



### A word from Mrs Daniels

I was very proud of Reception and Years 1 and 2 last week and want to thank them, and the staff team, for their fantastic performances (please see pages 6—9).

This week we are inviting families in to hear KS2 sing on Thursday afternoon. The gates will open at 2.30 and we will aim to start our singing at 2.40pm.

With two pantos, Christmas lunch and our final Rocksteady concert of 2024 we are in for a festive week!

My thanks to Mrs Bond for arranging for Josh Reynolds to visit school on Friday afternoon. The children asked him some great questions!

A reminder that school finishes at 2pm on Friday.

Whilst this is a busy time of the year in school I feel very fortunate to have the job I have, working with children is never boring and it is great to share this time of year with them!

Thank you for your ongoing support of Cookham Rise, I wish you and your families a lovely Christmas and a happy and healthy 2025.

### THIS WEEK

#### Monday 16th December

#### Tuesday 17th December

KS1 to Kenton theatre—Snow White

#### Wednesday 18th December

Christmas lunch

2.30pm Rock Steady concert

No netball club today

#### Thursday 19th December

Elm to Norden Farm—Pinocchio

KS1 to Methodist Church

2.30 KS2 carol concert

#### Friday 20th December

Last day of term—school finishes at 2pm

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**Tuesday 7th  
January 2025**

- first day back

## Over and Above Awards—Friday 13th December

|                  |                 |                 |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Reception</b> | Albie Thrift    | Henry Tran      | Grayson Carty   |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | Taylor Ojambo   | Josh Clayton    | The whole class |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | Wilf Ward       | Clara Gallagher |                 |
| <b>Year 3</b>    | Madison Thrift  | Nicolas Nowacki |                 |
| <b>Year 4</b>    | Alvin Spiers    | Jessica Leach   |                 |
| <b>Year 5</b>    | Felix Nobel     | Issy Pady       |                 |
| <b>Year 6</b>    | Jessica Bradley | Allana Farish   |                 |



## Calendar for term 3

| Mon   | Tue  | Wed                                  | Thurs | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| 6<br>Training day                           | 7<br>Jane Douglas—<br>dance festival work<br>with Year 3 | 8                                    | 9     | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13<br>Finance committee                     | 14   | 15<br>KS2 Prime VR day               | 16    | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20<br>7pm GB meeting<br><br>7pm PTA meeting | 21   | 22                                   | 23    | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27  | 28   | 29                                   | 30    | 31  | 1   | 2   |
| 3   | 4  | 5<br>RWI school develop-<br>ment day | 6     | 7   | 8   | 9   |
| 10  | 11<br>Safer Internet Day—<br>Paul Hayes in school        | 12                                   | 13    | 14  | 15  | 16  |
| HALF TERM WEEK                              |  |                                      |       |     |     |     |

## OPAL news

We have got some exciting changes happening when we come back to school in January.

A summary:

Years 1—6 will all have lunchtime at the same time—**12.15—1.15pm**. Year 1 will go straight to lunch each day at about 12.10 with Year 2 following on after.

Years 3—6 will go outside and then be called into lunch. The order will change each day so that the same class are not always first.

Reception will keep the same lunchtime 11.50—12.50 and be on their own playground for now but may merge with the rest of the school in the summer term.

Years 1—6 will be able to access the same areas of the school together.

KS2 breaktime will change from being 10.50—11.20 to **10.45—11.05**.

Over time we will develop more and more activities for the children. Music has already been introduced and we will soon have a dressing up area. We will keep you updated in this section of the newsletter. Any play that is deemed as being risky will have a lead in assembly where risk is discussed and rules are put in place as a school.

We are in the process of purchasing welly storage for each class and will let you know when that is in place. Eventually, we will want children to be wearing wellies to access the field during muddy months. As always, we will aim to have children outside as much as possible so children need to have warm, waterproof coats please.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs O'Mahony



## THE DIGITAL DILEMMA: Keeping Your Kids Safe

Thames Valley Police Cyber Protect are running a free webinar to help parents and carers understand some of the risks young people face online, and how they can best protect themselves and their family from falling victim to cyber criminal behaviours!

Covering social media, gaming and emails, this webinar will give you tips and tricks to help you protect them in today's online world.

The webinar is running three times over the next few weeks, and tickets are available here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/police-south-east-cyber-77121396093>

Reserve your space today!



## School Uniform

I have had the following communication from School days Direct with regards to uniform -

Due to rising costs in shipping, staffing, and operational expenses, we have had to review our delivery policy for the New Year, effective on orders received from 1st January 2025.

Please see new delivery policy below for Cookham Rise Primary School:-

Orders over £30.00 will continue to qualify for free delivery.

Orders under £30.00 will incur a standard delivery fee of £6.50.

Free collection from our store remains available for all orders, regardless of value.

Parents are, of course, also welcome to shop in-store if they prefer not to order online.



***To support parents we have also agreed to free shipping to school and we distribute the uniform—our delivery day will be a Wednesday.***

## Reception show





# KS1 Show





**Attendance  
Thank you and  
well done!**



| Attendance measure   | Percentage | Ranking ①                            |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Overall attendance   | 97.8%      | You are ranked 1st out of 46 schools |
| Overall absence      | 2.2%       | You are ranked 1st out of 46 schools |
| Authorised absence   | 1.9%       | You are ranked 2nd out of 46 schools |
| Unauthorised absence | 0.3%       | You are ranked 1st out of 46 schools |
| Persistently absent  | 3.4%       | You are ranked 1st out of 46 schools |
| Severely absent      | 0.0%       | You are ranked 1st out of 46 schools |

All schools are keen to ensure that children are in school as much as possible and there is a great deal of focus on this from the DFE. Our data is tracked locally, as well as centrally, and we have access to a tool that allows us to see how we are doing compared to the rest of the Local Authority. Imagine how pleased I was to see the results above when I looked last week!

One of the best things we can do for our children is to give them a really good education, so thank you for working with us to have children in school as much as possible in order for us to do just that. Let's try and stay in this position in 2025!

## Visit from Josh Reynolds on Friday afternoon

I was really impressed by the questions Years 5 and 6 put to Josh Reynolds during his time in class with him and then, again, by the ones that each year group asked in assembly:

Reception

Have you ever met the king?

Year 1

How do you make decisions?

Year 2

What ideas have you got for protecting the local wildlife in our areas?

Year 3

What is the hardest decision you have had to make?

Year 4

What is the biggest issue you've discussed in parliament?

Year 5

With climate change flooding has increased – what plans are in place locally to prevent this?

Year 6

How can we, as children, make a difference in Maidenhead?

It was lovely for children to ask questions and hear about their local community and for them to have the message that they can contribute at any age.



## Christmas Lunch this week

caterlink  
feeding the imagination

# Christmas Lunch Menu

Wednesday 18th December 2024

**Roast Turkey & Pork Chipolata  
Sausage with Sage and  
Onion Stuffing**

**Sweet Potato/Parsnip loaf &  
Vegan Christmas Chipolata with  
Sage and Onion Stuffing**

Served with:

**Roast Potatoes, Peas, Carrots  
and Brussell Sprouts**

Dessert:

**Christmas Pudding Rice Krispie  
Cake**



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*We want ALL of our  
children to shine!*

