

Great Bookham School Newsletter

Issue 7 2025/26

Welcome to Issue 7 - 24th Oct 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a vibrant and enriching first half term we've had at school and last week was no exception!

Last week, we soaked up some Bollywood vibes as part of our Diwali celebrations. All pupils took part in a high-energy Bollywood dance workshop, celebrating the colour, music and movement of Indian culture. The week culminated in a joyful Festival of Lights assembly, where children lit their handmade Diya lamps to mark the occasion and show solidarity with their peers who are celebrating Diwali at home. It was a truly beautiful moment of togetherness, reflection and respect for different traditions.

Our Year 6 pupils had an unforgettable visit to the Natural History Museum, where they delved into the wonders of the natural world—from towering skeletons to interactive exhibits on volcanoes and earthquakes. The children represented the school beautifully and came back brimming with curiosity and knew knowledge.

Meanwhile, Year 5 stepped back in time for Tudor Day, arriving in full costume and spending the day immersed in stories and activities of Tudor England. The smell of the jam tarts wafting from the cookery room was a real treat and it was a brilliant way to bring their learning to life.

Our Choir were busy rehearsing for the SCITT Graduation Choir performance on Friday afternoon; it was been great to see their dedication and enthusiasm for singing. We're incredibly proud of their commitment and their hard work and talent will shone through at this special celebration at Guildford Cathedral. A big thank you to Mrs Gandhi for supporting the Choir with their preparations.

A big thank you to all the families who joined us for Parents' Evening. These meetings are such a valuable opportunity to reflect on each child's progress and set positive goals for the months ahead. Your ongoing support makes all the difference. Thank you to all that completed our parent survey. The information gathered from these surveys is always carefully considered and actions taken where needed. I am very proud to share that 98% of families would recommend our school to others.

A reminder to all parents and carers in year 6 that the deadline to apply for a secondary school place is 31st October. Full details can be found on MCAS under announcements.

The Autumn/Winter school dinner menu has been released and details can be found on our website. Meals can be ordered on MCAS from 3rd November 2025.

Surrey County Council is consulting on proposed changes to admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2027 and have asked us to share all the details with our school community. All information can be found below.

We said a fond farewell to Miss Flatley on Friday as she leaves GBS to pursue her dream career as a paediatric occupational therapist. We are very grateful for all of her hard work and commitment to our school and children and wish her the best of luck in her next steps.

After half term, poppies will be on sale at school. We suggest a donation of £1 - £2 and we welcome children to wear their poppies in the run up to Remembrance Day.

As always, thank you for being such an important part of our school community.

Warm wishes,

Miss Allen

Upcoming key dates

- 2nd November - **Back to school**
- 5th November - **EYFS/KS1 Forest school**
- 7th November - **Glow Disco**
- 14th November - **Children in Need - Children can wear pyjamas or spotty accessories with their uniform.**
- 24th November - **Open afternoon - 3.30pm-4.00pm - all parents are invited to come in and view their child's work**
- 3rd December - **EYFS & Pre-school Nativity - 9am - booking details will be sent nearer the time**
- 4th December - **EYFS & Pre-school Nativity - 2.30pm - booking details will be sent nearer the time**
- 9th December - **Christingle (Neptune & Saturn) 6.30pm- booking details will be sent nearer the time**
- 10th December - **Christingle (Mars & Venus) 6.30pm- booking details will be sent nearer the time**
- 10th December - **KS1 Nativity - 9am - booking details will be sent nearer the time**
- 11th December - **KS1 Nativity - 2.30pm - booking details will be sent nearer the time**

Class Assembly Dates - 9am start

November 7th 2025 - Kestrels

November 28th 2025 - Hawks

January 23rd 2026 - Hedgehogs

February 6th 2026 - Foxes

February 27th 2026 - Squirrels

March 13th 2026 - Eagles

April 24th 2026 - Dragonflies

May 1st 2026 - Bumblebees

May 15th 2026 - Rabbits

June 5th 2026 - Butterflies

June 19th 2026 - Ladybirds



Stars of the week

Our stars for this week are:

Ladybirds	Casper & George
Butterflies	Isaac & Luke
Bumblebees	Theo & Elsie
Dragonflies	Lucy & Kirill
Foxes	Amelie & Max
Squirrels	Anna & Evie
Hedgehogs	Alayah & Pierre
Rabbits	Sophia & Cole
Eagles	Flynn & Sennan
Hawks	Nam & Keelia
Falcons	Harry & Ava
Kestrels	Niamh & Charlie

**STARS
OF THE
WEEK**

Attendance

Congratulations to Dragonflies for winning the attendance certificate this week with 96.67% attendance!

MAC the attendance bear will visit the classroom this week.



Headteacher Awards

Martha and Matthew in Year 5 wrote detailed recounts of their school trip to Hampton Court, their presentation of their was excellent.

Noah C in Year 5 produced excellent scientific work about day and night and thought carefully about how he presented this information.

Michael John in Year 1 worked very hard to order the letters of the alphabet and his letter formation.

India in Year 2 created a thoughtful leaflet about the beach, she worked hard to create an effective layout and content.

Cecily and Theo in Year 1 were inspired by the story Oi Aardvark and wrote brilliant descriptive sentences about different animals.

Otilie in Year 2 wrote a wonderful version of Winnie the Witch.

Asher in Year 4 has made excellent progress so far this term in many areas of the curriculum and was particularly proud to show me his maths work.

Friday 17th October 2025



To recount our Hampton court visit

Yesterday all of year 9 got went on a trip to Hampton court, because we had been learning about Tudor times for really long.

The Gardens

After along 45 minute drive, we got to the gates of Hampton court. The gold leaves on the gates reflected into my eyes while I walked through the iron gates. We finally got to the kitchen garden, I was stunned by how many fruits they were and vegetables, and I saw a giant pumpkin I didn't even know pumpkins could get that big. I was shocked!

Tudor kitchen workshop

When we got to the kitchen, the lady told us after a feast 10-15 people were invited and every thing was swaper. then she told us that in the Tudor times roasting a steak in the oven was called baking not roasting. The meal was for bucking, bread and rice. In the next room, there was a real fire and one of my class mates got to turn the brooch that was to cook the meat. 15-14 year olds did this job for 15 hours! And then King Henry VIII would only say that & that was a great wage back then! she said. After that we had lunch under a tree. They we went to Henry's three apartments that were, Tudor games and sports. I didn't get time to play it and I don't remember the name of them. After that we all went home. I really enjoyed going back and I would try escape the maze because we didn't do it.

Friday 17th October



To recount the Hampton court visit

at 5 Hampton court Trip

Introduction

We went to Hampton court palace on Wednesday 15th October it was so much fun. It really helped us understand more about our history topic the Tudors - Henry the VIII and his six wives! Do you want to find out more about my trip? Well read on!

Garden

After a quick trip on the coach, we arrived at the colossal palace with red gates. First we went to the rose garden it was beautiful that was pink, purple, yellow, pink basically every colour you could think of! Next, we went to the kitchen garden that must have been at least a month's worth of food. We also spotted a weird shaped squash and a massive pumpkin as big as me. There were lots of herbs I recognised like lavender and rosemary. Then, we went to the wilderness garden with that, there were trees shaped like mushrooms. My favourite garden was the courtyard garden it had a ginormous fountain in the middle. There was a lovely view with a tree. We also spotted a grey heron that was when we and a group started acting like ducks.

Kitchen Workshop

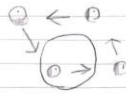
After we went to a workshop about the food in the Tudor times. We had to guess what was the most expensive food & guessed correctly it was sugar. The lady (who ran the workshop) told us about the 'brooch burner' it was a job for 1415 and she got paid 9 p a day it sounds bad but it was good. They also roasted nuts and accommodation. He like got all this by just turning meat on a spit! For me! She also told us they had almond milk but didn't have potatoes and had dinner at 10 am and supper at 4 pm.

Conclusion

I loved that school trip & learnt so many facts. I would want to go there again and experience it for longer.

Tuesday 14th October 2025

LO: To develop our understanding of the reasons for day and night



Right now in England it is daytime but in Australia it is nighttime. Australia is at the opposite side of the globe so if it is night for us it's day for them if it's day for us it's night for them.

How does that work? Can you try explain it scientifically?



Day and NIGHT Science!

- ☉ Jupiter is the biggest planet in our solar system. Jupiter is a gas giant.
 - ♃ Mars is 228 million miles away from the sun. To make a orbit round its axis it takes 9hr 50 mins
 - ♁ Earth is 149.6 million miles away from the sun. To make a orbit round its axis it take 24,37 hours
 - ♀ Venus is 108 million miles away from the sun. Venus' usual temperature is about 464°C
 - ☿ Mercury is 58 million miles away from the sun and Mercury is the smallest planet out of 8 planets.
 - ♆ Neptune is the coldest planet. Neptune is 15 497 million miles away from the sun
- The sun is 5000°C So don't get near it unless you want to sun burn or a crisp. Without the sun there will be no life on earth and no heat so you will die in seconds

Tuesday 22nd October 2025

LO: To sequence events from a story. Alphabetical Order

1. Write the missing letters of the alphabet

a. b c, d, e, f g, h, i, j k, l m, n, o p, q, r s, t, u, v w, x y, z

2. Order the pictures from the story



3. Which animal comes first? Circle one.

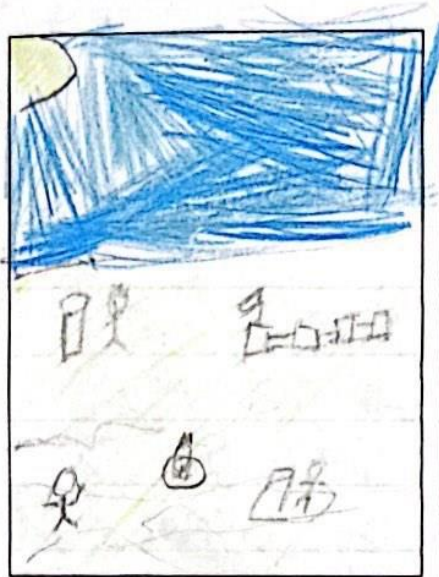
zebra llama donkey llama

4. What animal comes after the first?

llama zebra



The beach.



by India.



boat rides
At some benches you can see boat rides. Sometimes you can see all things very nice.

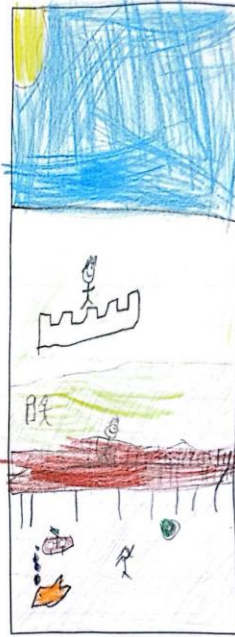
swimming
At the beach you can swim but in the UK the sea is cold. The sea is cold because the UK is far away from the equator.

pier
At some benches there is a pier. A pier has golf rides and there can be many fun.

Sand castles



At the beach
 you can
 build big
 sand castles.
 some beaches
 in the UK
 have stones.
 You need to
 check if you
 want to build
 sand castles.



23.10.25 To add whole numbers
 using the formal written
 method

- a $\begin{array}{r} 14682 \\ + 12145 \\ \hline 26827 \end{array}$ ✓
- b $\begin{array}{r} 15735 \\ + 11524 \\ \hline 27259 \end{array}$ ✓
- c $\begin{array}{r} 18528 \\ + 11357 \\ \hline 29885 \end{array}$ ✓
- d $\begin{array}{r} 24726 \\ + 13192 \\ \hline 37918 \end{array}$ ✓
- e $\begin{array}{r} 19376 \\ + 25413 \\ \hline 44789 \end{array}$ ✓
- f $\begin{array}{r} 23386 \\ + 25702 \\ \hline 49088 \end{array}$ ✓
- g $\begin{array}{r} 21628 \\ + 27254 \\ \hline 48882 \end{array}$ ✓
- h $\begin{array}{r} 36387 \\ + 13911 \\ \hline 50298 \end{array}$ ✗

- i $\begin{array}{r} 28517 \\ + 35241 \\ \hline 63758 \end{array}$ ✓
- j $\begin{array}{r} 32292 \\ + 35462 \\ \hline 67754 \end{array}$ ✓
- k $\begin{array}{r} 41365 \\ + 32827 \\ \hline 74192 \end{array}$ ✓
- l $\begin{array}{r} 26286 \\ + 46251 \\ \hline 72537 \end{array}$ ✓



20.10.21

9x table.

- 1 x 6 = 6
- 2 x 6 = 12
- 3 x 6 = 18
- 4 x 6 = 24
- 5 x 6 = 30
- 6 x 6 = 36
- 7 x 6 = 42
- 8 x 6 = 48
- 9 x 6 = 54
- 10 x 6 = 60
- 11 x 6 = 66
- 12 x 6 = 72

- 1 x 9 = 9
- 2 x 9 = 18
- 3 x 9 = 27
- 4 x 9 = 36
- 5 x 9 = 45
- 6 x 9 = 54
- 7 x 9 = 63
- 8 x 9 = 72
- 9 x 9 = 81
- 10 x 9 = 90
- 11 x 9 = 99
- 12 x 9 = 108

1a 9 x 9 = 81

b 4 x 9 = 36

c 3 x 9 = 27

d 6 x 9 = 54

e 8 x 9 = 72

f 7 x 9 = 63

2a 2 x 9 = 18

b 6 x 9 = 54

c 9 x 2 = 18

d 4 x 9 = 36



k

Koalas have gray fur and fluffy ears. ✓

Koala live in forests.

p

Penguins have black and white feathers.

Penguins live in the ice in Antarctica.

t

Rabbits have long ears. ✓

Rabbits have soft fur.

Rabbits live in burrows.

w

Whales have long tails. ✓

Whales live in seas.



Online Safety

Risks of using AI for mental health

AI chatbots and wellness apps are becoming increasingly popular, which may lead to your child accessing them to support their mental health.

What should I be concerned about?

- The information/advice given may not always be accurate.
- Privacy concerns about how data is collected and used.
- Children may use these apps rather than seeking help from an adult.

What can I do?

- Chat to your child regularly about what apps and websites they are using and why.
- Remind them AI is a tool and not a substitute for qualified professionals who provide tailored advice/support.
- Talk to them about how they should fact check information.

Check age ratings.

Further information: <https://stigmafreementalhealth.com/blog/supporting-youth-mental-health-with-ai-a-guide-for-parents-and-caregivers/>

Friends of Great Bookham School

🎉🌟 LAST WEEK FOR GLOW DISCO TICKETS! 🌟🎉 Get ready to light up the dance floor at our PTA Glow Disco on Friday, 7th November! It's going to be a night of music, moves, and glowing fun for all year groups:

🕒 4:00–5:00 PM – Infants 🕒 5:30–6:30 PM – Years 3 & 4 🕒 7:00–8:00 PM – Years 5 & 6

👤👤 Come dressed to dazzle in your brightest neon and glow gear — we'll bring the beats, you bring the energy! Don't forget to bring a bottle of water.

🍷 PLUS: Snack boxes packed with tasty treats to keep the party going are only available by pre order and cannot be purchased on the night

📄 Link in the comments www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofgbs

BE QUICK AS TICKET SALES CLOSE ON OCT 31ST

HELP NEEDED: If you can help at the disco please put ses the available slots near the bottom of page where you put your ticket in your basket

Let's make it a night to remember! ✨

📧 Ready to Join Us?

Email us at friends.gbs@sfet.org.uk or drop us a message on Facebook at **Friends of Great Bookham School**. Let's make this year unforgettable – together!

FRIENDS OF GREAT BOOKHAM SCHOOL

WELCOME

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our lovely school and invite you to join us!

We are a charitable organisation made up entirely of parent/carer volunteers from the school - just like you. We are responsible for working alongside the school to organise lots of fun things for the children. This is the list of events planned for this year:

- Glow disco - 7th November
- Christmas Fayre - 5th December
- Bake off and cake sale - 9th February
- Smarties challenge & Easter egg hunt - 27th March
- Sponsored bounce - 1st May
- Tea Towel fund raiser - May
- Colour run - 27th June

Soon available to book on www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofgbs

We always welcome anyone who would like to help out at our events, no matter how much or how little time you can spare. Please do sign up to be part of our volunteers group by contacting friends.gbs@sfet.org.uk



Consultation on admission arrangements for Surrey's community and voluntary controlled schools for 2027

Surrey County Council is consulting on proposed changes to admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2027.

Full details of the consultation and the changes being proposed are available at: [Consultation on the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2027](#).

Please make all parents with children at your provision aware of this consultation so they have the opportunity to respond, if they wish to. Please see the '[Summary of the consultation' flyer \(pdf\)](#) that you may wish to share.

The changes being proposed are as follows:

1. **Cranmere Primary School** – reduction in published admission number for Reception from 60 to 30
2. **The Grange Community Infant School** – reduction in published admission number for Reception from 90 to 60
3. **Chennestone Primary School** – reduction in published admission number for Year 3 from 40 to 30

4. **Manby Lodge Infant School** – introduction of a sibling link with Cleves School
5. **Oatlands School** – introduction of a sibling link with Cleves School
6. **Oakfield Junior School** – introduction of a feeder link from Fetcham Village Infant School
7. **Fetcham Village Infant School** and Oakfield Junior School – introduction of a reciprocal sibling link
8. **Closure of waiting lists** – bringing forward the date that waiting lists will close for the normal year of entry, from the end of the academic year to the end of December in the year of admission

The consultation will run until **Tuesday 18 November 2025**. Anyone wishing to submit their views should complete an online response form. Alternatively paper response forms are available by telephoning the Surrey Schools and Childcare Service on 0300 200 1004. Please note that only response forms which are fully completed with the respondent's name and address will be accepted.

After the closing date, responses will be collated and presented to Surrey County Council's decision-making Cabinet on 27 January 2026. Its decision will then need to be ratified by the full County Council on 3 February 2026. Once determined the final admission arrangements will be placed on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions.

Community and Local events



Great Bookham School is at the centre of a wonderful community and we are keen to support local events. Many children are members of clubs, associations and take part in activities outside of school.

Please click [here](#) to visit our community and local event page on the school website. Some of the information you will find include:

Barracudas Activity Day Camps

St Nicolas invites you Sing, Dance and Act! Workshop

Chobham Adventure Farm Magical Christmas Experience

October half term activities at Chertsey Museum

Stagecoach lesson in Bookham and Leatherhead

1st Bookham Beavers and Cubs who both have spaces

Leatherhead U6-U8 Soccer school

Cookery club in Bookham and Fetcham for children aged 2-11yrs

Bookham Colts football club

Weekly groups for babies - toddlers

Swimming lessons

What's on at the Mole Valley Hub

SEND Families meet up

Bookham Tennis Club

Aerial Tumbling Club