

# Great Bookham School Newsletter

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*Welcome to Issue 15 - 5th January 2024*

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*Happy New Year!*

*It has been so lovely to welcome you all back to school this week. We have been delighted to see our school continue to grow and become a school of choice for so many. A phenomenal 15 families joined us this week with children starting their journey at Great Bookham School in various year groups. I always feel so privileged when families choose to entrust us with their child's education, so thank you.*

*Our Early Years team have been very busy as a number of children have joined our pre-school. It has been great to see children settling well into their new environment and starting to build positive relationships with adults and peers in the setting. This is such an important and valued part of our school as we understand the importance of ensuring that all children receive the best possible provision as soon as they start school.*

*During my walks of the school this week, I have been so impressed with the calm and purposeful atmosphere and the level of concentration and engagement in every child. When asked what the best thing is about being back at school this week children shared with me the following: 'seeing friends', 'learning about blood in science', 'writing my audio description about Narnia', 'being back with my teacher' and 'I am excited to be going to the Natural History Museum'.*

*At the end of January, Ladybirds Class will be exploring the theme of 'People who help us'. We would greatly appreciate it if any family members could come and talk to us about their profession and how they assist others. This could include professions such as emergency services, education, working with animals, supermarket workers, refuse collectors, or any other occupation involving helping people. If you are interested in helping, please contact the school office.*

*Applications for September 2024 Year R and Year 3 places close on 15th January 2024. Our EYFS tour next week is fully booked but if you know of anyone who is looking for a place and is yet to tour our school then please ask them to contact the school office to arrange a personal tour with myself.*

Miss J. Allen

Headteacher

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## Upcoming Key Dates

Friday 12th January - Falcons class assembly

Friday 26th January - Y3, Y4 and Y5 trip to Natural History Museum



## PE

Please ensure your child has their PE kit (GBS blue T shirt and dark colour shorts/joggers and trainers) in school every day. PE kits are to be kept at school and taken home each half term. If your child wears tights to school, they will also need a pair of socks to change into. Earrings are not permitted to be worn during PE lessons (in line with county guidelines). Therefore, children who wear earrings must be able to take them out before PE lessons. If your child is unable to do this themselves, please remove the earrings before they come to school on PE days.

## Online Safety

### New devices

If your child has a new device, have you set up parental controls?

### Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out the specific settings below:

- **PlayStation:** <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>
- **Xbox:** <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>
- **Nintendo Switch:** <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>

### Mobiles/Tablets

You can set up parental controls and restrictions on most mobile devices, which can limit what your child can access. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied on the apps your child is using.

- Apple devices: <https://www.apple.com/uk/families/>
- Android devices: <https://families.google/familylink/>

### Further information

Internet Matters provide a checklist here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe>

### Online Safety Competition

A gentle reminder of our online safety competition which closes on Friday 19th January 2024. The children's task is to share the message of our online rules and how to stay safe when online. They are all aware that they are able to enter through any form of media they choose whether that be a poster, picture, drama performance, song, dance, stop motion animation, podcast, newscast etc. We will allow children to use the in-school technology in set sessions for this competition. The children will be told when these sessions are in their Monday assemblies.

### Free Online Parent/Carer Workshops

YMCA East Surrey's Community Wellbeing Team invites you to attend their free online workshops. These workshops are suitable for parents/carers with children aged 8+. Some of the online workshops include: *'Talking to your child and supporting them to cope with worries'*, *'Understanding, expressing and managing emotions'* and *'Supporting your child with the transition from Primary to Secondary school'*. To book a place, please click [here](#).

### Stars of the week

Our stars of the week are:

Ladybirds	Riley
Bumblebees	Alfie
Dragonflies	Matilda
Foxes	Matilda
Squirrels	Mudiwa
Hedgehogs	Layla
Rabbits	Scarlett
Eagles	Evie T

**Hawks**

**Falcons**

**Kestrels**

Wilson

Alexandra

Hughie

# STARS OF THE WEEK