



A word from Mrs Daniels

Welcome back to term 4, I hope that you had a lovely half term.

Unfortunately, we were told at our last tree inspection that the large tree near Year 5 would have to be chopped down. This was done over half term but Mrs O'Mahony has made sure that it is being put to good use! Please see pages 4—6 for OPAL news.

My thanks to Mrs Bond for organising Internet Safety day before half term, the children got a lot from it. Unfortunately only two parents were able to come to the workshop in the evening which was disappointing but gold stars to the parents who came along!

I was super proud of Year 3 who performed brilliantly at the dance festival before half term. Well done to all of them and my thanks to Mrs Strawson and Mrs Peters for their hard work.

THIS WEEK

Monday 24th February

Tuesday 25th February

Wednesday 26th February

Netball match v. Cookham Dean
away

Thursday 27th February

Year 6 - Eton College science and
geography workshops

6—8pm Rotary Writing Competition
Celebration event

Parent Governor ballot closes at
midday

Friday 28th February

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The Scholastic logo features a red rectangular background. On the left, there is a white icon of an open book. To the right of the icon, the word "SCHOLASTIC" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

The book fair will take place after school Tuesday—Friday this week. We will be outside unless the weather is bad in which case we will be in the hall. Thank you.

Over and Above Awards—Friday 14th February

Reception	Sam Green	Phoebe Bray	Joey Thornton
Year 1	Preston Hannigan	Alayna Gould	Kiara Pandy
Year 2	Freddie Fardon	Courtney Steward	
Year 3	Elsie-Rose Clement	Dexter Bostock	Year 3
Year 4	Ted Oliver-Romero	Alyssia Holland	
Year 5	Juliette Fernandes	Otis Bampini	
Year 6	Zac Hall	Matti Gait	

Comic Relief
Friday 21st March
+ loose parts for OPAL



Children can choose what they wear to school on Friday 21st March and we will be collecting for Red Nose Day with all the money going to charity. In addition, we would really appreciate you bringing in a 'loose part' (see list on page 5) to support our OPAL project. Thank you.

Calendar for term 4

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
24 Feb	25 Book Fair in school	26 Netball match v. Cookham Dean away	27 Year 6 - Eton College science and geography workshops 6—8pm Rotary Writing Competition Celebration event	28	1	2
3	4 Liz Flanagan (author) virtual session for years 3 and 4	5 Dassu virtual session for Years 5 and 6	6 World Book Day Fiona Barker (author) in school Rec and years 1 and 2 Oldfield football away A + B teams	7	8	9
10	11	12 Netball match— home	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 BBO computing hub event	21 Comic Relief and 'loose part' day! National poetry day	22	23
24 Year 6 - National Reading Champions quiz 7pm Governing Body meeting	25	26	27	28 Brief reports to parents	29 Parents in school day	30
31	1 Parent consultation meetings	2 2.30pm Rock Steady concert	3 Parent consulta- tion meetings	4 Last day of term—finish at 2pm	5	6

OPAL news

A big thank you to our parent community for supporting our OPAL project. Our large shed is now ready to be filled and we have a lovely new reading shed filled with new and interesting books for the children to enjoy. A big thank you to Oscar and Alyssa from Y6 who are willingly giving their time to help the reading shed stay organised and supporting children to enjoy books. Both of these items were purchased with funds raised by parents through various events. We are really grateful for this support and excited to see the changes this is bringing to playtimes.

You will also have noticed that we sadly lost the large tree situated just to the right of the cabin. However, the tree surgeons have helped us to keep parts of the tree which will be relocated to the bottom of the field when the ground is dry enough to have a tractor on site.

Thank you,
Mrs O'Mahony



The children are all extremely excited about our OPAL playground project. Now that our shed is in place, we'd like to collect loose parts for children to play with. The items we are looking for will enable us to enjoy a wider range of play experiences during playtime. We would appreciate any of the following

- Suitcases of any size and type
- Anything on wheels/castors e.g. baby buggy
- Plastic milk crates/supermarket delivery crates/plastic bread trays
- Briefcases, especially hard cased ones
- Road signs and cones
- Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, wooden spoons, chopping boards
- Tubes of various sizes and various materials
- Buckets
- Nets and thick ropes
- Keyboards/torches/laptops/calculators/mobile phones/desk phones/binoculars/cameras that are no longer working
- Fabric (large sheets/brightly coloured fabric)
- camping roll mats/yoga mats
- Guttering
- Noodles (the type you use in the swimming pool!!)
- Hats/scarves/jazzy shirts/elasticated skirts/waistcoats/wedding dresses/character costumes
- Planks of wood of various sizes

If you have any items to donate, please bring them to the playground on the morning of Friday 21st March—Comic Relief Day.



OPAL news
Parents in school day—Saturday 29th March

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are really appreciating the support that the parent community is giving to our OPAL project. The children are enjoying the changes we have made so far. We have further exciting things planned which we would appreciate help with. We will be holding an OPAL parent workday on Saturday 29th March and are asking that parents sign up on our volunteer sheet. This can be found...

<https://volunteersignup.org/XK4MC>

We will be looking for help with building a large sandpit, making mud kitchens, treating our wooden buildings and benches as well as constructing a lovely gravel play area. Power tools will be an advantage! Please do think about giving a little time if you are able.

Best wishes,
Mrs O'Mahony



Star Writer—Alfie Green Year 3

Year 3 have been studying 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward. They have worked on noun phrases, alliteration, perfect present tense verb forms and much more. Here is Alfie Green's diary entry where he included many of the grammatical techniques taught over the unit.

Dear diary,

I have buried my bad emotions and created a magnificent, grey forest. How on Earth could it be better? I have constructed a peaceful woodland with angular, agile animals. What a happy haven I have engineered! I tinkered and tested until I found the perfect place for the branches so that even the tallest tree would not fall over. Then I hammered and screwed until I had produced hard, heavy heather with aluminium stems. You would not believe the flowers I have transformed out of rubbish. Now every morning when I wake, I feel a sense of contentment running through my veins as I look out at my hand-made tin forest.

By Alfie Green

Exciting opportunity- PTA Chair Role

Hello Everyone,

I truly can't believe this is my final year at Cookham Rise as a parent and a member of the PTA. Reflecting on the past six years, I can honestly say it's been an incredible journey filled with fun, collaboration, and a deep sense of community. Working alongside other parents, PTA members, school staff, and our local Cookham schools has been a highlight of my time here. As my time as Chair comes to a close, we are actively seeking someone to step into this rewarding role. I wanted to share a few insights to give you a sense of what the position entails:

1.It's the easiest role in the PTA!

Honestly, I don't do nearly as much as our amazing Secretary and Treasurer.

2.Chairing PTA Meetings:

The main responsibility is leading our one-hour meetings (only 6-7 per year). These are focused on ensuring our activities are productive and aligned with the school's goals and priorities.

3.Promoting & Supporting Fundraising Events:

Your level of involvement is flexible—you can do as much or as little as your time allows. We always have committees to help organise and run our annual fundraising events.

4.Approving Budgets:

This is a straightforward part of the role, as it's integrated into meeting agendas. Our wonderful Treasurer, Victoria, handles all the detailed work—you just need to provide a quick review and approval.

In truth, the Chair role is all about fostering collaboration and maintaining a positive and supportive environment. Together, we aim to create opportunities that enhance the educational experiences of our Cookham Rise children.

If you're interested or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. This is such a fulfilling role, and I know it will be a rewarding experience for the next Chair.

Please text 07871124701 if you want to know more!

Best regards,

Pip Bradley

Scholastic Book Fair—starting tomorrow

Scholastic Book Fair will be in our playground from Tuesday 25th February until Friday 28th February from 3pm. This is an ideal tie to top up your child's reading material. Last year the total sales made amounted to £1142.75. This meant that we were then able to gain reward from this and purchase books for your children to access in school. We gained £571.38 to spend with Scholastic. It is lovely to be able to keep topping our reading material up so please do support our fair if you are able to.

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FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU BUY AT THE BOOK FAIR!

COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

A POP-UP BOOK-STORE WITH HUNDREDS OF BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99

My Bum is SO CHEEKY!
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DORK diaries Sister Showdown!
Hardback only £7.99
£12.99 £7.99

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David O'Connell
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A LAUGH OUT LOUD new illustrated series
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DOG MAN BIG JIM BEGINS
Dav Pilkey
Hardback only £9.99
£12.99 £9.99
IN CINEMAS FEBRUARY 2025

Our new calm space and wall art



Year 3 dance festival

This message was sent from Jane Douglas, the dance teacher who helps organise the festival:

Thank you so much for your commitment and efforts for an incredible day of dance – everyone was so polished and having such a fab time on stage.

I hope you and they are super proud of themselves.

The energy and creativity on the stage from each and every child was both infectious and inspiring – there are some incredibly talented children out there shining brightly.

Thank you to all the families who were able to attend the dance festival before half term—I am sure you were very proud of your children!



Science Bazaar



FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-16 YRS

**SCIENCE
BAZAAR
BEYOND**

Saturday 1 March 2025

9:30am – 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening
11:30am – 4pm Open to all

OXFORD
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Fun activities, hands-on workshops, experiments, talks, shows, competitions and cafe



BOOK
TICKETS



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NO PARKING ON SITE EXCEPT FOR ACCESS NEEDS

Event sponsored by
**MORGAN
SINDALL**
CONSTRUCTION

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**We want ALL of our
children to shine!**

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Collibee!

