me precisely why I chose this profession. Watching their enthusiasm and engagement during pond dipping, exploring the farm, riding the train and playing on the adventure park was genuinely moving. Beyond the sheer joy on their faces, what struck me most was how they handled new experiences with confidence and collaborated so naturally with their friends. These moments of physical activity and exploration are such vital learning experiences and embody everything we value about childhood. Following on from this we also had an excellent CPD session after school on Wednesday developing the music skills of all our teachers. The buzz from the experience and the joy from the staff will transfer across the sessions over the next few, with a big thanks to Miss Dennis for organising this.

Next week brings SATs for Year 6 pupils across the country. I am fortunate to have worked in schools that hold a clear understanding: children are so much more than a test score. Pyrford is no exception to this philosophy. Our Year 6 team has worked tirelessly to prepare our children and I am confident they are well positioned to reach their potential. They understand the process, they have experienced similar challenges and they know how to work their way through what lies ahead.

What matters most is that they come to school as normal, calm and relaxed, doing exactly as they have been doing throughout the year. As the saying goes, "the more I practise, the luckier I get" - but I want to be equally clear with parents: SATs are not the be-all and end-all of your child's academic journey. They do not measure the countless qualities that make your child brilliant and no child ever failed at the age of eleven. Your role in all this is simple yet powerful: help them stay composed, maintain their usual routines, ensure they eat well and rest properly, and we will guide them safely through the week.

I would like to wish all the children a very happy weekend.

Best wishes,

Gavin Dutton
Headteacher

Welcome, from your new Head Teacher (well, for today anyway)

My name is Oliver Lawry and I am in Holly Class in Year 6. I became Head Teacher for the day because I won a Golden Ticket on World Book Day which I was thrilled at – and the chocolate was good too. (Actually, I won three Golden Tickets for my class so they were extremely happy!)

As Head Teacher, I have had a very busy day so far. At the start of the day, I opened the school gates with my helper, Mr Dutton and chatted with everyone as they came in. Then I spoke in Assembly to the whole school and told them I had chosen a new rule for the day – sit next to who you would like to choose in class today.

I am looking forward to going back to being a normal school kid as everyone wants to ask me things and stare at me - I don't think I will be a teacher when I'm older!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Oliver Lawry
Head Teacher for the Day

Golden Book Awards



N SQUIRRELS - Rudy & Theo We love writing and drawing in nursery. Rudy and Theo are often busy exploring the different resources to create their pictures. They're also becoming confident in talking about what they've made. Well done!

R BEECH - Aafiyah who has impressed Mrs Murray so much over the last few weeks with her knowledge of her own faith and her thoughtful contributions during our RE lessons. She helped all the children learn about Eid and her special place of worship (The Mosque), whilst always being respectful of others' faiths. Thanks for being a fantastic teacher Aafiyah!

R HAZEL - Rex who has wowed us with his writing recently. He's using all the phonics skills to carefully listen for each sound and thinking about how to form the letters correctly. Well done Rex!

1 OAK - Ted who has been a lion expert this past few weeks. He has been able to tell us the facts that he has learnt about lions and has done some wonderful drawings and lots of writing. The class are super proud of you Ted - keep on telling us all about your learning.

1 PINE - William for his fantastic non-chronological report on lions. He used his knowledge from our English and Science lessons to write about what lions are, where they live, what they eat and even included a 'did you know' fact. Well done William!

2 CEDAR - Sophia for writing a fabulous story using brilliant description. Well done!

2 HAWTHORN - Nathaniel He enjoyed our Science lesson where we're finding out what plants need to grow healthily. He participated well in our discussions. His bean is growing because he's giving it water, air, soil and sunlight. Well done Nathaniel!

3 ELM - Chloe Drawing on her understanding of mixing tertiary colours and inspired by the artist Maria Merian, Chloe produced this beautiful painting showing some of the different stages of the life cycle of a tomato plant. Wonderful work Chloe!

3 MAPLE - Lily who worked hard to publish her explanation text *How the Stars Came to Be* in her best handwriting. She used some of the joins we have learnt this year in her writing. Well done Lily.

YEAR 4 - Everyone At Hindleap Warren they were all very well behaved and worked brilliantly together as a team, helping and encouraging one another during activities. It was wonderful to see their positive attitudes, good listening and willingness to try new things. They should be very proud of themselves, as they represented the school in such a fantastic way. The children in school were also amazing. They worked excellently together whilst showing so much kindness and having lots of fun.



5 ROWAN - Everyone They should all be extremely proud of themselves for their fantastic behaviour and enthusiasm during their recent visit to the Royal Grammar School to learn about the Tudors. They showed excellent listening skills, asked thoughtful questions and demonstrated a real interest in Tudor life and history throughout the day. Staff at RGS commented on how polite, respectful and engaged the children were, making Rowan Class wonderful ambassadors for our school. Well done Rowan Class!

5 WILLOW - Rupert Congratulations to him on producing a brilliant discussion text focussed on our class book *Treason*. He showed a great understanding of the book, exploring ideas clearly and thoughtfully. He also demonstrated strong effort in the way he edited his work, showing care and attention to detail. Well done Rupert - this is an excellent piece of work!

6 ASPEN - Simon for his information page about the history of football in the 20th century. Well done for including a lot of information on his page and for making it look attractive and well presented.

6 HOLLY - James for writing an excellent persuasive text about the Super Spy Watch he invented. He engaged the

reader well, gave a great description of the features of his watch in a good variety of sentence styles and using a range of punctuation, showing his command of grammar. He used an engaging, chatty tone which has persuaded Mrs Bull to buy one! Very well done James.

6 LAUREL - Florence Congratulations to her for writing a fantastic persuasive text on her chosen spy gadget from our class book *Stormbreaker*. She worked hard on including persuasive language in her writing, as well as using sub-headings effectively. Well done Florence - keep up the great writing!

ONLINE SAFETY

What is Doomscrolling? - A Guide for Parents

Doomscrolling is when an individual spends an excessive amount of time online consuming social media, news, videos or short form content. The act is when an individual might be continuously 'scrolling' to experience the next piece of content without necessarily knowing where it is going to take them. The phrase is often associated with feelings of negativity where users might have an ongoing desire to consume an excessive amount of negative content. The phrase is also linked to boredom where individuals might doomscroll to kill time or to seek feelings of fulfilment.

Read here for more advice:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/what-is-doomscrolling-a-guide-for-professionals-parents-and-carers/>

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 returns policy. These offers are available online and in store. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offers. Exclusions apply.

www.valentinoschoolwear.com

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

OFFICE NOTICES

- Please make sure that Breakfast Club & Treetops accounts are up to date by the last day of half term (22nd May) to avoid a £25 late payment charge.
- There are still a number of parents failing to book lunches for their children. This causes a large administrative burden and often children are coming to the office late in the morning which causes issues for the kitchen. Please try to ensure that lunches are booked on time.

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

SUMMER TERM DATES		
Mon 11 - Thu 14 May		Y6 SATS
Mon 18 May	9 am - 11:20 am	EYFS & KS1 Sports Day Y1 & Y2 09:00 YN & YR 10:20
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	9 am - 11:30 am	KS2 Sports Day Y3 & Y4 09:00 Y5 & Y6 10:30
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

Congratulations to siblings Ethan and Nicole - Ethan has just won his first Under 8s tournament at Byfleet Tennis Club and Nicole has won her first Under 16s at St George's College in Weybridge.



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





Empower Your Child: Supportive Approaches to Manage Anxiety



Join our FREE workshop designed for parents and carers! In this 2-hour session, you'll work with the tutor and other parents to deepen your understanding of anxiety and learn practical ways to support your child.

What you'll learn:

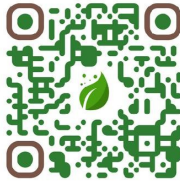
- Gain a deeper understanding of childhood anxiety
- Practical ways to help your child manage anxious feelings
- Opportunities to connect with other parents in a safe, supportive environment

Where: Woking Family Centre

The Bungalow, Sythwood
GU21 3AX

When: Wednesday 3rd June 2026

Time: 12:45 -14:45



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

**To book your place please click on this
link or scan the QR code**



Web : www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning

Email : family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk

Tel : 0300 200 1044



COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

Wednesday 17th June | 1:00pm - 3:30pm
Guildford Family Centre, Hazel Avenue GU1 1NR

Are you expecting or have a little one under 6 months?

Join us for a special afternoon celebrating you and your growing family!

What to expect:

- Meet local support services including midwives, health visitors, libraries, Homestart, Dads Matters and more
- FREE refreshments
- Enter our FREE raffle (just for attending!)
- Decorate a baby vest to take home
- Connect with other parents in West Surrey



Whether you're a first-time parent or adding to your family, come along to discover the support available to you in our community.

Everyone welcome | No booking required | Completely FREE



**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



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

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

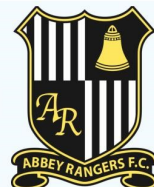
Hardball Trials

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



FREE PLAY & LEARN SESSION

BARNARD'S

WOKING FAMILY CENTRE

DROP-IN & JOIN US FOR MESSY PLAY

ARTS, CRAFTS & HEALTHY SNACKS

TUESDAY 26th MAY 2026

11:00am-12:30pm



For more information contact:
wokingfamilycentre@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 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

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