



A word from Mrs Daniels

I hope you had a lovely half term break.

This is always a busy half term in school so please do keep an eye on the school calendar.

Teachers had a useful training day in school the Friday before half term and I have included information about some of the changes we are making as a result of this on page 5.

In a recent newsletter I let you know about some changes we have made to our assessment cycles and explained why we made the decision to move our parent consultation sessions to November. An email will be with you today for you to book these appointments and for Years 1—6 a very brief report will be sent to you on Friday 21st November ready for discussion at your meeting.

Before we broke up we had been spending time re-focusing the children on our rules of ready, respectful and safe with regards to how they move around school, sit in assembly etc. This will continue to be a focus as we start our new half term.

I would also appreciate your support with ensuring that the children are wearing the correct school uniform with school shoes, no jewellery and plain hair accessories in school colours. Thank you.

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THIS WEEK

Monday 3rd Nov

Tuesday 4th Nov

Year 4 swimming

Wednesday 5th Nov

Year 5 clarinet

Thursday 6th Nov

Individual school photos

Friday 7th Nov



We will be supporting the poppy campaign once again this year with items for sale on the playground later this week and early next week.

Over and Above Awards —Thursday 23rd October

Reception	Poppy Davison	Meghan Wood
Year 1	Eva Gakhar	Margaux Woolfrey
Year 2	Parker Irwin	Lola Dabbs
Year 3	Jake Bampton	Willow Barratt
Year 4	Mason Hunt	Alex Reynolds
Year 5	William Lowery	Abby Adshead
Year 6	Bella Pady	Ethan Courtis



Yoga Club

Unfortunately the before school yoga club will not be starting this week due to lack of uptake. We will try again for a January start to see if there is more interest.

Calendar for term 2

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
3 Nov	4	5	6 Individual photos	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Well being Champion training	20	21 Reports to parents	22	23
24 KS2 poetry work- shop	25 Parent consultations	26 Wayne Dixon—Year 6 'Christmas unwrapped'	27 Parent consultations	28	29	30
1 Dec Year 6 National archives online	2	3 Years 5 and 6 'Matilda'	4	5 3pm Christmas Fair	6	7
8	9 Reception nativity dress rehearsal to the school 2pm Reception nativity for families	10 KS1 dress rehearsal to the school 2pm Rocksteady concert	11 2pm and 6pm KS1 show for families	12	13	14
15 Years 1 and 2 Kenton theatre	16	17 Christmas lunch	18 Reception to Norden Farm 2.45pm KS2 carol concert	19 Last day of term finish at 1.30pm	20	21

Star Writer—Bella Pady Year 6

Welsh Child

Behind you
Welsh child

A pale painted sunset whispers a farewell

Above you
Welsh child

Fast birds weave in and out of each other
Painting on invisible picture of a perfect world

Around you
Welsh child

Meadows as tall as mountains
And as flat as the palm of your hand

Beside you
Welsh child

A river of ice cold water
Flowing through the rock hard ground

Think of friendly faces that cover these acres
of land
and of all the best friends you have

Inside you
Welsh child
is a rock hard heart of gold

This is
beautiful.

From under the moon and over the sea
This is where you belong

School development

Our School Development Plan

Enhance play across the school

- ✓ Continue to develop the Reception playground and Year 1 outdoor area
- ✓ Continue to work with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) to enhance breaktimes and lunchtimes



In 2025-26
let's make
Cookham Rise
even better!
Here's how...

To make sure teaching is really good, teachers and TAs will -

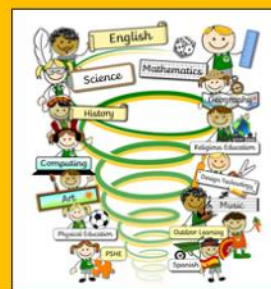
- ✓ Explain and model things clearly
- ✓ Try to make sure your brains don't get overloaded



- ✓ Give you time to practice
- ✓ Take time to review what you have learned
- ✓ Give you lots of opportunities to express yourself to develop your oracy skills

Make our curriculum the best it can be by

- ✓ Understanding how new learning builds on the learning we have already done
- ✓ Being part of the 'Mastering Number Programme' from Reception through to Year 6
- ✓ Continuing to work hard to improve our writing with a focus on our handwriting, spelling and sentence construction



Our training day on the Friday before half term focused on writing and identifying our next steps. These are some of the things we are doing:

- ◆ Introducing the updated RWI handwriting scheme with children having the opportunity to practice at least four times a week
- ◆ Introducing 'smart dictation' daily in years 2—6
- ◆ Year 1 children have started an individual 'share the pen' session with an adult every fortnight with a view to starting smart dictation in the summer term

We looked at the complexities of sentence formation and how this develops across the school and will be having a focus on this which is reflected in the assessments we will be carrying out with the children this month. My thanks to Mrs Bond for leading on this.

We also looked at writing across the curriculum and how shared and individual writing in Humanities can support our assessment of what has been learned as well as giving opportunities for further writing—my thanks to Mrs Strawson for leading on this.

Maidenhead's Big Read



presents a Bookmark Drawing Art Competition

Theme: "Get Moving!" — Active Adventures in Books

About the Theme

Books don't just take us on mental journeys – they inspire us to move! This year's theme is "Get Moving!". We invite you to design a bookmark that captures the energy of being active, to explore how stories encourage physical activity, sports, and energetic adventures.



Think of:

- Characters running through magical forests 🌲
- Athletes chasing dreams on the field ⚽
- Explorers hiking mountains or sailing seas 🏔️🚤
- Book heroes who inspire you to get up and move 🦸



How to Participate

- **Who:** Open to all students upto 14 years of age
- **What:** Create a drawing - hand-drawn or digital
- **Deadline:** 1st December 2025
- **Submit to:** In person at School or hello@maidenheads-big-read.org.uk

Prizes & Recognition

- Winning entries will be printed on a bookmark during MBR2026
- Top artists will receive exciting prizes
- Selected entries will also be showcased at Maidenhead Library, MBR website & MBR social media*
- Judging will be undertaken by local Children's Author & Poet Simon Mole



Let Your Art Move the Story Forward!

Whether it's a wizard sprinting through a spellbound maze or a soccer star from your favorite novel scoring the winning goal – show us how books get us moving!



*only child's first name and age will be visible.

Foster Care

Be part of a child's village

Join our community of local foster carers, experienced and new, as you shape the life and future of a child together. Share knowledge, share skills, come together and be part of a child's village.

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SOUTH EAST



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Enquire or check out the website for more information

E: info@lafosteringse.org.uk

T: 0300 131 2797

W: [achievingforchildren.org.uk/
contact-fostering](http://achievingforchildren.org.uk/contact-fostering)



achieving
for children

I didn't think I could...



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...but now I am

You could be exactly the right person, no matter your background, culture, religion, ethnicity, sexuality or relationship status to be a great foster carer!

Enquire today to find out how fostering could be right for you.



achieving
for children

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We want ALL of our
children to shine!

Simon, our site manager, would like to pass his thanks on to all the children who support with leaf sweeping at this time of year.

