

# Great Bookham School Newsletter Issue 25 2025/26

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*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*It might be the final week of term, but that hasn't stopped us squeezing in even more exciting events for the children to round off what has been a very special spring term.*

*At the weekend, seventeen children from our school took the opportunity to join the Leatherhead Ladies team for their Sunday match. The children were able to meet and greet the team, had the chance to practise some of their football skills with the players and then walked out with them as mascots. It was brilliant to see so many children attend the event and represent our school so proudly. Thank you to the parents and carers who supported this by taking their children along to be part of such a memorable experience.*

*On Monday evening, I felt immensely proud of our Year 5 children who represented the school at Dorking Halls for the Surrey Primary Singing Festival. They sang beautifully as part of a choir of more than 200 pupils from across Surrey, showcasing a fantastic mix of songs from different eras and from around the world. One of my personal highlights was watching them boogie away to La Bamba – it was such a happy moment to see just how much they were enjoying themselves. As a thank you, the children enjoyed a very special Easter treat with me in my office! Thank you to all the parents and carers who made time to attend, support the performance and purchase tickets. My thanks also go to Miss Newark and Mrs Blackwell for preparing the children so well, and a special thank you to Mrs Jupp for her support on the night.*

*On Wednesday, the entire school, including some pre-school children, trotted through the village to take part in a very special Easter service at St Nicolas' Church. It was heart-warming to see the older children walking with and sitting alongside their 'special friends', filling the church with fantastic singing and sharing their learning about why Easter is such an important celebration for the Christian community.*

*Year 2 had a fantastic day exploring the Tower of London this Thursday. The children took part in an exciting workshop about the Great Fire of London inside the historic Tower itself,*

*then marvelled at the Crown Jewels and kept their eyes peeled for the famous ravens. They also enjoyed sketching the Tower and London Bridge after watching the Changing of the Guard at the King's House — a real highlight! We'd like to extend a big thank you to our wonderful parent helpers, whose support made the trip run so smoothly. The children were an absolute credit to the school; their behaviour, curiosity, and enthusiasm throughout the day were truly exceptional.*

*On Thursday, twenty children from Years 5 and 6 attended a prestigious event, taking part in the Indoor Athletics county finals for the Surrey Games. Before we had even arrived, we were incredibly proud that the children had qualified as one of the top eleven schools in the county. They continued to shine throughout the event, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and determination. The children had a wonderful time, and I am sure it will be an experience they remember for many years to come. Thank you to Mrs Jupp and Miss Jupp for leading the event and preparing the children so well.*

*Also, Jude, Max, Ross and Tommy from year 4 represented our school at a tennis tournament, hosted by GBS at Leatherhead Tennis Club. Head Coach, Alex, organised the running of the event alongside his other coaches, who supported and encouraged the children in their play. Teams from South Farnham School, The Raleigh and The Greville took part and we were delighted to come first! Thank you to Mrs Johnston for organising this opportunity for our children.*

*Today, we were very lucky to have a visit from the Easter Bunny, who provided the children with an exciting Easter hunt. The older children worked alongside the younger year groups to search for images of famous bunnies and hunt for letters that made up an egg-citing word! Thank you to the Friends of Great Bookham School for organising this for our children. All children have also been sent home with a 'Smarties Challenge' to enjoy over the Easter break.*

*Following my recent communication regarding the Chair of Governors role at Great Bookham School, I would like to share that Seonaid Chappell will be taking up the post of Chair of Governors while we seek to appoint a permanent Chair. Thank you, Seonaid, for stepping into this role and for your continued support of the school.*

*I am also pleased to share that from the 1st April the age range of the school has been adjusted to 3 years to 11 years to accommodate the pre-school; which was initially opened as an independent setting. Please note that this change has no impact for parents and carers and our admission process remain the same.*

*Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for parent consultations. It was wonderful to see so many of the children's successes celebrated. We very much look forward to providing the children with just as much fun and learning during the summer term.*

*I hope that you have a fantastic Easter break and look forward welcoming you all back to school on Monday 13th April.*

*Miss Allen*

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### *GBS Star awards*

Our stars for this term are:

Reception - Jessie

Year 1 - Tabitha

Year 2 - Lucy

Year 3 - Annabel

Year 4 - Olive

Year 5 - Alfie

Year 6 - Layla

### *GBS Sports awards*

Our sports stars for this term are:

Reception - Jasper

Year 1 - Cecily

Year 2 - Everly

Year 3 - Ben

Year 4 - Leo

Year 5 - Sennen

Year 6 - Finbar

## Attendance

Congratulations to Squirrels for winning the attendance certificate this week with 99.6% attendance!

MAC the attendance bear will visit their classrooms next term.



## Parking Reminder for Parents and Carers

We continue to experience ongoing challenges with parking around the school, and we have recently received several complaints from our local community and from patients at Fairfield Medical Centre. These concerns relate to some GBS parents parking inconsiderately, as well as using the surgery car park, which is not permitted.

Please can we kindly ask all parents and carers to:

- Park considerately and ensure driveways, pavements and access points are kept clear.
- Do not park in the surgery car park at all times.
- Walk to school where possible, or use a *park and stride* approach by arriving a little earlier and parking further away.
- Refrain from parking in front of the Griffin Way entrance gates, as this forces families to walk in the road, creating a dangerous situation for our children.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in helping us keep all members of our school community safe.

## Online Safety

Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content

- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams

What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have: <https://compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/online-resources/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/EE>

Online Safety HubEE has published age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up.

You can read the full guidance here: <https://ee.co.uk/internet-online-safety>

Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then 'Which?' provide an overview of some options available: <https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

## National Year of Reading Booklist

### Best Children's Books for the National Year of Reading

The Department for Education has teamed up with the National Literacy Trust to launch a [National Year of Reading in 2026](#) to revitalise reading engagement across the UK. We believe that introducing pupils to fresh, contemporary voices and modern storytelling is one of the most effective ways to build a vibrant Reading for Pleasure culture.

Throughout the year there will be lots of reading focussed events and activities at GBS - watch this space! To help you navigate the National Year of Reading with the latest titles, we have highlighted these standout picks from the 'books for topics' website -

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/reading-for-pleasure/national-year-of-reading-2026/>

- **EYFS & Year 1:** For our youngest learners, the recently published *The Biggest Breakfast* has a timeless and fun appeal. For a barrel of laughs, younger primary children will also love [We Are Definitely Human](#) and [Dotty Doughnut](#).
- **Year 2:** As children move towards independent reading, new adventures with [Luna Grace](#) or [Watts & Whiskerton](#) serve as a brilliant “bridge”. These titles are a core recommendation for readers ready for [early chapter books](#).
- **Year 3:** Visual literacy is a major focus for 2026, and the recently released [Pablo and Splash: Frozen in Time](#) is already a firm favourite. This graphic novel is a highlight of our [Graphic Novel Reading List](#), offering a high-speed, modern entry point for all readers.
- **Year 4:** For laugh-out-loud relatable fiction, we highly recommend the recent release [The Misadventures of Mina Mahmood: School Trip](#). It holds a prominent spot on our [Year 4 Recommended Reads](#) list. Another fun choice is [Traitor Island](#), which offers a choose-your-own-adventure style twist that our review panel described as a ‘an interactive and immersive read.’
- **Year 5:** Developing stamina in upper KS2 is made easier with contemporary hits like [Bobby Bains Plays a Blinder](#). This book is a key part of our [Year 5 Reading for Pleasure list](#), offering inclusive, modern storytelling that resonates with today’s pupils.
- **Year 6:** For older readers who crave high-stakes tension, the latest from Christopher Edge, [Escape Room: Game Zero](#), is an essential pick which combines cutting-edge themes with intense narrative drive.

Beyond fiction, this collection includes recent non-fiction gems that bring subjects to life. [There Was a Roman in Your Garden](#) is a fresh addition to our [Romans Topic Booklist](#), while the new [Hunt for the Golden Scarab](#) offers a thrilling hook for those exploring the [Ancient Egypt theme](#). For budding KS1 scientists, the recently published [The Great Pollination Investigation](#) fits perfectly within our [Science & STEM book recommendations](#).

### *Upcoming key dates*

13th April - Back to School

13-17th April - Hand Smarties Challenge forms and money to teachers

20th - 21st - Year 4 Residential trip to Henley Fort  
21st April - Year 6 trip to Sky Studios  
25th April - Billy's Bash (please see details below)  
4th May - Bank Holiday  
11th - 14th May - Year 6 SATS  
14th - 15th May - EYFS & Year 1 Balance bike workshops  
15th May - Year 3 trip to Nower Wood  
18th - 21st May - Year 6 Residential to Lower Grange Farm  
25th - 29th May - Half term  
11th June - Reception trip to Windsor Castle  
10th - 12th June - Year 5 Residential trip to Hooke Court  
15th - 19th June - Year 6 Bikeability  
22nd June - District Sports  
24th June - KS1/EYFS Sports day - AM  
25th June - KS2 Sports day - AM  
27th June - Colour run  
29th June - Open afternoon  
1st July - Bump up day  
3rd July - EYFS Parent lunch  
3rd July - KS2 Rock Bottom Theatre performance  
17th July - Last day of term

**Class Assembly Dates - 9am start**

24th April 2026 - Dragonflies  
1st May 2026 - Bumblebees  
15th May 2026 - Rabbits  
5th June 2026 - Butterflies

19th June 2026 - Ladybirds



### *Headteacher Awards*

Matilda in Year 5 has been trying so hard in maths and challenged herself by doing extra maths in her own time.

Lucas in Year 4 modelled his mathematical and logical thinking when learning about perimeter and area.

Jess, Evelyn, Isla, Seren and Charlie in Year 3 wrote rhyming number poems. I was so impressed with the language that they used and their humour!

Darcey in Year 3 has been working scientifically by tracking the life cycle of a plant.

Olivia in Year 3 produced a beautiful piece of work about how Easter is celebrated in different countries across the world.

River and Eliie in Year 4 were able to talk about the water cycle confidently and produced informative diagrams.

Theo and Matilda in Year 4 have been working hard in RE. Matilda wrote an excellent piece about The 8 Fold Path of Buddhism and Theo had wrote fabulous ideas of how we could be helpful.

Kaydee in Year 5 wrote an excellent information text all about The Titanic.

24.3.26 at home

Matilda millars  
Math Maths

Key: when you are doing your next line always remember zero goes first

$22 \times 6 = 132$  Answer 2112  
 $22 \times 9 = 1980$   
 $1980 + 132 = 2112$

$27 \times 8 = 216$   
 $27 \times 9 = 2430$   
 $2430 + 216 = 2646$

$62 \times 9 = 558$   
 $62 \times 2 = 1240$   
 $1240 + 558 = 1798$  Answer 1798

$83 \times 9 = 747$  Answer 3320  
 $83 \times 4 = 3320$  Answer 4067  
 $3320 + 747 = 4067$

$64 \times 8 = 512$   
 $64 \times 2 = 1280$   
 $1280 + 512 = 1792$  Answer 1792

Miss Allen says Well Done!

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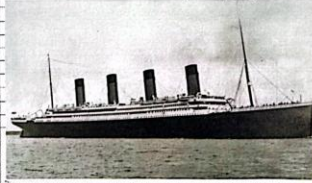
## The Titanic

### The Ship

In 1909 the massive, glamorous Titanic was built. That had great effort put in to it, it took roughly 3 years to make and about 7.5 million pounds to make. The gigantic passenger ship was made out to be unsinkable due to how it was built. The 882 ft ship had: 2 barsbers, a gym, heated pool, 4 restaurants. Its first and last sail was from Southampton to New York now buried away in the deep, dark ocean.

### The Disaster

After, foolishly ignoring 6 ice warnings, the famous ship suddenly collided into the 1.5 million ton ice berg. Waiting for tragedy it took roughly 3 hours to fully submerge under ice cold water killing 1500 people, thankfully 712 people survived. The lifeboats



Were extremely important there were only 20 life boats that could

Miss Allen says Well Done!

CS Scanned with CamScanner

could fit 64 people but they only filled them up half way because of classism and people didn't believe it was sinking. A stern rule said ladies and children go first. Saw a passenger Doreil Buckley sneakingly dressed up as a woman to get on one of the lifeboats. This is a tragic disaster that everyone knows today. So with new laws hopefully nothing like this happen again.

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Thursday 26th March 2026

Greece  
 In Greece they celebrate Easter by throwing their old pots out by the window. On Holy Saturday people go to the church to see the women bring the candle to light for the church & Holy parties.

UK  
 In the UK they celebrate Easter by hunting for eggs on Easter Sunday. On Holy Saturday people have for the church. Some people go to church. It is popular to have a roast dinner too.

Italy  
 In Italy they celebrate Easter by the Pope washing a sheep's feet to represent Jesus and his 12 disciples during the last supper. On Easter Sunday many people attend Saint Peter's Basilica to hear the Pope's message at 8pm.

Germany  
 In Germany they celebrate Easter by decorating a special tree called an Easter tree with colorful eggs.

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USA  
 In the USA they celebrate Easter by going to the White House in Washington DC because they have an Easter egg roll every year. Recently celebrations have been there for 100 years.

Australia  
 In Australia they celebrate Easter by eating chocolate bunnies as well as chocolate rabbits and wait for the Easter bunny to arrive. Rabbits are considered as good in Australia.

Scotland  
 In Scotland they celebrate Easter by having an egg rolling competition where children decorate their eggs and rolling them down a grassy hill. Whoever's egg rolls the furthest wins the prize. Some people like to take their eggs away from their towns.



Miss Allen  
 2021  
 Well Done!



Miss Allen  
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2.3.26-9.3.26

to know the buddhists followed the 8gato  
 Right inten Mindgullnes right action right speech

we need to think that we should think of others be for yourself  
 Mind gullnes going about the past and focusing on the present.  
 right actions Respecting others and not being physical.  
 right speech is saying kind things and not criticizing people.

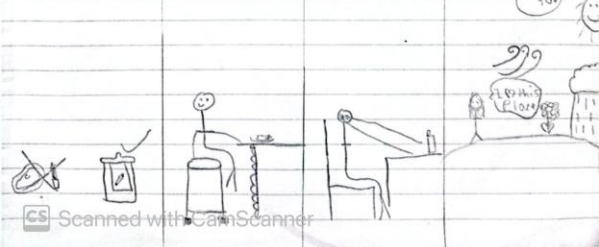


Right lively-hood  
 Right lively hood is choosing jobs that help others and case no harm

Right effort  
 Right effort is not being the preety est or the wealthy est and just being happy or helping

Right concentration  
 Right concentration is when you focus on something you really see it.

Right understanding  
 Right understanding is seeing the world how it really want it to be.



to cheat, do a show up  
 can't do it miss that  
 or petekata with one

Monday  
 on Monday you could donate £5.50 to 5 charity or you could tidy your bedroom and put a year

Tuesday  
 on Tuesday you could give a present to your mum and give your cat dinner

Wednesday  
 on Wednesday you could visit a friend or stay at a friend's house

Thursday  
 on Thursday you could get a stamp for the paper or give a card to your friend

Friday  
 on Friday you could go to a friend's house and play a board game

Saturday  
 on Saturday you could go to a friend's house and play a board game

Sunday  
 on Sunday you could go to a friend's house and play a board game

Miss Allen says Well Done!

26-03-26

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
Ten pretty flowers	
all in a line,	line
one got squashed	
then there were <u>NINE!</u>	nine ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
NINE pretty flowers	
all by the gate,	gate
one got picked	
then there were <u>EIGHT!</u>	eight ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
EIGHT pretty flowers	
trying to find seven,	seven
one got blown away	
then there were <u>SEVEN!</u>	seven ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
SEVEN pretty flowers	
with some bees,	bees
one got so much	
then there were <u>SIX!</u>	six ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
SIX pretty flowers	
like a bee have,	hive
one got stung	
then there were <u>FIVE!</u>	five ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
FIVE pretty flowers	
just at the door,	door
one got eaten by the dog	
then there were <u>FOUR!</u>	four ✓

Miss Allen says  
 Now Seren, an incredible rhyming poem! :)

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26.03.26

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
FOUR pretty flowers	
lucky a bee	bee
one got pulled out the soil,	
then there were <u>THREE!</u>	three ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
THREE pretty flowers	
red yellow, blue,	blue
yellow horned up at the sun then	sun
then there were <u>TWO!</u>	two ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
TWO pretty flowers	
both in the sun	sun
one burnt to crisp	
then there was <u>ONE!</u>	one ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
ONE pretty flower	
dreaming of a hero,	hero
HE got savaged	
then there was <u>ZERO!</u>	zero ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
HEAR the combs	
the farmer wife	wife
some magic dust...	
is rings them back to <u>LEEE!</u>	leee ✓

Start a new line, for every rhyme	Rhyming word
Ten pretty flowers	
happy as combs, can be	combs
and "it's time to make some honey"	
said a little bee!	

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Ten little tigers going out to play,  
 Nine little lions saying "hip hooray!"  
 Eight baby monkeys swinging past,  
 Seven boxing black panthers running very fast!  
 Six wood peckers pecking wood up high,  
 Five monkeys swinging through the sky.  
 Four little mushrooms leaning around,  
 Three baby elephants making a huge sound!  
 Two little mice sneaking under the gate,  
 One slow sloth always running very late!  
 Now all asleep quietly inside,  
 Time to wake up full of pride!

Miss Allen  
says  
Well Done!

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Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2020

## My counting poem

Ten little pig's going out to play,  
 Nine little turtles saying "hip hooray!"  
 Eight cheeky ducks quacking past,  
 Seven athletes running very fast!  
 Six peacocks jumping very high,  
 Five birds flying in the sky,  
 Four little rabbits limping all around,  
 Three lions making a big sound!  
 Two sneaky people sneaking the gate,  
 One slow person was running late  
 Now all asleep quietly inside.

Miss Allen  
says  
Well Done!

Time to wake up full of pride,  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

My poem

Ten cheery children played One day

Nine cheery children said hit' booby

Eight cheery children roll past.

Seven cheery children till extra fast.

Six cheery children fly to the sky

Five cheery till around

4 cheery then heared a Big! sound

2 cheery then played a round the gate

1 cheery then played out extra shade.

Miss Allen  
says  
Well Done!

CS Scanned with CamScanner

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

My poem

TEN little children,

standing in a line,

one ran off, ✓

then there were NINE.

NINE little children,

all were tubs,

one got crushed,

then there were EIGHT. ✓

EIGHT little children,

traveling to Devon,

one fell over a cliff,

then there were SEVEN. ✓

Miss Allen  
says  
Well Done!

CS Scanned with CamScanner



SEVEN little children,

fixing some sticks,

one fell in the glue,

then there were SIX. ✓

SIX little children,

going for a dive,

Oh no!

one drowned, ~~it~~

then there were FIVE. ✓

FIVE little children,

breaking the law,

one got caught. ✓

then there were four.

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FOUR little children,

chasing a bee,

one got stung,

ouch!

then there were three.

THREE little children,

doing a poo,

one fell down the loop. ✓

then there were TWO.

TWO little children,

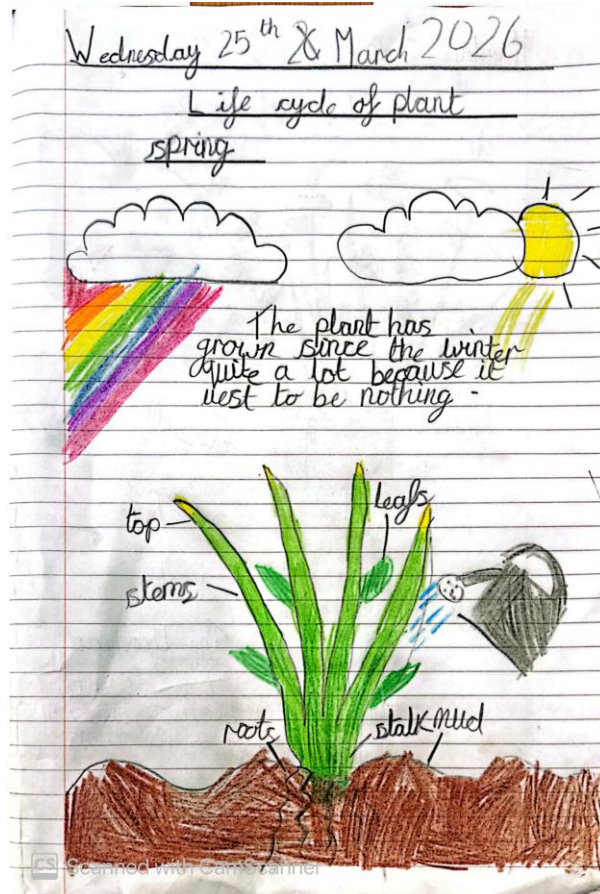
writing a story,

one said done,

then there was one. ✓

An excellent and very creative  
rhyming poem!

CS Scanned with CamScanner



## Friends of Great Bookham School

### Smarties Challenge – Friday 27th March

Which class will raise the most in 2026? Here are a few ideas to get you started: sponsored parkrun, home art exhibition, lemonade stand, help with the washing-up, learn words in another language...and get sponsored for these by a grown-up! Return all money raised in your empty Smarties tube, or donate online. Every contribution will make a huge difference towards PTA school projects this year, thank you so much!

### Colour run

Come one come all, the colour run will be upon us in 3 short months. 27th June is the date set so please put this in your diary now as it will be another fantastical feast of colour and fun. More will be revealed. We cannot wait to share the details with you all.

Thank you for your continued support.

## 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:

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

London TKD

Platforms Sports Coaching - February half term camps

Online talk by Jane Keyworth - Supporting a child with ADHD

Parenting puzzle course - Epsom & Ewell Family Centre

Leatherhead Football club open sessions

Billy's Bash on Saturday 25th April 2pm-7pm

Your Space Therapies

Quiz trail Easter Family Fun

Code camp

Decreasing depression

Bookham Baptist Church Easter family fun

Leatherhead Girls cricket

Fetcham Hawks Netball

Chertsey Museum Easter Holiday activities

Understanding Teens talk

Colin Bull Swimming lessons

Ripley Cricket Club

YMCA transition to secondary

Surrey Football coaching Easter camps

Multisport development centre Easter camps

Platform sports Easter Holiday



## Determination of Surrey's admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools - 2027

The admission arrangements for Surrey's community and voluntary controlled schools for 2027 were determined by Surrey's Full Council on 3 February 2026. The following documents, which set out Surrey's arrangements, are available in full on the Surrey County Council website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/arrangements-and-outcomes/determined-arrangements](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/arrangements-and-outcomes/determined-arrangements).

- Admission arrangements for community & voluntary controlled schools
- APPENDIX 1 - Published admission numbers (PANs)
- APPENDIX 2 - Schools which will operate shared sibling priority for admissions
- APPENDIX 3 - Catchment map for Stamford Green Primary School
- APPENDIX 4 – Catchment map for Walton on the Hill Primary School
- APPENDIX 5 - Supplementary form for children applying on the basis of social/medical need
- APPENDIX 6 - Supplementary form for children of staff

As part of the determination the following changes have been applied:

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

Any person or body who considers that any aspect of these admission arrangements are unlawful or not in compliance with the School Admissions Code or relevant law relating to admissions, can make an objection to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator. Objections must be referred by 15 May 2026 and further information on how to make an objection can be obtained from the [Office of the Schools Adjudicator - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) website.