



A word from Mrs Daniels ...

A big thank you to Mrs O'Mahony for organising the Scholastic Book Fair and the year 5 children and a number of parents who have supported the running of it. I will let you know next week how much money was raised for us to spend on books.

My thanks to the PTA for buying fantastic new football kits for our teams. I look forward to sharing some pictures of them soon.

Mrs Bond has worked hard to put together an informative one hour writing presentation for Thursday evening, it would be lovely to see lots of you there. Please see page 3 for more information.

Finally, my apologies regarding the teething problems with our new website and thank you for your patience whilst the office team got the new parent consultation booking system up and running.

Thank you for your donations for the Happy School Bag collection. We raised £87.30 for our school and saved almost 200KG of clothes going to landfill. Next collection is Wed 15th July.

My thanks to Kate Lafford for organising this.

THIS WEEK

Monday 2nd March

Tuesday 3rd March

Wednesday 4th March

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day

7pm writing workshop for parents

Friday 6th March

Author visits

KS1—Marielle Bayliss

KS2—Iszi Lawrence

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Sunset Club update:

Please see page 4 for photos of the Sunset team.

Over and Above Friday 27th February 2026

Reception	Roisin Kelly	Eli Barrett	
Year 1	Albie Thrift	Ava Woodward	
Year 2	Josh Clayton	Addison Foley	Maia Vornicu
Year 3	Willow Barrett	Felicity Kibbler	
Year 4	Whole class		
Year 5	Whole class		
Year 6	Alba Ortiz	Alexa Roberts	



The Golden Boot Award Winners last week were...

Year 3 for really improving their tidying up at the end of lunchtime!

Calendar for term 4

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
9 7pm PTA meeting	10	11	12 Open the Book assembly	13	14	15
16 GB Finance committee meeting	17 Wayne Dixon—Year 6 Easter cracked	18 Year 6 at Eton	19	20 Reports to parents	21	22
23 7pm Governing Body meeting	24 Parent consultations	25	26 Parent consultations	27 Last day of term Finish at 1.30pm	28	29

Writing workshop for parents 7pm Thurs 5th March

A Workshop for Parents and Carers

Thursday 5th March 2026

7:00pm

Cookham Rise



How Do We Teach Writing?

Join us for an informative and practical evening designed to help you understand how writing is taught across the primary years — from Reception to Year 6.

What Will You Gain?

- A clear understanding of writing progression
- Practical strategies to use at home
- Insight into how reading supports writing success
- Time for questions and to look at books used in school

A Key Message

Regular reading has the single biggest impact on writing and spelling development. We'll share ways to make this powerful habit part of everyday life.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Our new Sunset Club Team

I am delighted to introduce our new team to you.



Michelle—new to the school



Jumana—new to the school

Awaiting photo of Danielle



Danielle and Emme—moving from Wraparound Care 4 U

Years 4 and 5 Ufton Court



Years 4 and 5 Ufton Court



World Book Day—Thursday 5th March

As always, we will be celebrating World Book Day by focusing on books and a love of reading. We are not asking children to dress up as, in years gone by, we found that the focus often moved to characters from films and the 'book' element was diluted.

This year we have decided to focus on non-fiction books and we will start the day with a whole school assembly where staff will share their favourite non-fiction books with children.

We are fortunate to have two authors coming into school on Friday 6th March.

This has been facilitated free of charge through Maidenhead Big Read.

Years 1 and 2 will have Marielle Bayliss coming in and talking about her series of books called Neurons.



She has provided the link below should any parents wish to order copies of her books.

The link will guarantee free delivery to the school, when parents use the code and list the school as the delivery address. She will sign and personalise any copies during her visit.

[Marielle - Maidenhead Event - Graffeg Books](#)

Iszi Lawrence will be visiting us to talk to all of KS2 on Friday afternoon.



Maidenhead Big Read weekend then takes place on the weekend after World Book Day. More info here:

[Maidenhead's Big Read Newsletter](#)

Staffing plans—some changes for term 4

I am very pleased to say that Mrs Pocock has successfully had her surgery and is starting the recovery process.

As always, I am very grateful to the whole staff team for being so flexible as my plans have involved a few changes.

Whilst making the changes, I have been conscious of doing two other things:

- ◆ increasing the number of RWI groups in Reception from two to three to enable the children to be taught in smaller groups
- ◆ Giving some additional teaching time to Year 6 as we head towards SATs in term 5

This has meant additional investment from school budget.

The updated staffing plan for term 4

Miss Maher is going to work every morning and teach a Reception RWI group alongside Mrs Rogers and Mrs Warrington. She is also going to teach Maths (Mon—Wed) with Mrs Collibee in Year 2 giving the cohort additional teaching support with Mrs Pateman doing the same on a Thursday.

Mrs Floyd-Burke will move from supporting Year 6 for the first hour of each day to supporting Year 2 in Literacy.

Mrs Pateman is going to work on Thursday and Friday mornings and give additional teaching support to Year 6.

Mrs Cromarty and Mrs Collibee are looking at how they will share the support of Mrs Allcock on some afternoons and Mrs Bown will also be joining Year 2 for an afternoon a week.

Me and the office team will stand in for Kiss and Drop door opening whilst Mrs Bond moves to the Community Room where Mrs Pocock is usually located.

We will review this plan each half term whilst Mrs Pocock recovers from her operation.

Rotary Writing Competition School winner and overall LA winner!

Happiness in Nature

Millie Hunt



As I slowly rose to my feet, I blinked rapidly. The sun was beating in my eyes, and I could barely stand. After a few perplexing moments, I stood up and eagerly looked around. I was leaning on a comfortable leaf and the smell of roses, and a warm summer's day filled my senses with joy. Below me, there was honeysuckle weaving its way in and out of blooming shrubs and bees buzzed their way into a magnificent grassland. There were lilies, that scent filled my nostrils with delight. There were various plants and flowers that were carefully drifting in the warm springtime breeze. Feeling a burst of confidence, I fluttered my wings for the first time and I gracefully began to fly down to the marvellous grassland. And there right in front of me, was a large, beautiful colony of my kind. A wide grin spread across my face and I tried to hold back tears. This was my new home. Finally, I belong somewhere. The sun was setting, and the sky had turned a precious pink, and orange had occupied the corners. I found a dry leaf that was the colour of limes. I slowly settled into it and snuggled down cosily. I closed my eyes and let the velvet sky cover me in dreams.

I awoke with a start; I slowly looked around and felt relieved. I was still amid the magical, marvellous wonderland of plants and blooming flowers. I thought I would start exploring today and I stretched out my studded silver wings, and I flew. They beat like a drum, and I rose into the cooling air. Once again, the dazzling smell of lilies and roses filled my nostrils. I headed for the sparkling pond, and I landed close enough to get a whiff of the green stinky scent of the outdated piece of water. But I did not care. I carelessly fluttered over and took deep thankful sips. The refreshing water slipped down my throat and I sighed heavily. It was so good! I had never had a sip of water before, as it was only a mere 24 hours ago that I unraveled myself from the cocoon which I had spent about a fortnight. After a grateful few moments, I stood up and looked around. The sun was shining and there was a relaxing cool breeze floating in the air. "Today," I thought, "I'll explore." I flew up into the air and sped along the horizon. Trees of all kinds whipped past me. Then I halted to a stop. Right there, in front of me was a breathtaking clearing. There were towering oaks, and a gushing, glimmering waterfall. My mouth gaped open. In the right corner there was a gathering of roses, lilies and bluebells that would put any to shame. The left corner was a mass of grass as tall as skyscrapers, and the quiet sound of bees creating their stunning work on a elegant and delicate maple tree. The sun was now setting and I settled on a mossy branch high up in the treetops. The starry sky was as beautiful as anything you could imagine! I slowly settled into the mossy branch and inhaled the deep scent. I, the Silver Studded Blue Butterfly, closed my eyes.

Molly Price

Cakuda is a leopard, and she needs food. When a leopard needs food, it needs to kill. Killing isn't particularly happy, I know, but we will get to a part where happy isn't just happy, it's magical with the feeling of pure joy.

With an empty tummy, Cakuda set out. Her home was the tallest tree in the savanna, exploding with lush, green leaves at this time of year. The sand was damp and collected every small detail of Cakuda's paw. She

moved without a squelch; the cat is amazing at agility. Off she crawled through the bushes, past the monkeys, and over the streams. Her belly still rumbled as she moved on. The rumble roared and screamed, and shook the branches of the trees, time to move on.

She saw something move in the distance. It was probably the wind, but she looked anyway. As she got closer, she saw that it was black. Her heart rose a millimetre, but she didn't gather hope. She learnt her lesson now not to do that. Slowly, she walked forwards using the agile skill that she used back at her home. Here it was, it was moving, it was on the ground, it was a shadow. Oh dear, it was a shadow of a lion. Run!

If you didn't know, lions are rivals to leopards, but leopards are faster. Well, leopards are faster when they've eaten. Speed, she needed speed. Her mind raced. Her heart raced. Her paws raced. Little did she know, that the lion couldn't find food as well. So, after a few seconds, the lion gave up.

When the leopard dared to look around, she was in a part of the savanna where she didn't recognise the trees. She was also away from the lion. Then she spotted something black. Not again! But wait, it was in the open now, and it wasn't moving. Cakuda went closer. It was an abandoned, dead black wildebeest!

This was the best sight Cakuda had seen, ever. This could change her future, and she knew that. Every muscle in her body moved as much as it could as she lunged forward with amazing power. She stretched her mouth open wide, and bit. She bit with power, force, and might, and bit again after she swallowed that one. Again, and again, and again. She didn't stop biting until there was only skin and bones left.

After that she felt joyous, more than joyous, more than unstoppable, more than satiated. She felt something words cannot describe, but the best description I can give you are the words I've given above. This is the pure joy I had mentioned at the start of the story, and it didn't leave Cakuda for a very long time. Oh, and I almost forgot there's a very special word that I want to tell you. It's in a different language, but it's still extremely beautiful. Chakudya means food in Nyajan (Zambian).

Year 1 @ Braywick





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Cookham Rise Primary School

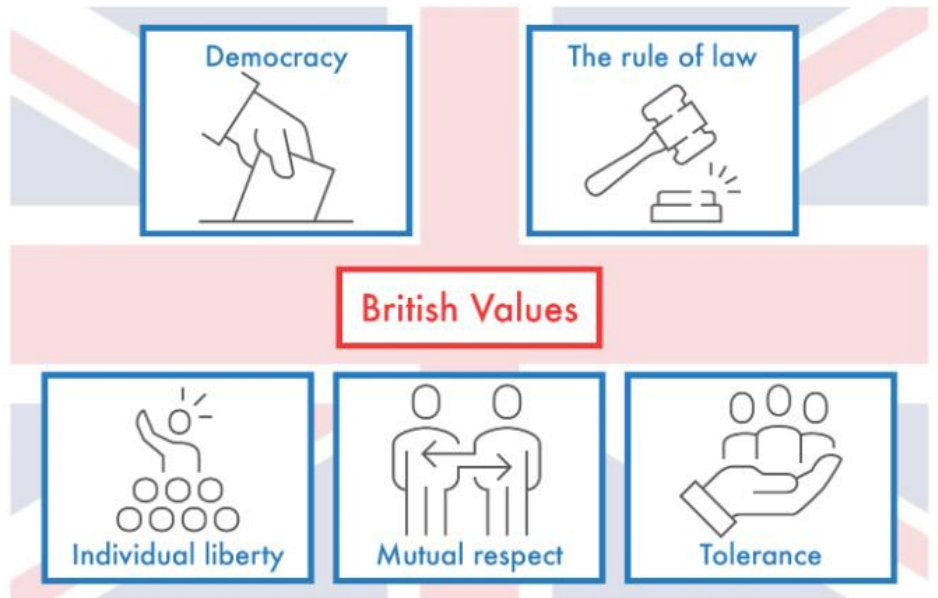
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The focus for assembly this week is British Values



We want ALL of our children to shine!

