

Great Bookham School Newsletter

Issue 34 2025/26

Dear Parents and Carers,

*It has been wonderful to see children bringing in their jolly jars for the **Friends Colour Run event on Saturday 27th June**. A reminder that everyone can wear **wacky hair on Friday 26th June** in exchange for **bringing in a bottle for the tombola**.*

Our Year 6 pupils have been taking part in Bikeability throughout the week, building their confidence and developing essential life skills as they learned how to cycle safely on the road. We are very proud of their commitment and enthusiasm.

Our Year 5 and 6 girls also represented the school brilliantly at their cricket event, demonstrating excellent teamwork -well done to all involved and thank you to Miss Jupp for supporting them.

Meanwhile, our Year 6 tennis team achieved fantastic success at their tennis tournament, coming first overall. Thank you to Mrs Johnston for accompanying and supporting the team.

GBS have really enjoyed taking part in a Trust wide design technology marble run competition. The Marble Run finals were held at Highfield South Farnham School and we were delighted to send the GBS finalists to showcase their fantastic design and technology skills. Our pupils demonstrated creativity, problem solving and perseverance and they were delighted to be awarded 'Most Creative Design'. A special congratulations to Alice, Nell, Neve, Jess and Lucy for making it through to the finals. Thank you to Mrs Jupp for organising such an engaging event and to Miss Goodchild for attending the final competition and supporting our pupils.

We ended the week on a real high, beginning with the Ladybirds' class assembly on Friday morning. This was their very first assembly and they were simply wonderful, confidently showcasing their learning on daffodils, The Hungry Caterpillar, pirates and so much more. The "Days of the Week" song was a particular highlight and was performed brilliantly. Thank

you to Mrs Gandhi and Mrs Williams for preparing the children for such a special event and to all the parents who came along to support.

On Friday afternoon, we were delighted to welcome our new Reception children for their first settling session. It was so lovely to see them exploring, playing and beginning to feel at home in their new classrooms ahead of September. A big thank you the Infant staff for providing such a warm and friendly welcome to our newest members of the school community.

Today was a highlight of the year as our school took part in Bookham Village Day. Our pre-school shone with their wonderful display of their favourite story, Commotion in the Ocean. Dressed as ocean creatures, they looked simply fabulous and secured a well-deserved first place in their category. The main school brought to life Pirates Love Underpants, doing a fantastic job of showcasing the story while singing at the top of their lungs! We are incredibly proud to have been awarded second place. We will include photos of the parade in next week's newsletter for you all to see.

Next week brings us lots of outdoor and sporting events, including a knee-boarding trip to Thorpe Lakes, a Year 3 and 4 PhysiFun festival, a Year 6 cricket tournament and EYFS, KS1 and KS2 Sports Days. It is due to be a hot and sunny week and we will be continually risk assessing each event to ensure that they go ahead safely. Please ensure your child has a full water bottle with them each day, a hat/baseball cap and have applied sun cream before coming to school. If you wish to send your child into school with sun cream, please ensure that it is named and remind your child to not apply it to their peers as we do have children with allergies.

Have a lovely rest of the weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Miss Allen

Attendance reminder

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authorisation for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

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.

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

24th June - KS1/EYFS Sports day - **Starting shortly after 9am straight after registration - parents to enter and exit via our Lower Road gate only.**

25th June - KS2 Sports day - **Starting shortly after 9am straight after registration - parents to enter and exit via our Lower Road gate only.**

26th June Wacky Hair Day - in exchange for a bottle for the PTA Bottle Tombola

27th June - Colour run

1st July - Bump up day

3rd July - EYFS Parent lunch

3rd July - KS2 Rock Bottom Theatre performance

10th July - Yr6 French cafe

16th July - Year 6 Leavers assembly

17th July - Last day of term



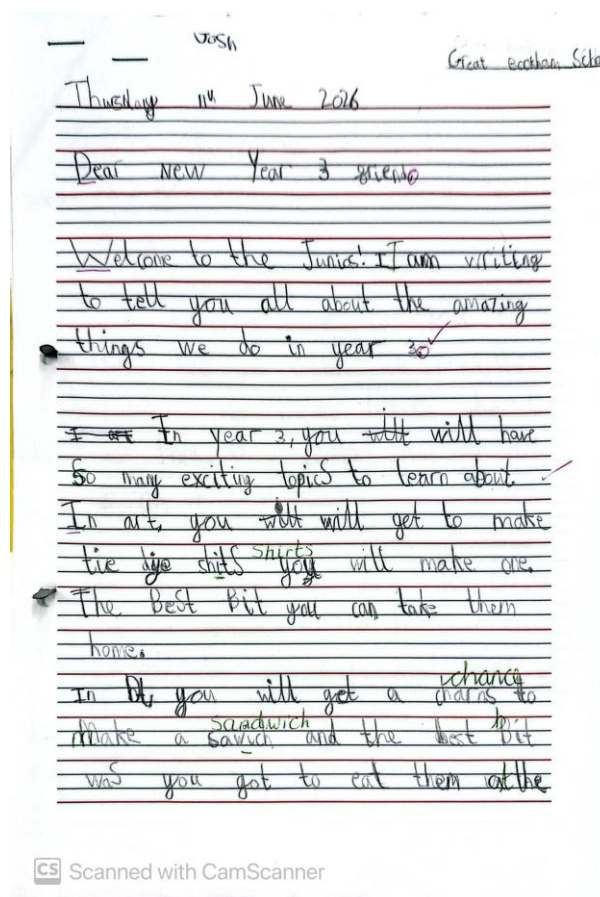
Headteacher Awards

Josh in Year 3 wrote a thoughtful and engaging letter to children in Year 2 all about what they have to look forward to when they join the year group. What a wonderful way to support younger pupils.

Jessica and Alya in Year R shared with me their wonderful writing and learning about bees. I was so impressed by the range of facts they could remember and their confident use of phonics in their writing.

Shakira in Year 6 produced a fantastic information page all about evacuation during WW2. Her presentation was excellent and she should be very proud of her work.

Florence, Lucy, Ada and Freya in Year 2 performed their poetry beautifully, showing great confidence and expression after spending time writing and rehearsing their pieces.



JOSH

end! In Science we got to ^{le} plant ^{le} Sunflower
Seeds. ~~You~~ you will get a chance to ~~plant~~
it. your own seed.

The teachers are so kind because
they help us when we need ^{the support}
teachers are caring because when I
am here ^{so} they comfort me and check
I am ok. _{check}

In Putser ~~farm~~ we made jewellery
and sat around a fire. In Nover wood
we got to do mini beast hunting
blind folded like woodhouse and pond
~~dipping~~ dipping ✓
A good letter Josh!

CS Scanned with CamScanner

hope you have a ^{great} great time in year
3 with the wonderful teachers. ✓

From Josh

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Bee



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Miss Allen
says
Well Done!



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CS Scanned with CamScanner

Bee

Miss Allen
says
Well Done!



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Thursday 14th June 2014
To: To explain evacuation

EVACUATION

Why was evacuation introduced?
The British government was worried that a war was being fought when Hitler came to power in 1933. They were afraid that British children and towns would be targeted for bombing raids by aircraft.

How were they evacuated?
By train and bus.

Who was evacuated?
School children, mothers with babies under five, some disabled people.

What did they take with them?
Bags: a vest, a pair of pants, a pair of trousers, 2 pairs of socks, 6 handkerchiefs, pillowcase of bedding, boots or shoes, flannel, wash, comb, toothbrush, pocket of nuts, any biscuits, apples.

What were they evacuated to?
In smaller towns and villages in countryside. Some children were sent to stay with relatives outside in the countryside, but most were sent to live with strangers.

How many were evacuated during war?
By the end of second world war over 3 million people (mostly children) were evacuated.

When were they evacuated to?
Just started in 1938. Most evacuated on Thursday 1st Sept 1939.

At the arrival:
The children were all moved to the countryside. They were very tired, hungry and uncertain whether they would ever see their families again.

Country side

Bag Bag Hat Book

Informative & beautifully presented. Well done!

Friends of Great Bookham School

🎉 JOLLY JAR CHALLENGE 🎉

Please donate a Jolly Jar for the Summer Fair. Simply decorate and fill a jar with fun treats and hand it to your teacher by 26th June. 🏆 A prize will be awarded to the class that brings in the most jars! 🏆 Every jar donated helps support the PTA and makes the fair even more exciting for the children 🧡

WACKY HAIR DAY

On 26th June the school will be taking part in wacky hair day in exchange for contribution of a bottle for the bottle tombola. Please bring bottles on 26th June. Anything goes but all bottles must be in date and unopened.

COLOUR RUN

Tickets now available for the colour run on 27th June!! Buy your tickets here at www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofgbs Whether you are, or are unable to attend then a great way to support us is to buy a raffle ticket. We have great prizes such as tickets to Bockets, Hobbledown, Fishers Farm, Hampton Court Palace, Wisley Gardens, Holiday camps, jewellery and much more. You can buy your tickets here <https://go.rally.com/gbs>

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

The Grange Spring Fair

1st Bookham Beavers and Cubs who both have spaces

Weekly groups for babies - toddlers

Swimming lessons

SEND Families meet up

Bookham Tennis Club

Aerial Tumbling Club

London TKD

Leatherhead Football club open sessions

Your Space Therapies

Decreasing depression

Leatherhead Girls cricket

Understanding Teens talk

Colin Bull Swimming lessons

YMCA transition to secondary

Juniper Hall Family Events

Bookham Colts Girls Wildcat Programme