Great Bookham School Newsletter Issue 1 2026/2027

Great Bookham School
The Continual Pursuit of Excellence

Dear Parents and Carers,

A really warm welcome back to all our children, families and staff as we begin a new academic year together. We hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful summer break and has returned feeling refreshed, rested and ready for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

It has been a very busy week in school, and an absolute highlight has to be welcoming so many new children into our Great Bookham School family. Our new Pre-school and Reception pupils have been exceptional and have had a fantastic first week. The children have responded well to their new environment, and we have been so impressed with how brilliantly they are learning new routines, making new friends and building relationships with the adults in the school. Starting school is such a special moment and we feel privileged to be part of your child's journey.

Our Year 5 children have supported our new children in Reception, beautifully navigating the tricky task of collecting their lunch and finding their way to and from the lunch hall! This is such a special relationship for both Reception and Year 5 and is something that we are so very proud to watch unfold in these early weeks of term. Our Year 5 children have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know their 'special friends', and we look forward to seeing these relationships develop over the next two years.

On Friday, we started the year strong with our first sporting fixture! Mrs Jupp and Miss Jupp supported our Under 10 Boys' Football Team at a tournament at Cranmore School. We wished them the very best of luck and look forward to hearing all about it on Monday. Thank you to parents and carers for providing the children transport on a Friday evening.

Looking ahead to next week, we will be holding our Parent Information Meetings for each year group (dates and times are below). These sessions are a valuable opportunity for parents to meet their child's teaching team, learn about key information for the year ahead, and gain an insight into classroom routines, curriculum expectations and upcoming opportunities. Our year group teams are very much looking forward to welcoming you and working in partnership with you throughout the year to support your children's success and wellbeing. If you are unable to attend these meetings, we will publish the teachers' presentations on our school website.

Thank you to parents who have supported our school in adhering to the parking restrictions around our school. Many of you will have seen me trying to urge parents to park safely and considerately, I ask that you continue to support the school with this to keep families safe and relationships positive within our local community.

I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow ready for our second week of fun and learning.

Miss Allen



Stars of the week

Our stars for this week are:

Bumblebees	**Lexi & Dylan**
Honeybees	**Hallie & Raya**
Dragonflies	**Orla & Jack**
Foxes	**Eliza & Callum**
Squirrels	**Charlie & Everly**
Hedgehogs	**Darcey & Margot**
Rabbits	**Sophia & Judah**
Eagles	**Jay & Abigail**
Hawks	**Rocco & Ava**
Falcons	**Georgina & William**
Kestrels	**Hattie & Sophie**

Attendance

Congratulations to Ladybirds for winning the attendance certificate this week with 100% attendance!

MAC the attendance bear will visit their classrooms next week.



Attendance reminder

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority 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, Bookham Library 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.

Class Assembly Dates- 9am start

16th October - Kestrels

12th February - Hedgehogs

5th March - Falcons

12th March - Eagles

16th April - Squirrels

23rd April - Dragonflies

30th April - Foxes

7th May - Rabbits

28th May - Hawks

11th June - Bumblebees

18th June - Honeybees

25th June - Butterflies

9th July - Ladybirds

Important Dates



SEPTEMBER

14th – Meet the Teacher Year 1 2:40-3.20pm

15th– Meet the Teacher Year 2 2:40-3.20pm

16th – Meet the Teacher Year 3&4 2:40-3.20pm

17th – Meet the Teacher Year 5 2:40-3.20pm

18th – Meet the Teacher Year 6 2:40-3.20pm

18th - Yr5/Yr6 Cross Country at KGV after school

21st – Meet the Teacher Reception 5pm-6pm

21st - 25th - Book Fair after school each day

23rd - Pathological Demand Avoidance Parent Workshop 2pm - 3pm

24th - Flu immunisations

24th - EYFS and Yr6 child measurement programme

25th - PTA Doughnut and Pre-loved Uniform Sale after school

30th - Year 2 School Trip to Brighton Sealife Centre

OCTOBER

1st - Individual/Sibling Photos

2nd - Year 3/4 Cross Country at KGV after school

2nd - PTA Bingo Event 8pm

6th - Reception & KS1 Harvest Festival AM

6th - Year 5 to Hampton Court

7th - Reception & KS1 Harvest Festival AM

7th – Yr3 Butser Farm trip

9th - Yr5/Yr6 Cross Country at KGV after school

12th - Parents' Evening

13th—Yr4 Fishbourne Roman Palace trip

14th - Year 6 to The Natural History Museum

15th - Parents' Evening

19th - 30th Autumn half term

NOVEMBER

2nd - Back to school

9th - EYFS Owl workshop

13th - Children in Need

16th - Odd sock day

16th - 20th—Anti Bullying Week

DECEMBER

1st - Pre-school and Reception Christmas Performance AM

4th - Pre-school and Reception Christmas Performance AM

5th - Bookham Spirit of Christmas Event on the High St

8th - KS2 Christingle performance

9th - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Performance AM

9th - KS2 Christingle performance

10th - Christmas jumper day

11th - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Performance AM

15th - Year 5 European Christmas Day

18th - Last day of term (No Puffins)

JANUARY

4th - Back to school

18th - Young voices

19th - 20th - Year 4 Bikeability

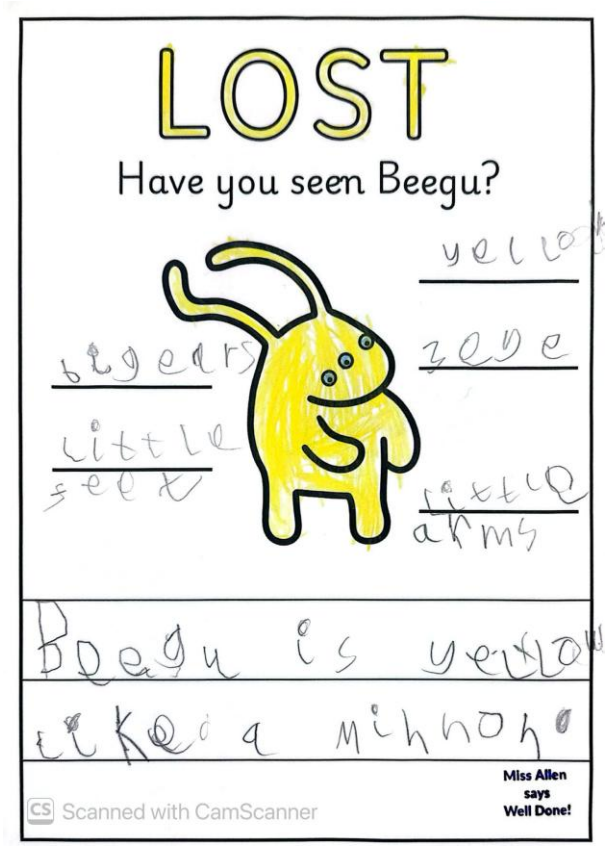
28th - Little City for Preschool & EYFS

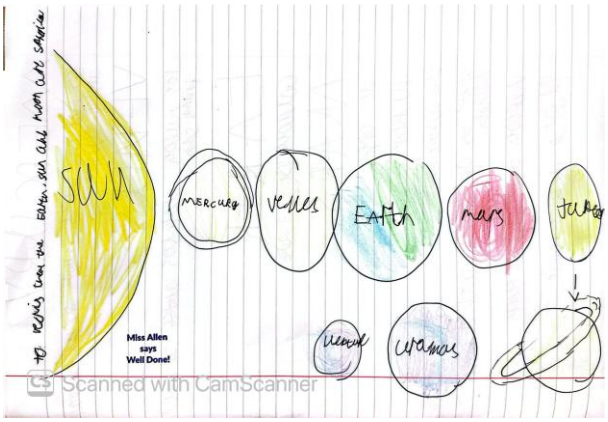
Headteacher Awards

Jay in Year 5 shared some excellent work in science about the planets.

George in Year 2 worked so hard in English and wrote excellent adjectives to describe the character Beegu.

Toby, Ava and Emily have been fantastic special friends to their reception buddies and have shown great patience and care when supporting them in the lunch hall this week.





Friends of Great Bookham School

Welcome back to a new school year!

The Friends of Great Bookham School are a group of parents whose children attend the school and work together to raise much-needed additional funds. These funds help provide exciting opportunities for our children and support larger school improvement projects.

We are currently raising money to create a fantastic new library space for the children and we are delighted to say that we are getting very close to reaching our goal.

By virtue of having a child at Great Bookham School, you are already part of the Friends of Great Bookham School community. Whether you are able to volunteer regularly, help occasionally at an event, donate items, attend fundraising activities, or simply support us by coming along, every contribution is valued and helps make a difference for our children.

We are always keen to welcome new volunteers, whether you can offer a little time or a lot. It is a great way to meet other parents, support the school and help us continue to create wonderful opportunities for our children.

We are excited to share that our first fundraising event of the year will be a **Krispy Kreme doughnut and pre-loved uniform sale** on **Friday 25th September,** straight after school at the bottom gate. We hope to see many of you there!

This will be swiftly followed by our ever-popular **Bingo Night on Friday 2nd October from 8.00pm to 10.00pm**. We hope lots of you will be able to join us for an evening of fun, laughter and community spirit while helping to raise funds for the school.

We look forward to seeing you at our events and thank you for your continued support of Great Bookham School. Together, we can continue to provide enriching experiences and exciting opportunities for all of our children.

