

Pyrford CofE Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Celebrating Outdoor Classroom Day

22 May 2026



"More than anything, outdoor play makes children happy, and happy children thrive."

Muddy Hands Report, Outdoor Classroom Day



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

DID YOU KNOW? Two thirds of schools who've participated in Outdoor Classroom Day over the years have increased their outdoor learning and play time since getting involved.

Yesterday, our school proudly celebrated Outdoor Classroom Day as part of our ongoing *Joy Project* - a commitment to bringing childhood to the forefront of our teaching and creating memorable learning experiences through developmentally appropriate practice.

Throughout this year, we have been exploring ways to make learning more active, increase opportunities for oracy, and deepen children's learning through play and outdoor experiences. Outdoor Classroom Day gave us the perfect opportunity to showcase how our outdoor spaces can become exciting, engaging learning environments across the curriculum.



Across the school, children participated in a wide variety of activities throughout the day. Here are just some examples of the exciting learning experiences that took place outdoors:

Nursery used vertical surfaces outdoors to develop shoulder strength and gross motor control, helping to build the strong foundations needed for future writing skills.

Reception created bug hotels, developing their scientific skills through observation, exploration and discussion about habitats and mini-beasts.



Year 1 practised their DT skills by making sandwiches before enjoying them together during a wonderful teddy bears' picnic.

Year 2 enjoyed large outdoor board games in the sunshine, developing teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills through play.

Year 3 brought their Science learning to life by exploring light and shadows, drawing around each other's shadows on the playground.



Year 4 used PE equipment creatively to produce large-scale outdoor artwork, combining movement, collaboration and creativity.

Upper Key Stage 2 embraced outdoor exploration through pond dipping, observational sketching and team-building games on the field.

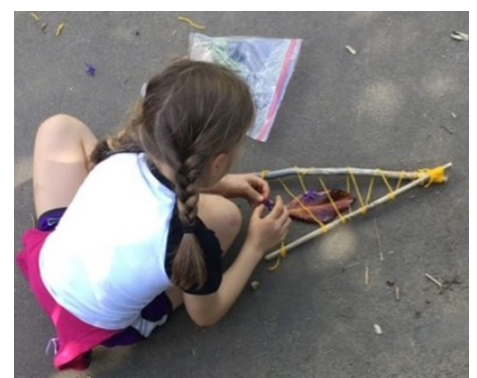
The day was filled with curiosity, laughter, collaboration and joy, reminding us all of the incredible value of learning beyond the classroom walls. By providing children with meaningful, hands-on experiences, we continue to nurture confident, curious learners while protecting the magic of childhood.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm shown by all of our children and staff and look forward to continuing our journey of joyful, active and engaging learning experiences throughout the year.

Sophie Murray
Assistant Head & Teaching and Learning Lead



Children still need a childhood with dirt, mud, puddles, trees, sticks, and tadpoles.
-Brooke Hampton



Headteacher's Letter

Dear parents and carers,

I seem to say this every week, but what a week it has been! It is sometimes difficult to keep up with everything that's happening as we strive to make our learning and school life as vibrant and joyful as possible, and giving pupils opportunities beyond the classroom walls.

Congratulations to our school chess team for their success in their competition on Tuesday against other local schools. They showed excellent concentration and sportsmanship throughout and were thrilled to come away with the winning trophy. They represented the school so positively and we are very proud of them and their success.

We celebrated more success the following day when our cricket team came away victorious. They demonstrated excellent teamwork and skill, with strong performances across the board. They were so thrilled by their win as we all are.

Thank you for your support of our Sports Days. We were blessed with good weather and all the children performed their best, cheering each other on and celebrating each other's efforts and successes.

The highlight for us all this week was our Outdoor Classroom day yesterday. Everyone embraced the opportunity to get outside and carry on learning (luckily) in the sunshine. Mrs Murray has highlighted the huge range of activities going on around the school. The smiles, energy and enthusiasm from pupils and staff reminded us all of how valuable outdoor learning experiences can be for everyone. You will receive a separate letter today (and there is more information overleaf) about plans for our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) project and how you can get involved.

I have to share some bittersweet news with you. After a long and outstanding career at the school Mrs Bull has decided that she will be leaving us at the end of term. She joined the school in 1999, providing 1:1 support to a child, before becoming a TA, then HLTA and, for the last 10 years, being a class teacher in Year 6. She has served the school with passion, dedication, care and positivity and she has made a lasting impact on so many children over the years. We are so grateful to her for everything she has brought to our school life and will miss her tremendously. With two grandchildren due to be born this summer, we are not sure whether she will be able to get much free time for herself but wish her all our very best wishes.

We wish you all a wonderful half term break, may the sunshine continue and thank you for your continued support in helping make our school such a positive and vibrant place to learn.

Have a good weekend.

Gavin Dutton
Headteacher

INFORMATION EVENT
Considering a career in teaching?

Would you like to train in a school in your local community?
Come and chat with a member of our friendly South Farnham SCITT team and find out if teacher training is the career for you.

South Farnham SCITT office, GU9 8DY
Saturday, 6th June 2026
10am to 12pm
Booking required

FOR MORE INFO scitt@sft.org.uk www.sfsctt.org.uk

CAN YOU DONATE ANY OF THESE - see the full details in the OPAL update letter



- Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, wooden spoons and chopping boards
- Kitchen utensils, mashers and metal spoons
- A potting bench or work tables to build a messy café
- Cable drums of all sizes
- Small tools such as spades, shovels, trowels and brooms
- Buckets and watering cans
- Large sheets or brightly coloured fabric for den building and fancy dress
- Foam sheets, bodyboards, camping mats or yoga mats for den bases
- Pegs and bungee cords
- Cushions and picnic rugs
- Guttering and tubes of varied sizes
- Fancy dress items including hats, scarves, waistcoats, costumes and accessories
- Old keyboards, torches, laptops, calculators, phones, webcams and cameras that no longer work
- Umbrellas of all sizes
- Dolls and baby dolls
- Soft toys
- Happyland and small world toys
- Toy cars, animals and dinosaurs
- Lego and Barbies
- Sunhats
- Shells and natural loose parts such as cones and sticks
- Chalks
- Clipboards
- Bubbles
- Ride-on toys
- Tyres
- Steering wheels
- Cash donations – to be used to purchase items from car boot sales/second hand

Pyrford Primary School's

SUMMER FAIR

Mufti Day

Friday 12 June

In exchange for wearing your mufti clothes, please bring in donations of the following to the Music Hut at drop off on Friday...

- Sweets for the tombola – no nuts please
- Bottle of any sort (alcoholic & non-alcoholic welcome) for the tombola
- fidget toys/new or lightly used stationery items

TOKENS (£1) & INFLATABLES WRISTBANDS (£5) for the Fair will be available to buy in advance at our Ice Cream sales (Fridays) and at the Fair

Pyrford Primary School's

SUMMER FAIR

Sat 13 June, 12-2pm

SCHOOL FIELD
Entrance via Peatmore Ave.

Join us for some family fun...

- bouncy castle •
- giant slide •
- fun games •
- children's stalls •
- BBQ food •
- ice creams & drinks •

Free Entry

Cash & card accepted



We are excited to launch our sponsored Move-a-thon to raise funds for the school's Joy Project! 🎉

The project aims to transform playtimes using the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) approach — creating more active, imaginative and meaningful play experiences for all children. 🌿

Children will take part in fun activities including:

- 🏃 Running
- 💃 Dancing
- 🏊 Obstacle challenges

.....and lots of movement

Funds raised will help provide new outdoor play equipment, creative play resources and improved play spaces that encourage confidence, teamwork, creativity and fun. 🧑‍🤝‍🧑

Please sponsor your child if you can and we'd love you to pass on this link to family and friends. Together we can help create a more joyful play environment for everyone. Every donation makes a difference — thank you for your support! 💖

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/pyrfordmoveathon>

Golden Book Awards



N SQUIRRELS - Ada & Otilie The girls started Squirrels this term. They have settled brilliantly and you would think they've been here since September. They follow our routine instructions and join in a variety of activities. Well done girls. We love having you at Squirrels!

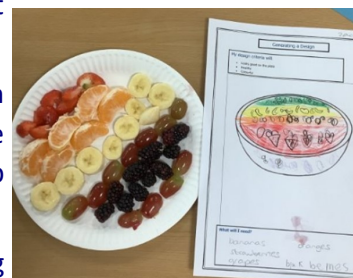
R BEECH - Alayna who has been working really hard in our Maths lessons. She's been joining in and trying her best with the star jobs. She's even been doing maths at home!

R HAZEL - Elise for being a shining example to us of wonderful manners, following instructions and for always doing her best. Well done Elise!

1 OAK - Zachary for his fabulous fruit salad. He carefully and safely prepared his fruit and then enjoyed eating it. Well done Zachary, we are very proud of you!

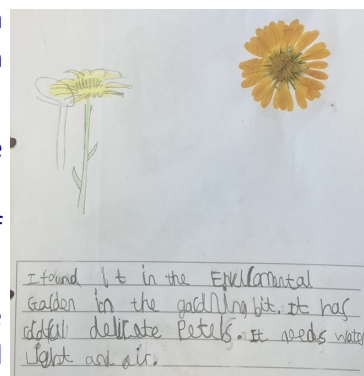
1 PINE - Stanley for his wonderful work in DT. Year 1 designed and made their own fruit salads and Stanley paid particular attention to his design and presentation. He focused carefully when cutting the fruit and showed the bridge and claw grip perfectly. Well done Stanley!

2 CEDAR - Amara & Maxwell for working really hard on their writing and showing great resilience.



2 HAWTHORN - Hadi for drawing a lovely park for hedgehogs in his English lesson this week. He labelled his pictures using adjectives to describe. He worked hard to set his work out neatly. Well done Hadi!

3 ELM - Sam This week we created a class book about common British flowers. Sam produced a brilliant page about marigolds, including the Latin name, a sketch, a pressed specimen and a well-written description. Wonderful work Sam!



3 MAPLE - Elizabeth for her wonderful double page of work showing how the railways impacted the lives of people living in Pyrford. We were history detectives, looking at maps, photos, diaries and censuses to find clues about how the arrival of the railway changed the lives of local people.

4 ALDER - Nuriyah who always puts 100% effort into everything she does. In Science we learnt about how changes in an environment affect its wildlife. Nuriyah focused on deforestation and wrote a huge number of facts with lots of extra, interesting details. Excellent work Nuriyah!

4 LARCH - Elliot for his amazing persuasive advert for the Wild Robot. He produced a really lovely piece of work. Well done Elliot!

5 ROWAN - Belle who has shown fantastic enthusiasm and dedication in RE while learning about the Five Pillars of Islam. She contributed thoughtful ideas in class discussions, demonstrated a clear understanding of the importance of each pillar, and always approached her work with curiosity and respect. Her effort and positive attitude have been outstanding - very well done Belle!

5 WILLOW - Hasan Congratulations to Hasan for his brilliant contributions in our most recent RE lesson, learning about the Five Pillars of Islam. Hasan shared thoughtful ideas whilst demonstrating a clear understanding of the topic in his written work Well done!

6 ASPEN - Jessica for her excellent work in Science. She enjoyed testing whether the number of bulbs in an electrical circuit made a difference to the brightness of the bulb. Her predictions and observations were thorough and well-written.

6 HOLLY - Ismael for a fantastic piece of writing. He wrote an exciting suspense story packed with action and engaging dialogue. His use of ambitious vocabulary helped create tension and atmosphere throughout the story, while his careful use of a wide range of punctuation made his writing clear and dramatic. Mrs Bull was particularly impressed by the effort he put into the presentation of his work. Very well done Ismael!

6 LAUREL - Toby for his fantastic sketching in Art. We have been studying composition and still life in our Art topic this term. Toby sketched beautifully the missing half of the Dr Pozzi painting, using colouring pencils to add tone. Mrs Gilbey was so impressed with the effort he put in. Well done Toby, keep up the great work!

Dr. Pozzi at home



Many congratulations to our chess team who competed in a tournament on Tuesday at Ongar Place School and came away victorious! They were awarded the Francis Memorial Cup, given by Mark, (who runs chess club) in memory of his wife who died recently.



On Wednesday a group of Year 5 boys went to a Dynamos cricket tournament at Pirbright Cricket Club, competing against other schools from the Woking area. They played four games and won them all!

In the first game they beat Pirbright by 17 runs. They then took on Horsell Juniors and beat them by 12 runs. The third game, against Goldsworth was closer, but they dug deep and won by 10 runs. In the last game they played Beaufort and won by a massive 40 runs! They will now go on to represent Woking at a Surrey-wide competition.

The standard of cricket was really high and all of the boys played so well. They supported each other and showed great team spirit. We are so proud of you all and looking forward to the next tournament! Thank you to Mr Tine for supporting the boys with drills and coaching between matches.



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

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Monday 25th - Friday 29th May | HALF TERM |
| Monday 29th June | INSET DAY |
| Friday 17th July | Term ends at 12:00 |

| SUMMER TERM DATES | | |
|------------------------|-------------|--|
| 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 |
| Fri 12 Jun | | Mufti Day for the Summer Fair |
| Sat 13 Jun | | School Summer Fair |
| Tue 16 Jun | | Y6 Leavers' Service @ Cathedral |
| Wed 17 Jun | | Sponsored Move-A-Thon for the Joy Project |
| 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 |

OFFICE NOTICES

- Breakfast Club & Treetops accounts must be settled by today to avoid a late payment charge of £25
- Please can we ask that outstanding donations for swimming are paid as soon as possible

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 |

BOYS FOOTBALL 2 Day May Camp 2026



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

FREE PLAY & LEARN SESSION

BARNARDOS

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

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



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



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Changing lives.

It's baaa...ck!



Petting farm, ferris wheel & exotic animals



Half Term • Tue 26, Wed 27, Thurs 28 May • 10.30am-4pm

Woking United Reformed Church, White Rose Lane GU22 7HA

www.wokingurc.org.uk 01483 763078



Farm Animals • Kids rides • Exotic Animals • Magic
Shows • Refreshments • Ferris Wheel • Lunches
Full details at wokingurc.org.uk

Small admission fee in aid of Children With Special
Needs Foundation



Charity no. 1062151