

# Great Bookham School Newsletter

## Issue 9 2025/26

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*Welcome to Issue 9 - 14th Nov 2025*

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*This week has been a wonderfully busy and uplifting one in school filled with meaningful events and celebrations.*

*We began on Monday with Anti-Bullying Week's Odd Socks Day where children and staff proudly wore their brightest mismatched socks to celebrate individuality and the unique qualities that make each of us special. We are proud to say that bullying is not a problem at GBS, with all our children embracing our school value of 'Love' for one another and being respectful of differences.*

*On Tuesday we gathered for our Remembrance Assembly. A heartfelt thank you goes to the Year 6 staff team and a huge well done to all the children involved for leading such a thoughtful and respectful service.*

*Later that evening many of our pupils represented the school at the Swimming Gala. They faced strong competition but showed great determination throughout. We are especially proud of our new Year 3 swimmers and it was lovely to see so many children taking part.*

*Wednesday brought two more highlights. The whole school embraced Positive Noticing Day focusing on recognising and celebrating the positive actions, efforts and qualities in one another. Children enjoyed writing thoughtful notes to classmates (and staff) spreading kindness throughout the day.*

*That afternoon our Year 6 team took part in a Netball match against The Raleigh School demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and representing the school beautifully. Their hard work paid off with an overall win – well done team!*

*We rounded off the week on Friday with Children in Need. Thank you to parents for supporting the day by sending children to school either wearing their pyjamas or spots, it really set the tone for the day! Pupils took part in a range of challenges involving the number 25 with lots of them focussing on getting the children moving. The whole school really enjoyed seeing recordings of the children who had joined in with learning 5 dance moves each day this week resulting a wonderful dance routine. There is still time to contribute to such a worthy cause, by using the link below:*

*<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=19563>*

*A gentle reminder that in line with safer food guidance in schools, any snacks such as grapes, tomatoes or olives must be cut up before being sent in with your child*

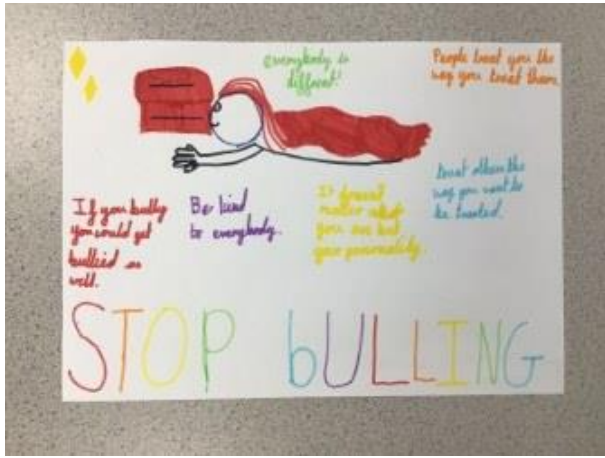
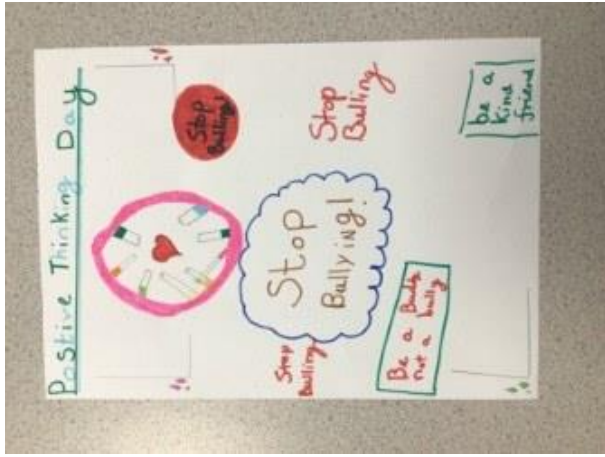
*Finally, with the rain becoming more frequent and colder weather approaching, please ensure your child has a **named** coat in school every day.*

*Thank you for helping to make this week such a special and positive week for the children, by supporting us in all these events. Have a lovely weekend!*

*Warm wishes,*

*Miss Allen*

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# Christmas Poetry Competition



Ho! Ho! Ho!  
Inviting all children to enter the  
**Christmas Poetry Competition**

The theme is...

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

**(KS1) Y1 -Y2**  
Write a poem describing a Christmas decoration of your choice.  
*Eg. Twinkling, shining and golden,  
The star sits proudly upon the tree,  
Gleaming like a bright beacon,  
For all the children to see.*

**(KS2) Y3 -Y6**  
Write a poem from the perspective of a Christmas decoration and use personification.  
*Eg. Shimmering softly, resplendent and bright,  
I am a Christmas crown of golden light.  
Watching the room and beaming from ear to ear,  
I guard the verdant tree, bringing festive cheer.*

*Rhyming or not,  
Be brave and give this a shot.  
Prizes galore will be won,  
Showcase your poem and have some fun!*

Finalists will present their poem in assembly.  
**DEADLINE is the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025.**  
Please hand in to Mrs Blair in Year 6.

## *Upcoming key dates*

- 17th - 21st November - **Road Safety Week**
- 19th November - **Owls visiting Reception**
- 24th November - **Open afternoon - 3.30pm-4.00pm - all parents are invited to come in and view their child's work**
- 1st December - **Wacky Hair Day in exchange for a Bottle**
- 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**
- 5th December - **Christmas Fair**
- 6th December - **Spirit of Christmas event in Bookham High Street**
- 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**
- 11th December - **Christmas Jumper day**
- 17th December - **Christmas Dinner**

### **Class Assembly Dates - 9am start**

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



### *Headteacher Awards*

Tom and Leo in Year R wrote fantastic sentences using excellent phonics and wonderful handwriting.

Georgia, Oliver, Ada, Mya and Alice were all chosen for Headteacher awards because they had modelled impeccable behaviour during assembly.

Hattie and Matilda in Year 5 were very proud to show me their excellent work in RE all about Kosher food. Both girls had thought very carefully about their presentation and could talk confidently about key vocabulary that they had learned.

Theo in Year 1 had joined in with the Wellbeing Ambassador's anti-bullying poster club and produced a fantastic and inspiring poster.

Niamh in Year 6 independently researched the KaiKoura earthquake and then presented her research in the form of an information page. So much care and consideration was given to the layout of her page and it was highly effective.

Scarlett in Year 6 wrote an excellent diary entry pretending to be Oliver Twist.

Skye in Year 2 was so kind when she offered to share her money to buy poppies for her friends.

Week 10 - WB. 11.11.24

CLL: To recognise and write the initial sounds in words

met



Nocturnal Animals



the fox is

red

Nocturnal Animals



The fox is  
red

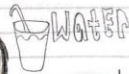


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Tuesday 4th November 2025 ♡  
To understand the importance  
of home in Judaism as shown  
through aspect of Dietary laws

A lovely kosher meal.

SPAGHETTI and  
MEATBALLS



bowl of grapes

What they are allowed to eat:

- Spaghtie
- meatballs
- grapes
- eggs
- water
- Sandwichs
- chicken drumstick
- lemon
- rice

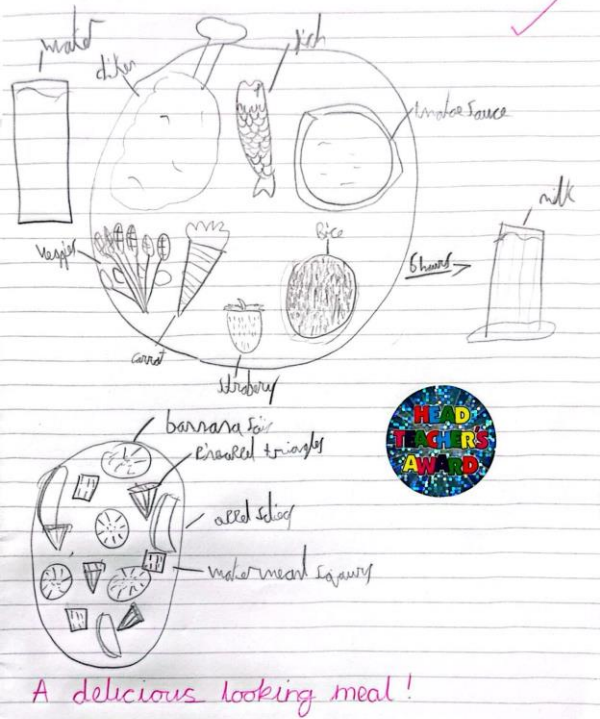


PUDDING  
FRUIT  
SALAD

What they are not allowed to eat:

- milk
- cheese
- cheese sandwich
- meat

Tuesday 14th November 2025  
 LO to understand the importance of hand in nutrition of chosen through  
 variety of dietary items



## Kaikōura Earthquake

The Kaikōura Earthquake was in 2016 in the South Island of New Zealand and was a 7.8 on the seismograph. It happened on the 14th November 2016 and was two minutes after midnight.

**What happened?**  
 During the earthquake sixty people were injured and sixty people needed emergency housing. Twenty thousand buildings were damaged or destroyed. Water, sewerage and power supplies were cut off. Close to a million cubic metres of rock and material fell onto the Coastal Transport Corridor.

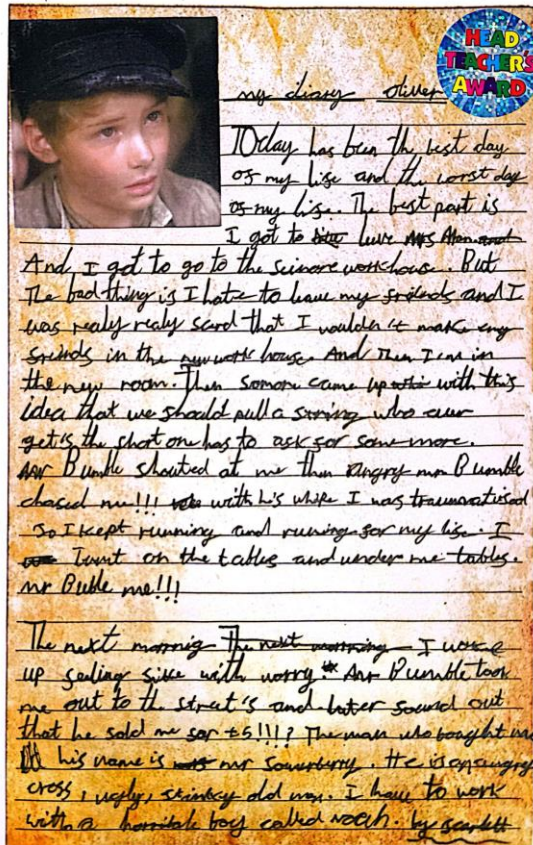
**Only 2 people died!**  
 Is an earthquake happens you must **DROP COVER HOLD**

**How do earthquakes actually happen?**  
 Earthquakes happen when tectonic plates move. The three types of tectonic plate movement are:

1. Divergent - which is when 2 plates move away from each other.
2. Convergent - which is when 2 plates collide.
3. Transform - which is when 2 plates rub against each other.

The earthquake would have been around 8 on a Richter scale.

**Red Tide**  
 This is considered a world record for the greatest number of seals to rupture in a single year.



## Online Safety

### Conversation Starter

Are you struggling to start a conversation with your child about online safety? Why not try discussing this scenario with them? What would they do, and how would you help them?

Amira and her classmates have a WhatsApp group. One evening, Amira notices that some group members are sharing unkind jokes and memes about another student, Leo, who isn't part of the group. The messages start as playful but quickly turn mean-spirited. Amira feels uncomfortable but isn't sure what to do. So, what should Amira do?

First, Amira should not join in with the mean messages. Then, although difficult, she could speak up in the group by saying something kind like: "Let's not be mean. This isn't fair to Leo." Finally, she should tell a trusted adult.

Discuss how group chats should be a fun space for everyone, not a platform for hurting others. Emphasise that being part of a group chat means we all have a responsibility to keep it respectful.






If you see something that doesn't feel right, like Amira did, it's okay to speak up or talk to a trusted adult.


Remind your child that they won't be punished if they tell you something like this. Remember, even if Leo doesn't see the messages, it's still wrong to be unkind. Real legends lift each other — they don't tear others down.

## Friends of Great Bookham School

### **Christmas Fair – Save the Date! 5th December**

Get ready for a festive celebration! Our annual Christmas Fair will take place on 5th December, and promises to be a magical event for the whole family.

Here's what's in store:-  Wonka Bars – Will you find a golden ticket?-  Jolly Jars – Packed with surprises and treats-  Bottle Tombola – Try your luck and win a prize-  Raffle – Fantastic prizes to be won-  Hot Chocolate Bar – Warm up with a delicious festive drink

 Plus, we're excited to launch our Virtual Balloon Race – a fun and eco-friendly way to join the festivities from anywhere!


Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details. We can't wait to see you there!


### **CHRISTMAS JUMPERS**

Get ready to spread some festive cheer — Christmas Jumper Day is on 11th December!



We're collecting Christmas-themed clothing donations for the next week Anything goes — jumpers, hats, pyjamas, and more! All sizes welcome.

 Please hand your donations to your child's class teacher. Stay tuned right here to find out when we'll be selling the donated items to raise money for our school — it's a great way to support a good cause and grab something festive!

Thank you for your generosity and holiday spirit!  

### **JOLLY JARS**

Jolly Jars Ahoy!!! If you are looking for a great after school activity to do this week why don't you make some jolly jars?

Got excess Halloween sweets that you don't want your kids to have? Jolly jars are a perfect way to get rid of pass them off.

All you need to do is clean out some jars and fill them with anything at all that kids will enjoy. Kids can spend time decorating the jars to make them look fabulous. At the Christmas fair children can buy a ticket to win a jar with the corresponding number.

Please hand jars to the teachers there will be prizes for the class with the most jars

### Ready to Join Us?

Email us at [friends.gbs@sfet.org.uk](mailto: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!



## 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](http://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:

Chobham Adventure Farm Magical Christmas Experience

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